

# PETERSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 19, 2021  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

## Children's Christmas Service



Our mission is  
"to Know Christ, to Grow in Christ,  
and to Show the Love of Christ."

**Welcome to Petersburg Lutheran Church**  
**Our mission is “To Know Christ, to Grow in Christ,**  
**and to Show the Love of Christ”**  
*We are glad you are here!*

**Music**  
**Welcome**

**Pianist Lila Trask**  
**Bev Siercks**

**Invocation**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*Presider:* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Presider:* If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Most Merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

*Presider:* God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

**We'd like to invite the children to come forward to sing.**

*“Away in a Manger”*

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where  
he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
  
- 2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the  
sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.



## **ABC's of Christmas**

### **Letter A**

#### **Luke 1:28-31**

<sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

## Letters B-E

### *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.
  
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the king,  
and peace to all the earth!

## Letter F

### **Luke 2:6-7**

<sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

## Letter G

### **Luke 2:8-14**

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

## “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

### *Refrain*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

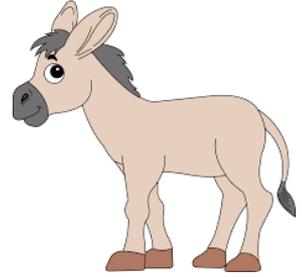
- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*



## Letter H

### *“The Friendly Beasts”*

1. Jesus our brother, kind and good,  
Was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around Him stood,  
Jesus our brother, kind and good.
2. “I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown,  
“I carried His mother up hill and down;  
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town.”  
“I,” said the donkey, shaggy and brown.
3. “I,” said the cow, all white and red,  
“I gave Him my manger for a bed;  
I gave Him my hay to pillow His head.”  
“I,” said the cow, all white and red.
4. “I,” said the sheep with curly horn,  
“I gave Him my wool for His blanket warm;  
He wore my coat on Christmas morn.”  
“I,” said the sheep with curly horn.
5. “I,” said the dove from the rafters high,  
“Cooed Him to sleep that He should not cry;  
We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I.”  
“I,” said the dove from the rafters high.
6. Thus every beast by some good spell,  
In the stable dark was glad to tell  
Of the gift he gave Emmanuel,  
The gift he gave Emmanuel.



## Letters H-L

### Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

## Letters M-O

## *“Little Drummer Boy”*

1 Come, they told me, (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
A newborn King to see; (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
Our finest gifts we bring (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
To lay before the King, (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum, rum-pum-pum-pum, rum-pum-pum-pum)  
So to honor Him (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
When we come.

2 Little Baby, (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
I am a poor boy too; (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
I have no gift to bring (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
That’s fit to give our King. (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum, rum-pum-pum-pum, rum-pum-pum-pum)  
Shall I play for You (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
On my drum?

3 Mary nodded; (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
The ox and lamb kept time; (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
I played my drum for Him; (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
I played my best for Him. (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum, rum-pum-pum-pum, rum-pum-pum-pum)  
Then He smiled at me, (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum)  
Me and my drum.

Our preschool will share with us the gift of song!  
(Video)

### **Offering**

#### **Offertory Prayer:**

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **Letter P**

**Prayers of the People** Lord in Your Mercy/ **Hear Our Prayer**

## Letters Q-S

### Matthew 2:9-11

<sup>9</sup>When they had heard of the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

## Letters T-U

### Holy Communion

#### Communion Prayer

We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but only in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen

#### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you, **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts, **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

**It is right to give God our thanks and praise**

#### Words of Institution

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## **Holy Communion**

### **Hymns**

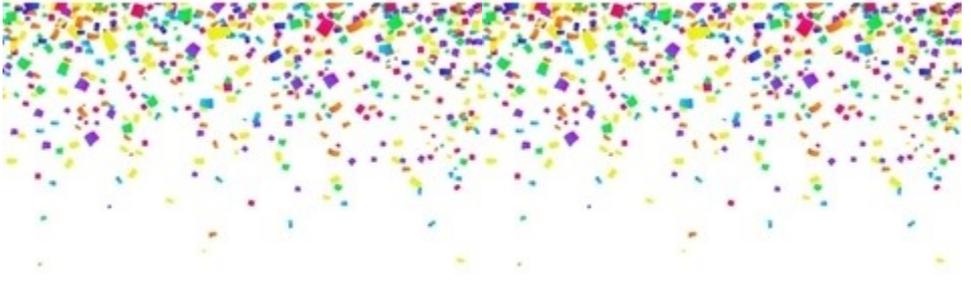
### **Post Communion Blessing & Prayer**

### **Letters V-Z**

### **Announcements**

### **Benediction**

(ABCs of Christmas worship service adapted from Young Clergy Women International website, "The ABC's of Christmas: A Worship Service" by Erin Klassen, and "Interactive Christmas Eve Service: The ABCs of Christmas" by Robb McCoy, <https://fatpastor.wordpress.com>).



## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Happy Birthday to you Happy Birthday to you  
Happy Birthday dear Jesus  
Happy birthday to you!





## **This Week at Petersburg Lutheran Church**

**Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 am...Adult Bible Class Studying Matthew

10 am ... Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

**Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup>** Birthday celebration for Char Hoiosen  
at the Manor apt 202A 2:00-4:00

**Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>** 10-2 Ruth Circle quilters meet in the  
basement. Bring your own lunch.

**Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Eve Service **9pm** (Note there  
is only one service this year)

## **Christmas Eve Service**

**There will only be one service this year,**

**Friday**

**December 24th at 9:00pm**

### **Viewing Facebook Live Worship Services**

You can still view our worship services on Facebook even if you do not have a Facebook account. Click [HERE](#) or go to PetersburgLutheranChurch2018+. Just ignore the sign in/log in prompt.

### **Bulletin Cover Art**

We are looking for people who are interested in submitting a picture or artwork for the bulletin cover relating to the scripture lessons for that Sunday. You can find the coming week's scripture lesson at the bottom of the last page of the bulletin. Please contact the church office 772-3144 or [plcakoffice@gmail.com](mailto:plcakoffice@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Ushers needed.** Sign up sheets will be on the back table. If anyone would like to volunteer as an usher, please sign up on the sheet or call Shannon Peeler, 518-0377. Thank you!

### **Sermon audio/video:**

<https://www.petersburglutheran.com/sermons-2/>

Service is broadcast on 88.5 FM Radio **Follow us on Facebook:**  
Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

**December Prayer Partner:** Table of Grace, Bethel, AK  
**December Mission Support:** Lutheran World Relief, This mission of the ELCA provides assistance to families throughout the world in via disaster relief and recovery and sustainable development projects. The Ruth Circle at PLC makes quilts for distribution by LWR; knitted baby Afghans are also sent from Petersburg.

**Salvation Army Pantry:** They could use donations of: Pasta sides, like Rice-a-Roni, noodles, Ramen Noodles, canned fruit, canned meats other than tuna, small sizes of peanut butter and jelly.

**Prayers for Health & Healing:** Joseph Tagaban, Mariann Solmonson, Chuck Beckett, Sean Mikkelsen, Kristy McConville, Sally Dwyer, Bryn Westre

### **Prayers for those Serving our Country**

Jesse Anderson	Serving in Bangor, WI
Ryan Beale	US Marine, San Diego, CA
Dave Chapman	Serving in Honolulu, HI
Jon Floyd	Serving in San Diego, CA
Trinity Dunham Parker	Serving in Bangor, WA
Michael Gardner	Serving in Fort Meade, MD
Alan McCay	USCG, serving in Port Angeles, WA
Erik Paulson	US Marines, serving in Pensacola, FL
Michael Serafini	Serving in Swindon England
Shane Small	US Army Ranger, Ft Richardson. AK
Kevin Thynes	Serving in South Korea
Peter Vermeer	USCG, serving in Connecticut
Chase Hammer	Us Marine, Jacksonville, NC

**Prayers for Our Church Council** Church Council:  
Chris Van Ettinger–President, Desi Burrell-Vice President  
Robin Roberts– Treasurer, Nancy Berg-Worship,  
Tom Parker-Youth, John Swanson-Building Maintenance,  
Bridget Wittstock-Good Beginnings, Kara Newman, John Small



### Happy Birthday!!

**Today Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>:** Lora Lombard, Angela Menish

**Monday Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>:** Char Hoiosen

**Wednesday Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Evelyn Anderson

**Friday Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>:** Nancy Berg, Ginger Evens, Mackenzie Peeler, Makayla Newman

### You are invited

Come help Char Hoiosen Celebrate her 99th birthday!

Where: The Manor apt. 202A

When: Monday December 20th 2:00-4:00pm

Coffee and cake will be provided.

### Your Offering

Thank you for continuing to bring your offering to church and mailing it in. Some contribute electronically by giving from their checking account or a credit card. You can access the secure giving site through our web page click [HERE](#) and clicking the words GIVING along the top of the web page. You can also go directly to the secure site by clicking [HERE](#) .

### Your Offerings:

**December Offering to Date** \$ 7,603

December Monthly Budget \$21,145

**Yearly Offering to Date** \$201,726

Yearly Budget \$253,750

### 2022 Offering Envelopes

2022 offering envelopes are available for pick up on the table in the narthex next to the elevator. If you don't have envelopes now but would like them in 2022, please call Larry Peterson at 772-2091 or let the church office know.

<b>Thank you Volunteers</b>	This Week: Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	Next Week: Dec. 26 <sup>st</sup>
Musician	Lila Trask	Sue Paulsen
Reader	Cadence Flint	
Counter	Lana Corl	
Coffee Crew	Last Name S-Z	Church Council
Video	Jim Roberts	Jim Roberts 14

**GOSPEL MESSAGE**  
**December 19, 2021**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**A Companion in the Waiting**

It is possible that not everyone who found out Mary was pregnant was as supportive as her cousin Elizabeth in our reading today. Since receiving the angel's message, Mary likely felt uncertain, worried, scared, and alone plenty of times. So, when she visited her cousin Elizabeth and received Elizabeth's blessing in words that echoed the angel Gabriel's announcement, it must have been comforting to Mary. Hearing Elizabeth's words of affirmation was a reminder to Mary that she was not alone in her journey and that God really was at work in her life.

At one point or another, we all need a reminder like this in our lives. It is not always easy to recognize God's presence or to see just how God is at work in and through us. And sometimes much waiting is required until we see the fulfillment of God's promises. That's why we need people in our lives who will believe with us when we feel less than certain, walk with us through uncharted terrain, and support and pray for us along our journey.

Our gospel presents us with two unlikely mothers. Their experiences remind us that knowing God is with us—and even that we have received God's favor—does not mean our lives will be without hardship. We will still encounter challenges, experience grief, and have our hearts broken. But it does mean that in our waiting, and in our struggles, we are not alone. Through those who wait with us, and through the promise of Advent, we are reminded that Emmanuel is here, and has been with us all along.

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**Next Week's Readings: 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52**



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