



Peace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ricky Adams

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Mission Statement

To help all people know, believe and follow Jesus Christ

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church!

Whether you're a first time visitor or a long-time member, we welcome you to worship this morning! If you are visiting, we look forward to meeting you and hope you will join us again, soon. **We would appreciate your signing our guestbook before you leave.**



Some Helpful Information

Please Feel Free To Sit At Anytime During The Worship Service: During the worship services at Peace Lutheran there are many times when the people stand. Sometimes the standing can be quite lengthy. We do not want to place any undue burden on anyone worshipping with us. Therefore, please feel free to sit whenever you desire. Thank you and Christ's blessings.

Restrooms – A restroom is located to the right just as you leave the sanctuary and enter the entrance hall. Restrooms for men and women are also located at the top of the stairs in the Parish Hall. Go into the lounge, turn right and continue up the stairs.

Fellowship and Refreshments – Immediately following worship, coffee and other refreshments and treats are served in Luther Lounge (the lounge just off the entrance hall). Come relax with us and enjoy the company as we will certainly enjoy your company.

Please join us again next week!

What Child Is This The Child Who Is Zechariah's Hope First Sunday In Advent December 2, 2018

As We Gather

Zechariah's name means "God remembers." When God remembers someone, He acts on that person's behalf. But when God acted in the ultimate way, announcing the coming birth of the Messiah—and the coming birth of Zechariah's own child who would be the Messiah's forerunner—Zechariah doubted God's word. God temporarily caused him to be a priest without a voice. Yet, God still remembered His promises and sent His Son, the Christ Child, to be the perfect Priest. He offered Himself up on the cross as the perfect sacrifice, to obtain forgiveness and eternal life for mistrusting priests like Zechariah and you and me. *What Child Is This?* This child is Zechariah's only hope for salvation—and ours too. Thank you for worshipping at Peace Lutheran Church

Prayer Before Worship - Holy Source of life and hope, as we come together this day, open our ears to hear, open our eyes to see, and open our hearts to love, that we may come to know your ways and follow your paths. Help us grow in love for one another, and for all creation, as we prepare for the coming of the one who calls us to turn from our false gods to you, Holy One, the true source of our salvation. Amen. - By Kate Cudlipp from Ministry Matters Website

Pre-Service Music

Ringling Of The Bell

Welcome

Opening Hymn - What Child Is This (Stanza 1, LBW #40, please stand)

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Opening Sentences (Please remain standing)

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love,

People: for they have been from of old.

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

People: according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of
Your goodness, O LORD! - Psalm 25:6-7

Confession And Forgiveness (Please remain standing)

Pastor: “Comfort, comfort my people,” the Lord told Isaiah to speak to His people. Let us confess our sins to God, confident that we shall hear His forgiving word of comfort for the sake of Christ, whose birth we are preparing to celebrate. - Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sin.
- Gracious heavenly Father,

People: we confess that too often in our thinking we have relegated Your promises to eternity. In our speaking, we have neglected to speak about the news of Your grace and mercy to the people around us. In our acting, we have considered our efforts as meriting Your attention. Though declared righteous by Your

grace with ancient Zechariah, we also share his doubts about Your readiness to bless us in our current circumstances. Forgive us and strengthen our faith in Him for whom Zechariah's son would prepare the way, Jesus, the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary.

Pastor: The priest Zechariah was sentenced to silence because of his doubt, but the baby whose way his son, John, would prepare is both our great High Priest and also the Sacrifice for all our sins. Be still and hear His word of comfort and peace that I, His servant, proclaim to you: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

(We share the peace of the Lord with one another)

Hymn - What Child Is This (Stanza 2, LBW #40, please stand)

2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

First Reading - Isaiah 40:1–5 (Please be seated)

“Comfort my people,” says our God. “Comfort them! ² Encourage the people of Jerusalem. Tell them they have suffered long enough and their sins are now forgiven. I have punished them in full for all their sins.” ³ A voice cries out, “Prepare in the wilderness a road for the LORD! Clear the way in the desert for our God! ⁴ Fill every valley; level every mountain. The hills will become a plain, and the rough country will be made smooth. ⁵ Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it. The LORD himself has promised this.”

Second Reading – Romans 5:1-5 (Please remain seated)

Now that we have been put right with God through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² He has brought us by faith into this experience of God's grace, in which we now live. And so we boast of the hope we have of sharing God's glory! ³ We also boast of our troubles, because we know that trouble produces endurance, ⁴ endurance brings God's approval, and his approval creates hope. ⁵ This hope does not disappoint us, for God has poured out his love into our hearts by means of the Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to us.

Gospel Reading - Luke 1:5–25 (Please remain seated)

Though Zechariah expects the Messiah, the news from the angel seems too good to believe.

