

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

SCHOOL WISH LIST:

Thanks to those who have donated for the children in school. Only a few items are still needed. Please contact Claire Abbas if you have any questions or want to donate anything that is not on the list. Items will be crossed off of the list when they have been donated.

1. Gently used children's books.

2. Small items for a prize box (pencils, erasers, leftover party favors, McDonald's toys).
3. Educational magazines for kids -- doesn't matter how old! (Highlights, Mailbox, National Geographic, Weekly Reader).
4. G rated movies—VHS or DVD.
5. Learning games.

Mercer Memorial Fund:

Our PTC Benevolence Committee has determined to give \$500 to this fund. If you would like to help, please mark your offering "Benevolence Fund" and drop it in the offering plate, or if you want to give directly to the fund, send your gift of money to Pastor John Schierenbeck, 3015 Ave. K NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881.



Maleah and Mikaila Mercer

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church is a confessional Lutheran Church. We proclaim to a world dead in sin that salvation is a gift of God's grace; More Information and Audio Sermons at middletonlutheran.org

Peace Thru Christ

Lutheran Church and School

Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal
Teacher: Miss Claire Abbas
Organist: Ms. Pam Schulz

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening HYMN 574:

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

PASTOR: Jesus has commissioned us in His Word to "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). Therefore, we begin our mission festival worship service in the name of that same Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

CONG.: Amen. (sung)

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

PASTOR: Beloved in the Lord! Let us come before God's throne of grace with repentant hearts and confess our sins unto God, our Father. Let us seek His forgiveness in the name of His Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

ALL Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess that we are sinful by nature, and that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, and we have not always shared Your life-saving Gospel with others as we ought. Have mercy on us. Forgive us our many sins for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ. Fill our hearts with Your Holy Spirit that we may love and serve You and our neighbor with renewed zeal, and in the end, graciously give us eternal life with You. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTOR: I bring you Good News: Because Your Savior Jesus lived and died for you, God has put away your sin! "As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us" (Psalm 103:12)! We have been forgiven and set free to love and serve Him and share this great message of salvation with the world! In the peace and joy of forgiveness let us praise the LORD!

THE GLORIA PATRI (sung)

CONG.: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, eternally. Amen.

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This Week:

Today 9:00 a.m. S.S.: Jesus Before Pontius Pilate

Bible Class: Mission Discussion

11:15 a.m. Sunday School Teachers Meet

11:45 a.m. Fellowship Meal

Monday-Thursday Great Lakes' Pastoral Conference, Calvary Lutheran, Marquette, MI

Next Sunday:

9:00 a.m. S.S./Bible Class

10:00 a.m. Family Worship/ Communion

LAST WEEK: Worship 45

OFFERINGS 9/22

for Unified Budget: \$2,125
\$100 Benevolence Fund

IN SERVICE TO OUR LORD:

Cleaners this week:

Church---Greve

School: Brandle, Mike

Counters today: Ruth Bernthal & Pam Schulz

IN YOUR MAILBOX:

October Calendar & Newsletter

CLC NEWS:

Living Hope Lutheran,
Appleton WI and St. Peter's,

Iron River, MI have called Pastor Del Maas.

Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire has called retired Pastor Dan Fleischer to serve as pastoral assistant in Eau Claire.

NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS:

Since Pastor will be gone to the Great Lakes' Pastoral Conference there will be no Bible Class this Wednesday.

BIKE OUTING:

Our annual bike outing has been scheduled for this Saturday. Please meet at the church around 2:30. We will be going to a new trail in the Deforest area.

FALL WORK DAY:

Our fall work day has been set for Saturday, Oct. 26th.

T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE:

There are 4 blue "God so Loved the World" T-shirts still available for purchase. 2 XL adult, 1 L youth and 1 M youth. Cost \$ 11.50. Please see Nathan Greve if you are interested.

Hymn: 507:

“Spread, Oh, Spread, Thou Mighty Word.”

PASTOR: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

CONG: Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

Closing Hymn 502:

“Saints of God, the Dawn is Brightening”

Silent Prayer and Announcements

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PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU! We thank God that you are with us this morning worshipping our Savior. The final harvest is coming! May we be busy about our Father's business by proclaiming the Good News of salvation through Jesus who lived, died and rose again to pay for all of our sins. If you want to know more about your Savior, Jesus, or about our congregation, please contact Pastor Bernthal. We invite you to come and worship your Savior with us again. Please also sign our guest register.

THANK YOU: to Pastor John Hein for bringing us the Good News of our salvation. We also thank him for conducting our Bible Class this morning. We pray for his safe travel back to Fridley, MN and for the Lord's blessings on his work in the Lord's kingdom.

THE SALUTATION

PASTOR: The Lord be with you.

