



**The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.**

Isaiah 11:6

Peace Lutheran Church

**205 Tennessee Valley Road
Mill Valley, California 94941
415-388-2065**

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Website – www.plcmarin.org

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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.**

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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.

Holy Communion – At Peace Lutheran we celebrate Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Holy Communion is a very special meal for the children of God in Christ. All who have been baptized and believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and all those who hunger and thirst for Christ's forgiveness and God's strength for living, are invited to join in Holy Communion. **Grape juice** (instead of wine) is available in the individual glasses in the middle of the tray. The wine is red; the grape juice is white. Pastor blesses any of the children who are brought to the communion rail. Any adults who come to the rail and desire a blessing but not communion may cross their arms and pastor will bless them.

Please join us again next week!

Second Sunday In Advent

December 8, 2019

Introduction

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

Thank you for worshipping at Peace Lutheran Church today!

Prayer Before Worship - Patient and loving God, we so easily launch ourselves in preparation for the secular festival of giving and parties and the swirl of social events; but we forget that the true preparation is the readiness of our hearts to receive you. Help us look again at our lives and turn them around so that they may be in tune with your will. We ask this in Jesus' Name, AMEN. – Nancy C.

Townley, Ministry Matters Website

Pre-Service Music (A time for reflection)

Ringling Of The Bell

Welcome

Opening Sentences

(Based on Matthew 3:11; Romans 15:13; Isaiah 11:4, 6; Psalm 72:19. Please stand)

Pastor: I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me;

People: **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

Pastor: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
People: so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: With the breath of His lips He shall kill the wicked.
People: The wolf shall live with the lamb, and a little child shall lead them.

Pastor: And blessed be Your glorious name forever;
People: and may all the earth be filled with your glory.

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

Opening Song - In This Advent (Tune: LBW #499. Please remain standing)

In this Advent, brothers, sisters, Let us pause and so prepare
That we may greet Christ, our Savior, Here in worship and in prayer.
He came once, fulfilling promise, And He shall come back again.
Daily comes He, Word Incarnate, In our hearts and minds to reign.

Brethren, look up, hope in Jesus; All His promises are sure.
Bear the fruit that fits repentance; Live in love and so endure.
With baptismal joy and power, Straighten paths, your head upraise.
Hope in Him each day and ever, With one voice to sing His praise.

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Confession And Forgiveness - *Matthew 3:2, 11; Romans 15:13*

Pastor: When John the Baptist was preparing people to meet the Messiah,
he preached, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."
**People: We all should repent, for we have thought, spoken, and acted in
divisive, sinful ways.**

Pastor: John promised that the Messiah would “baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” It was the Spirit who worked faith in your hearts in Holy Baptism. Through the Word and Sacraments, our sins are forgiven, and we are given hope to amend our sinful lives and to look to our Lord’s return at the end of all things. As a called and ordained servant of Christ I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: Paul writes, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

(We share the peace of the Lord)

Song Of Response - Hark, the Glad Sound! (LBW #35. Please be seated)

- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

First Reading - Isaiah 11:1-10 (Please remain seated)

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Gradual (Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt. Please remain seated)

Lay Minister: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Lay Minister: Behold, your king is coming to you;

People: righteous and having salvation.

Lay Minister: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: From the house of the Lord we bless You.

Second Reading - Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Verse (Luke 3:4b, 6. Please stand)

Pastor: Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight;
People: **all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.**

Gospel - Matthew 3:1-12 (Please remain standing)

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river

Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Song Of The Day - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (LBW #36. Please be seated)

- 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.

Message

Mirrors Matthew 3:1-12

Confession Of Faith - Apostles Creed (Please stand and confess together)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayer Of The Church (Please remain standing)

Pastor: As we live in hope until our Lord's return, we pray for all people in their various needs and for the Church, here and around the world. –
Silent Prayer - For any among us and all others who hope for freedom from the consequences of their past mistakes, from the injustices of their societies, and from their own worldly passions, that God would surround them with people of faith "that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures" they might place their hope in Him alone, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For our communities and country and for all the nations of the world, wherever people live in hope for an end to discord with their neighbors and calm across their borders, that God would use people of faith to order society at home and work for harmony among the nations, so that peoples and nations might welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all people in need of the Gospel, that God would inspire artists and craftspeople, musicians and poets to creatively praise Him among the Gentiles and sing to His name, carrying the news of Christ's advent in history, His presence with us now, and His promised return, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For people who hope for relief from long-term ills or sudden crises of health, looking for an end to unemployment and financial woes, that God would provide comfort, relief, and health so that they "might glorify God for His mercy," let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the Church here and around the world, led by clergy and lay members, "that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" and together we may with one voice glorify God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Additional prayers:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord

People: Lord, have mercy

Pastor: For ourselves and everyone who eagerly hopes for the return of our Savior, that the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may abound in hope, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

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

Communion Song - Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

(Tune: LBW #551. Please remain seated)

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.
- 2 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

✠ Sacrament ✠

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to

repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus - O Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Tune: LBW #34. Please remain standing)

O holy, holy, holy Lord, The God by heav'nly hosts adored,
Both heav'n and earth Your glory show.

