

Peace Lutheran Church
2nd Sunday in Advent

Saturday, December 7, 2024 + 6:00 PM & Sunday, December 8, 2024 + 8:00 AM

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK - "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Luke 3:4

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Hark the Glad Sound!"

LSB 349 v. 1-3

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

L: As we light our Advent wreath to mark our journey through this season, we join together in prayer: We praise You, O God, for this circle of light that numbers the days of preparation for Christ's coming again.

C: **As we light the second candle on this wreath, fill us with the joy that comes from You so that we may be lights shining in the darkness of our world.**

L: Give us the light of Your grace so that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we may prepare our hearts to welcome Him with joy and serve our neighbors in need.

C: **We ask this through Christ our Lord whose coming is certain. Amen.**

RESPONSE

"Hark the Glad Sound!"

LSB 349 v. 4

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: As we wait for the fullness of Christ's coming, we are called to repentance. Therefore, we confess our sin to our heavenly Father.

(Time is given for reflection and self-examination.)

L: God of all hope, we acknowledge to You that we are sinners and confess our

L: sins-known and unknown. We know that nothing remains hidden from You, and to You all our faults and failures are revealed.

C: Free us from the slavery and guilt of sin; release us from our hopelessness. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may do that which is pleasing in Your sight, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: In the mercy of almighty God and for the sake of the suffering and death of His Son, Jesus, on the cross, your sins are forgiven through the Savior of Bethlehem, in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: May the Spirit of God prepare us and make us ready to know hope in the Savior's coming.

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

L: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:1-7b

“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 1:2-11

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

8:00 am

Pastor Dave Karolus

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-14

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN "Prepare the Royal Highway" ***LSB 343 v. 1-4***

SERMON "Prepare the Way of the Lord."
Luke 3:1-14 Pastor Dave Karolus

APOSTLES' CREED

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING HYMN "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" ***LSB 347 v. 1-4***

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

LSB 357 v. 1