⁵ During the time when Herod was king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife's name was Elizabeth; she also belonged to a priestly family. ⁶ They both lived good lives in God's sight and obeyed fully all the Lord's laws and commands. ⁷ They had no children because Elizabeth could not have any, and she and Zechariah were both very old. ⁸ One day Zechariah was doing his work as a priest in the Temple, taking his turn in the daily service. ⁹ According to the custom followed by the priests, he was chosen by lot to burn incense on the altar. So he went into the Temple of the Lord, ¹⁰ while the crowd of people outside prayed during the hour when the incense was burned. ¹¹ An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar where the incense was burned. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was alarmed and felt afraid. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son. You are to name him John. ¹⁴ How glad and happy you will be, and how happy many others will be when he is born! ¹⁵ John will be great in the Lord's sight. He must not drink any wine or strong drink. From his very birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ and he will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ He will go ahead of the Lord, strong and mighty like the prophet Elijah. He will bring fathers and children together again; he will turn disobedient people back to the way of thinking of the righteous; he will get the Lord's people ready for him." ¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know if this is so? I am an old man, and my wife is old also." ¹⁹ "I am Gabriel," the angel answered. "I stand in the presence of God, who sent me to speak to you and tell you this good news. ²⁰ But you have not believed my message, which will come true at the right time. Because you have not believed, you will be unable to speak; you will remain silent until the day my

promise to you comes true.” ²¹ In the meantime the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he was spending such a long time in the Temple. ²² When he came out, he could not speak to them, and so they knew that he had seen a vision in the Temple. Unable to say a word, he made signs to them with his hands. ²³ When his period of service in the Temple was over, Zechariah went back home. ²⁴ Some time later his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and did not leave the house for five months. ²⁵ “Now at last the Lord has helped me,” she said. “He has taken away my public disgrace!”

Response (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Comfort, comfort My people, says your God.

People: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

Pastor: I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.

People: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

Pastor: He will make ready for the Lord a people prepared.

People: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

Confession Of Faith - Apostles' Creed, Second Article (Please remain standing)

Pastor: What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

People: This, this is Christ the King, the Father's 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead—the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Hymn - Savior of the Nations, Come (Tune: LBW #28 Please be seated)

- 1 Savior of the nations, come;
virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth:
God has chosen such a birth.

(Hymn continued on next page)

- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,
but the mystic Breath of God,
was the Word of God made flesh,
fruit of woman, blossom fresh.
- 3 Wondrous birth—oh, wondrous child—
from his throne, a virgin mild!
Very God, and Mary's son,
eager now his race to run!
- 4 From God's heart the Savior speeds,
back to God his pathway leads;
out to vanquish death's command,
back to reign at God's right hand.
- 5 Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.
- 6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version: Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Message

The Child Who Is Zechariah's Hope
Isaiah 40:1–5
Luke 1:5–25

Response - The Song of Zechariah, Luke 1:68–79 (Please remain seated)

Pastor: "Let us praise the Lord, the God of Israel! He has come to the help
of his people and has set them free.

People: **He has provided for us a mighty Savior, a descendant of his
servant David.**

Pastor: He promised through his holy prophets long ago
People: that he would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

Pastor: He said he would show mercy to our ancestors and remember his sacred covenant.
People: With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham.

Pastor: he promised to rescue us from our enemies and allow us to serve him without fear,
People: so that we might be holy and righteous before him all the days of our life.

Pastor: “You, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High God. You will go ahead of the Lord to prepare his road for him,
People: to tell his people that they will be saved by having their sins forgiven.

Pastor: Our God is merciful and tender. He will cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us
People: and to shine from heaven on all those who live in the dark shadow of death, to guide our steps into the path of peace.”

Sharing The Gifts Of God (Please remain seated as the offerings are received)

Response - What Child Is This (Stanza 3, LBW #40, please stand)

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Prayer Of The Church (Please remain standing)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, once a child laid to rest on Mary's lap,

People: grant us such faith that we may entrust all things into Your care, finding peace in our hearts and sleep at the end of the day.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, whom angels greet with anthems sweet,

People: grant us daily opportunities to sing Your praises in word and deed, reminding friends and neighbors of Your blessings, too many to number.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, Christ the King,

People: grant wisdom and guidance to those in power among the nations of the world, that they govern in justice and compassion, hastening to bring You laud and honor.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, who lay in such mean estate,

People: grant strength to all who live without food or clothing, shelter or health, human dignity or social support, as they rely on You, the Word pleading for them.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, who endured nails and piercing spear, bearing the cross for us,

People: grant confident hope in Your all-availing sacrifice for us and all who trust in the Word made flesh.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, whose coming salvation brings,

People: grant us loving hearts to enthrone You, raising the song on high, rejoicing in Your birth, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Additional prayers:

Pastor: Lord in Your mercy

People: Hear our prayer

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in Your name and as You have taught us:

People: 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 pray. Remember, O Lord, Your promises of old and come,
People: that by Your appearing our doubts may be set aside and we may be renewed in faith and hope;

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,
People: give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

Benediction (Please remain standing)

Pastor: May God Almighty—the Father, who kept all His ancient promises; the Son, who entered human history as one of us to save us from our sins; and the Holy Spirit, who has worked faith in our hearts that we may celebrate the birth of the Babe, the Son of Mary—bless you and keep you, now and forever.
People: Amen.