Hosanna sing we to the Lord.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." . . . In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✕ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." . . . As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood in this Sacrament You move us to look forward in hope to Your eternal kingdom in which we will know its peace and harmony. 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: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Agnus Dei - O Christ, the Holy Lamb of God (Tune: LBW #34. Please remain standing)

O Christ, the holy Lamb of God, Who takes away the whole world's sin,
Have mercy on us now, we pray,
And grant Your heav'nly peace within.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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Distribution (Please be seated)

Approach the altar at the usher's direction. Communion is received kneeling—the bread in your outstretched open hands, the wine in a small cup. Place empty cups in the tray to the side. If you wish only a blessing, just fold your hands together over your heart.

Prayer before Communion (Prayed privately before going to the altar)

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant 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.

Prayer After Communion (Prayed privately after returning to your seated)

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing (Please stand)

Post-Communion Song - Lord, Let Your Servant Go in Peace

(Tune: LBW #34. Please remain standing)

Lord, let Your servant go in peace, Your Word fulfilled within my sight.
Salvation comes for all to see.
For Israel, glory; Gentiles, light.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

All glory to the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, with them one,
As was in the beginning, now,
And as the endless ages run.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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Post-Communion Thanksgiving (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Let us pray. . . . We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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: Paul prayed, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: The blessing of God Almighty—the Father who created us, the Son who saved us and shall return to welcome us home, and the Holy Spirit who creates and nourishes the faith that Jesus is the Lord—be with you now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Dismissal (Please remain standing)

Lay Minister: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

People: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song – What Child Is This (LBW #40. Please remain standing)

- 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!
- 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!
- 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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

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Serving The Lord With Gladness

Pastor:	Pastor Ricky Adams
Pianist:	Janet Reese
Lay Minister:	Rick Kenney
Altar Guild:	Vicki McGowan
Coffee Hour:	Cynthia Smith
Counter:	Beverly Erbel
Usher:	Don And Beverly Erbel
Lay Reader:	Cynthia Smith

Activities This Week:

Sunday – December 8	9:30 am	Service of the Word And Sacrament Congregational Meeting (S) Christmas Decorating (S)
	After Worship After Meeting	
Tuesday – December 10	9:30am -12: 30 pm	Stage Door (PH)
Wednesday – December 11	2:45-6:15 pm 6:00 pm 5:3:30 p.m.	Patricia Miner (S) Stage Door (PH) Fireside Holiday Gathering
Friday – December 13	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	German Story Time (N)
Saturday – December 14	8:30-9:30am 9:30a-12:30pm	Pilates (PH) Stage Door (PH)
Sunday – December 15	9:30 am	Service of the Word

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.

Anniversaries – Blessings to those celebrating anniversaries this week!

Monday - John & Ana Hilda Mosher

Thursday - Charles Keine & Kathy Doyle

Congregational Meeting – Today after worship is the annual congregational meeting. Please join us!

Christmas Decorating – As is custom, we will be decorating after worship. Please bring a small dish to share along with drinks.

Brown Bag: There is no Brown Bag delivery this month. Safeway gift cards were purchased.

Fireside Holiday Gathering – Remember the Fireside Holiday Gathering this Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. at the Fireside Community Room.

Servers – Every Sunday there are several people that help serve during the worship service and coffee hour. Peace Lutheran needs your help. We need people to prepare Coffee hour and serve during that time. We need Ushers. We need lay readers who read the second lesson during worship. Please consider these needs and sign up to serve in the way you choose. Thank you.

2020 Calendars - Please consider bringing in all the extra 2020 calendars you receive so we can give them to our friends at Fireside in December.

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. Pastor Adams post a weekly blog on Facebook and Peace Lutheran's website at www.plcmarin.org

Weekly Devotional Helps

December 8-December 14, 2019

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 9

Psalm 21

Isaiah 24:1-16a

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Tuesday – December 10

Psalm 21

Isaiah 41:14-20

Romans 15:14-21

Wednesday – December 11

Psalm 21
Genesis 15:1-18
Matthew 12:33-37

Thursday – December 12

Psalm 146:5-10
Ruth 1:6-18
2 Peter 3:1-10

Friday – December 13

Psalm 146:5-10
Ruth 4:13-17
2 Peter 3:11-18

Saturday – December 14

Psalm 146:5-10
1 Samuel 2:1-8
Luke 3:1-18

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday**Third Sunday Of Advent**

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Commemorations

December 13 - Lucy, martyr, died 304: Lucy was a young Christian of Sicily who was martyred during the persecutions under Emperor Diocletian. Her celebration became particularly important in Sweden and Norway, perhaps because the feast of Lucia (whose name means "light") originally fell on the shortest day of the year.

December 14 - John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591: John was a member of the Carmelite monastic order, and worked to reform it. His writings reflect a deep interest in mystical thought and meditation.

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