



Mission Statement

As men, women and children united in faith and worship by the Word of God, we are **committed to making disciples**, using the gospel to win the lost for Christ, and nurturing believers for Christian service, all to the glory of God.

Service Times

Sundays 8:00 & 10:30; Monday 6:30pm

Television: Sundays, 12:30 pm,
channel 98 analog; channel 983 digital

www.peacewels.org

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Advent 1

The King is coming: Keep Watch!

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

232 Windsor St. Sun Prairie, WI 53590

December 3, 2017

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We love that you are here today! For your convenience, restrooms are located in the foyer by the library. There is a cry room in the back of the sanctuary.

FOCUS OF THE DAY

The King is coming! Keep watch! Have you ever been excited as you sat on a curb waiting for a certain float, celebrity or marching band to arrive in a parade? That is the spirit of the season of Advent. We are waiting and watching for our King!! But He will come at a time that is unexpected. We must keep watch. Let us not be caught off guard like the entire world (minus 8 souls) when the Great Flood came.

In the same way we await Christ's visible return from heaven, believers in Old Testament times waited and watched for Christ's *first* arrival as a baby born in Bethlehem. The church season called "Advent" leads us to the celebration of Christmas.

BLUE

Blue is the color of the sky. Blue is the color of hope. We are keeping our eyes heavenward as we await the advent of our King on the Last Day.

HAPPY NEW YEAR... TODAY!

Today is the first Sunday of the Christian Church Year. It is called the First Sunday of Advent. To understand the purpose of the Church Year please see inside the back page of this bulletin cover.

THE TRADITION OF THE ADVENT WREATH

For centuries Christians have used the Advent wreath as a way to count the weeks leading up to Christmas. The four blue candles stand for these themes: watch, prepare, rejoice and behold. The center candle represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Eve. Many Christian homes have an Advent wreath to use in their evening family devotions.

Tim and Debbie Hatfield have provided flowers today in thankfulness as we look forward to Jesus' birth and remembering that He is the reason for the season.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH YEAR KEEPS US CHRIST-CENTERED

Though the Gospel sets us free as to the form our worship takes, in Gospel-freedom we choose not to be a topic, event or issue-driven church (which, if you really think about it, would easily lend itself to becoming a "we-centered" focus). We choose to be a liturgical church. That means we follow a special calendar which developed in the Christian Church from ancient times. The primary purpose of this manmade calendar is to help keep us Christ-centered.

The Christian Church Year is divided into two halves: The festival half and the non-festival half.

The festival half begins with a season called Advent (usually early December). It follows the major events in the life and work of Jesus on earth: birth, ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension (Think of Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, etc.).

The non-festival half follows Christ's ministry more incrementally. It is often called the season of Pentecost (usually June through November).

YOUR CHANCE TO GIVE FEEDBACK

If you haven't yet filled out a feedback survey for the Hymnal committee that we field tested in October and November we ask that you please do so. Blank surveys can be found in the entryway and returned to the box in the entryway. Surveys can be completed and returned until January 1st. (only one per person please). If you would like an electronic version of the survey and did not receive the e-mail with the link this past week. Please contact the church office for a link. Thank you for your participation in this important work for the WELS Hymnal Committee.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Sermon	Rev. Shaun M. Arndt
Presider	Rev. Luke C. Werre
Organist	(Sunday) Mrs. Lynn Proeber (Monday) Mrs. Jennifer Werre
Altar Assistant	August Gresens
Vocalist	Jada Gresens (Sunday); Maria Werre (Monday)

Ushers.... **Team #1** 8:00—D. Becraft (captain) 10:30— P. Guenterberg (captain)
Monday Night—Bruce Miller **Next Monday**— Jeff Hoefner
Next Week's Ushers Team #2 Captains: Jerry Weber; Mark Blahnik