Dismissal (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (LBW #36, please remain standing)

- 1 On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

Announcements

Recessional

Serving The Lord With Gladness

Pastor:	Rev. Ricky Adams
Organist:	Janet Reese
Coffee Hour:	Vicki McGowan
Counters:	Vicki McGowan and Beverly Erbel
Ushers:	Don and Beverly Erbel
Lay Reader:	Sean Collins

Activities This Week:

Sunday – December 2	9:30 am	Service of the Word
Tuesday – December 4	9:30-12: 30 pm 4:30 5:30 pm	Stage Door (PH) Music Class (LL)
Wednesday – December 5	2:45 – 6:15 pm 4:30 5:30PM 6:00 pm	Patricia Miner (N) Music Class (LL) Stage Door (PH)
Friday – December 7	9:30 am	German Story Time (N)
Saturday – December 8	8:30-9:30am 9:30a-12:30pm	Pilates (PH) Stage Door (PH)
Sunday – December 9	9:30 am After Worship After Meeting	Service of the Word And Sacrament Congregational Meeting Decorating

Information About Peace Lutheran Church - If you desire to know more about Peace Lutheran Church such as teachings; affiliations, membership or other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Adams.

Office Phone – (415) 388-2065
Home Phone – (415) 388-7190
Email – pastor@plcmarin.org

Flowers – Flowers today are given to the glory of God

Refreshments - will be served in Luther Lounge and surrounding areas following worship today. Guests and members stay and meet one another again or for the first time.

Birthdays – Christ's blessing to those celebrating Birthdays this week.

Today - Jackie Stoneking
Wednesday - Janice Hellman
Friday - Isaiah Clark-Hexter

The Giving Tree - Today Is The Last Day To Bring Cards but You may continue to make monetary donations throughout December...and the next year for this ministry. As you know, we have been partnering with Fireside for many years. They are all so appreciative of what we do for each of them. Giving these low income seniors and families a gift at Christmas truly brightens their holiday season. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Looking Ahead

Sunday, December 9: Congregational Meeting
Church Decorating

Wednesday, December 12: Fireside Holiday Gathering

Monday, December 24: Christmas Eve Worship, 7:00 p.m.

Flowers – If you would like to donate flowers for worship in memory of a person or observing a personal event, please contact pastor via email at pastor@plcmarin.org

Sunday Bulletins - for Peace Lutheran church are available online for use during the worship service. The link is <http://bulletin.plcmarin.org>

Like us on Facebook at Peace Lutheran Church Mill Valley or
@peacelutheranmill

Weekly Devotional Helps

December 2 – December 8, 2018

Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Prayer For The Sick

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Scripture Readings Through The Week

Monday – December 3

Psalm 90
Numbers 17:1-11
2 Peter 3:1-18

Tuesday – December 4

Psalm 90
2 Samuel 7:18-29
Revelation 22:12-16

Wednesday – December 5

Psalm 90
Isaiah 1:24-31
Luke 11:29-32

Thursday – December 6

Luke 1:68-79
Malachi 3:5-12
Philippians 1:12-18a

Friday – December 7

Luke 1:68-79
Malachi 3:13-18
Philippians 1:18b-26

Saturday – December 8

Luke 1:68-79
Malachi 4:1-6
Luke 9:1-6

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday**Second Sunday of Advent**

Judges 13:2-7
Psalm 99
1 Peter 1:13-21
Luke 1:26-38

Commemorations

December 4 - John of Damascus, theologian and hymnwriter, died around 749: A monk in an abbey near Jerusalem, John wrote many hymns as well as theological works. One of his works, The Fount of Wisdom, remained influential for centuries.

December 6 - Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, died around 342: Little is known about Nicholas, except that he was a bishop in present-day Turkey. According to legend, he was famous for his giving to the poor, and so has become a symbol of anonymous gift-giving.

December 7 - Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, died 397: While a governor of northern Italy, Ambrose was elected bishop of Milan on the same day he was baptized. He was a famous preacher, a writer of hymns we still sing today, and helped lead St. Augustine to faith.

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