

# St. Peder's Lutheran Church 12/22/24

Welcome to St. Peder's church! All people are welcome to fully participate in worship, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, physical and mental abilities, and socio-economic status. We offer large print and braille copies of our bulletin for those with vision impairment. For your convenience, we also offer opportunities to worship online!

## Introduction to the Forth Sunday of Advent

*Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."*

## GATHERING

Prelude *Carol of the Drum* arr. by Katherine K. Davis  
*Sung by St. Peder's choir; Mia Kruse-piano*

Welcome, Peace, and Announcements

Opening Prayer Back cover of hymnal

Gathering Hymn *Of the Father's Love Begotten* (ELW 295)

## Confession and Forgiveness

God of mercy, **we have confessed that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts. We confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises. We confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth: it is in Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through Jesus Christ, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Choir Anthem *Comfort, Comfort* arr. by John Ferguson  
*Sung by the St. Peder's choir; Casey Clementson-flute*

Prayer of the Day Insert  
Stings Music O Come Emmanuel arr. Helen Marple-Hovart  
Christmas Medley arr. by Guinevere Sellner  
*Lisa Jensen & Lisa Rovick- violin; Wendy Legge- viola; Uli Koester-cello*

## WORD

First Lesson *Micah 5:2-5a* Insert  
The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *No Wind at Windows* Insert

Second Lesson *Hebrews 10:5-10* Insert  
The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Gathering of the Children

Gospel Acclamation *We Are Waiting for Jesus* Insert

Holy Gospel *Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]* Insert  
The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* (ELW 276)

Apostles' Creed Back cover of hymnal

Prayers of the People

Response: Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer Back cover of hymnal

Offering

*In this moment, we reflect upon the many gifts in our lives- our time, our talents, and our treasures. In sharing these gifts, you bless others in the name of God's glory. If you would like to donate digitally, please use this QR code to do so.*



Gift of Music *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. by Jenn Wagner  
*Sung by St. Peder's choir; Lisa Jensen- piano, Uli Koester- cello*

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. **By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Benediction

Sending Hymn *Lo, How A Rose E'ver Blooming* (ELW 272)

Sending

Postlude *Ding Dong Merrily on High*  
*Sung by the St. Peder's choir*

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**Serving in Worship this Morning**

**Greeters:** Jackie & Dale West

**Ushers:** Peter Juhl & Peter Paulson

**Acolyte:** Walter Anderson **Reader:** Kristi Lahti-Johnson

**Counters:** Eva Tangen & Cameron Jamison

**Livestream Tech:** Cameron Jamison

**LSS Safehouse Dinner for December 23:** Liz & Forrest Bentley

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 6**

**Announcements**

**Thank You**

We wanted to say a special thank you to all the talented people that helped out for today's Song Service: musicians Lisa Jensen, Lisa Rovick, Wendy Legge, Mia Kruse, Casey Clementson, and Uli Koester; and choir members Lorie Gleason, Lisa Rovick, Melanie Carlson, Martha Olsen, Elizabeth Anderson, Lisa Jensen, Dale West, Darrick Jensen, Bruce Simpson, Timothy Anderson, Nathan Haar, and Dwight Lundebly.

**St. Peder's Library**

Make sure you check out St. Peder's library for Christmas and Advent books and DVD's while they are on display for the season! This material is suitable for all ages, and can be found on the table in front of the library and on the Red Cart!

**New Church Organ**

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, the congregation voted to purchase a new digital organ. This will be installed in early January. We still need to raise \$25,000 for the purchase of a new organ. If you are interested in donating, please make sure to mark your contributions specifically to the Organ Fund. Thanks to everyone for supporting this endeavor!

**Save the Date**

We would like to invite the members of St. Peder's, along with their friends and family, to a gourmet dinner prepared by Chef Chris Johnson for a fundraiser called, "The Chef's table". This event will take place here at St. Peder's on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. More details will be in the January Messenger!

*St. Peder's would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and fun holiday filled with family, friends, and faith!*

## This Week at St. Peder's

|                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                  |
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| <p><b>Today, Sunday<br/>December 22<br/>Song Service</b></p> <p>9am Worship<br/>9 am Faith Formation<br/>10 am Coffee &amp;<br/>Fellowship</p> | <p><b>Tuesday, Dec. 24</b></p> <p>2 pm Festival Worship<br/>Service<br/>3:15 pm Danish Service<br/>5 pm Festival Worship<br/>Service</p> | <p><b>Thursday, Dec. 26</b></p> <p>10 am Exercise Class*</p>                     |
| <p><b>Saturday, Dec 28</b></p> <p>10:30 am Brownies<br/>Group*</p>                                                                             | <p><b>Sunday, Dec 29</b></p> <p>9 am Worship<br/>9 am Faith Formation<br/>10 am Coffee &amp;<br/>Fellowship</p>                          | <p><b>Tuesday, Dec. 31</b></p> <p>10 am Exercise Class*<br/>6 pm Bible Study</p> |



**St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
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*Rooted in our heritage and embracing the future, we joyfully live the gospel with open hearts, open hands and open doors*

**Church Staff:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Bryan Odeen

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