

Peace Lutheran Church

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SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER

December 15, 2021



RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Spirit and the Church cry out:

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: All those who await His appearance pray:

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: The whole creation pleads:

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

HYMN & CANDLE LIGHTING

1 O Light whose splen - dor thrills and glad - dens
2 As twi - light hov - ers near at sun - set,
3 In all life's bril - liant time - less mo - ments,

With ra - diance bright - er than the sun,
And lamps are lit, and chil - dren nod,
Let faith - ful voic - es sing Your praise,

2

Pure gleam of God's un - end - ing glo - ry,
In eve - ning hymns we lift our voic - es
O Son of God, our Life - be - stow - er,

O Je - sus, blest A - noint - ed One;
To Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son: one God.
Whose glo - ry light - ens end - less days.

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Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

OPENING VERSES Micah 5:2-5a

Pastor: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,

People: **whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.**

Pastor: Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;

People: **then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.**

Pastor: And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the
strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of
the LORD his God.

People: **And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be
great to the ends of the earth.**

All: ⁵And he shall be their peace.



MAGNIFICAT (Mary's Song of Praise)



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He



fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion



bles - ing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the



ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the



sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring



Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Judges 6:11-24, 7:2-9

¹¹ Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. ¹² And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor." ¹³ And Gideon said to him, "Please, my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." ¹⁴ And the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?" ¹⁵ And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." ¹⁶ And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man." ¹⁷ And he said to him, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me." ¹⁸ Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you." And he said, "I will stay till you return." ¹⁹ So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. ²⁰ And the angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them." And he did so. ²¹ Then the angel of the LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight. ²² Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." ²³ But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die." ²⁴ Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called

it, The LORD Is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

² The LORD said to Gideon, "The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.' ³ Now therefore proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, 'Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return home and hurry away from Mount Gilead.'" Then 22,000 of the people returned, and 10,000 remained. ⁴ And the LORD said to Gideon, "The people are still too many. Take them down to the water, and I will test them for you there, and anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one shall go with you,' shall go with you, and anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one shall not go with you,' shall not go." ⁵ So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, "Every one who laps the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set by himself. Likewise, every one who kneels down to drink." ⁶ And the number of those who lapped, putting their hands to their mouths, was 300 men, but all the rest of the people knelt down to drink water. ⁷ And the LORD said to Gideon, "With the 300 men who lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hand, and let all the others go every man to his home." ⁸ So the people took provisions in their hands, and their trumpets. And he sent all the rest of Israel every man to his tent, but retained the 300 men. And the camp of Midian was below him in the valley. ⁹ That same night the LORD said to him, "Arise, go down against the camp, for I have given it into your hand."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR... "We'll Welcome Him" *Violinist-Robby Waddell*



GOSPEL (Zechariah's Prophecy) Luke 1:68-75

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
 for he has visited and redeemed his people
 69 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
 in the house of his servant David,
 70 as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
 71 that we should be saved from our enemies
 and from the hand of all who hate us;
 72 to show the mercy promised to our fathers
 and to remember his holy covenant,
 73 the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us
 74 that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
 might serve him without fear,
 75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

"O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe"

1 O lit - tle flock, fear not the foe Who mad - ly
 2 Be of good cheer: your cause be - longs To Him who
 3 As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor
 4 A - men, Lord Je - sus, grant our prayer; Great Cap - tain,

seeks your o - ver - throw; Dread not his rage and pow'r.
 can a - venge your wrongs; Leave it to Him, our Lord.
 hell's sa - tan - ic crew A - gainst us shall pre - vail.
 now Thine arm make bare, Fight for us once a - gain!

And though your cour - age some-times faints, His seem - ing
 Though hid - den yet from mor - tal eyes, His Gid - eon
 Their might? A joke, a mere fa - cade! God is with
 So shall Thy saints and mar - tyrs raise A might - y

tri - umph o'er God's saints Lasts but a lit - tle hour.
 shall for you a - rise, Up - hold you and His Word.
 us and we with God— Our vic - t'ry can - not fail.
 cho - rus to Thy praise For - ev - er - more. A - men.

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MESSAGE

"An Army of One and One Man's Army:
 Lighting a Flame in the Darkness"
 (Judges 6)

Deacon Bob Hutchison

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Create in Me”

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

LITANY/PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. We gather, Lord, to hear your word and to sing our praises. You have revealed Your grace and love to all people by sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Prepare our hearts to celebrate His first coming that we may be well prepared for the day when He comes again. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray, Lord, for all who are sick and hurting. We ask that You place Your healing hand upon them and grant them peace. Be with all who minister to the sick and dying that they may be used by You to bring comfort. Help us to remember that even as our Savior faced death, He did so with the assurance of the resurrection as He trusted in Your promise. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we pray for our congregation and our families as we approach Christmas. Watch over and protect those we love as they prepare to travel, and make our time together a time of celebration as we share Your love with one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BLESSING

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you now and always.

People: Amen

CLOSING HYMN

“Of the Father's Love Begotten”



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



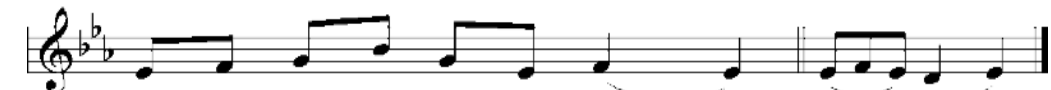
gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow he - fore Him
Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.



Please join us

December 16th/17th.....12:15pm Preschool
program

December 19th....10am Sunday School
Program:

(ONE SERVICE ONLY) Peace
Christmas Party following service

December 24th....5&7pm Christmas Eve
Services

December 25th.....10am Christmas
Service (Communion)

December 26th.....10am Worship Service