CONG.: And with thy spirit. (sung)

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

PASTOR: O Lord God Almighty, mercifully grant that we, who know You now by faith may with our whole heart believe in Jesus, our only Savior. Help us to serve Him, and steadfastly confess and glorify Him before all men, that His saving name may be known among all the nations. We pray this in the name of Jesus to whom with You, Father, and the Holy Spirit belong honor and glory and praise, now and forever.

CONG.: Amen. (sung)

Responsive Psalm:

Psalm 96 (selected verses)

P: Oh, sing to the LORD a new song!

C: Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

P: Sing to the LORD, bless His name;

C: Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.

P: Declare His glory among the nations,

C: His wonders among all peoples.

P: For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised;

C: He is to be feared above all gods.

P: For all the gods of the peoples are idols,

C: But the LORD made the heavens.

P: Honor and majesty are before Him;

C: Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

P: Give to the LORD the glory due His name;

C: Bring an offering, and come into His courts.

P: Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!

C: Tremble before Him, all the earth.

P: Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns;

C: The world also is firmly established,

It shall not be moved;

He shall judge the peoples righteously."

P: For He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth.

**C: He shall judge the world with righteousness,
And the peoples with His truth.**

Scripture Readings:

JOEL 3:9-17

The prophet describes God's final judgment with two pictures: a battle and a harvest. All nations are brought into this Valley of Decision. Even as the sickle cuts and harvests the grain and the grapes are picked and trampled in the winepress, so also will all people stand before the judgment of God. Where is safety? "The LORD will be a shelter for His people." Those who dwell in Zion (the Holy Christian Church) through faith in Christ will be saved.

9 Proclaim this among the nations: "Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty men, Let all the men of war draw near, Let them come up. 10 Beat your plowshares into swords And your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, 'I am strong.'"

P: Lord of the Church, we pray for our church's mission efforts in this country:

C: Open doors for Your saving Gospel message to be preached. Open hearts to receive that message with faith in Jesus Christ. Give our pastors and laypeople boldness to spread Your Word to our fellow citizens that they too may become citizens of God's heavenly kingdom with us.

P: Lord of the Harvest, we pray for our church's mission efforts overseas:

C: Send forth willing laborers into the harvest of souls You have prepared for us in far off lands. Bless and keep safely those who spread Your Gospel into places where we cannot go. Encourage and strengthen them through Your Word, and through the power of that Word grant their efforts success. Move us to support their work with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

P: Savior of all, we also pray that You would bless, strengthen, and encourage the pastors, teachers, and members of our sister congregations overseas:

C: Draw them, and us, closer to You through Your Word and closer to each other through our shared faith in Jesus Christ our Savior.

P: Lord of all creation, wherever Your Word is preached grant it success. Let Your kingdom come to us and many others as well so that many more may join us when You come again to take Your harvest home to heaven. Hear our prayer and help us for Jesus' sake, in whose name we also pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY (sung)

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

OFFERING HYMN 442 v. 1-2: "Lord of Glory, Who hast Bought Us"

PRAYER FOR MISSIONS

P: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the many blessings You have given us through Your Word: the blessings of faith, and fellowship, comfort and hope, and the assurance of eternal life in heaven with You. We also thank You for the privilege of sharing that saving Word with others.

C: **Open our hearts and give us the desire and the courage to share Your Gospel with others. Open our mouths to speak Your Word in truth and love.**

P: We pray for our own personal evangelism efforts:

C: **Holy Spirit, help us to be witnesses to those around us; to our friends, our family members, and our neighbors. Move us to love them as You have loved us. Help us to always give a reason for the hope that is in us, and grant us grace to do so with gentleness and respect. Let all our words and actions be a light that reflects Christ's love to those around us.**

11 Assemble and come, all you nations, And gather together all around. Cause Your mighty ones to go down there, O Lord. 12 "Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; For there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. 13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, The vats overflow— For their wickedness is great." 14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. 15 The sun and moon will grow dark, And the stars will diminish their brightness. 16 The Lord also will roar from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the Lord will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel. 17 "So you shall know that I am the Lord your God, Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, And no aliens shall ever pass through her again."

PASTOR: Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it. Hallelujah!

CONG: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (sung)

PASTOR: The second reading is from Revelation 14:13-16

CONG: Glory be to Thee, O Lord. (sung)

REVELATION 14:13-16

The Lord in His Revelation again pictures the judgment as a harvest of souls. John saw Jesus seated on a white cloud with a sharp sickle in His hand. Like the other pictures of the coming judgment, the final harvest comforts the believers in Christ while it causes dread in the hearts of the unrepentant and unbelieving of this world.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes,"

says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

PASTOR: Here ends our second reading.

CONG: Praise be to Thee, O Christ! (sung)

The Apostles' Creed, p. 15 W.S.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn 496: "Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying"

THE SERMON

MATTHEW 9:35-38

35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 "Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

THEME: "IT'S HARVEST TIME"

1. When the night of God's judgment comes.
2. While it is still day for us to work.



Guest Preacher: Pastor John Hein, Grace Lutheran, Fridley, MN