



WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

“Connecting Souls to Christ at the Crossroads of Our Community”

**ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
CHRISTMAS DAY
December 25, 2016**

Officiate

Pastor Douglas Bergelin

Lay Minister

Sunday-9:00 am-George Feller

Acolyte

Sunday-9:00 am-Gabby Sippel

Musician

Kathy Fortlage

Altar Guild

Cheryl Maas & Cindy Maas

AS WE GATHER

An old song expresses the yearning well: "I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams." This time of year, we long to be home, to be surrounded by family, to remember simpler times. Home is more than a place. It's more than family. It's a sense of belonging. Today, we celebrate the God Who left His home to join us here, so heaven could be our home. We'll celebrate with many old songs; you'll recognize some if not all of them, as we praise this Jesus Who opened up heaven to be our home. The Lord Himself bless you as He welcomes you home today!

For Our Guests:

Hymnal Key-LSB is the Maroon Hymnal, WOV is the smaller Blue Hymnal

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN

LSB 379 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Please Stand

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: There's something about Christmas that makes us want to be home, wherever that is. We're not content to be elsewhere. We want to be surrounded by comforting things. There's a reason for that.

There's this nagging thought at the back of our minds. We know that we're not comfortable. That there's something else going on. That our homes, as wonderful as they are, are broken.

We live in a broken world. And the problem of living in a broken world is that we're broken too.

Pastor: In Romans, Paul outlined the struggle we have:
For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

People: For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh.

Pastor: For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

People: For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.

Pastor: So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.

People: Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Pastor: It's hard to enjoy the peace of Christmas when we struggle so much within ourselves. And we can't fix ourselves when we're broken. If we could, the struggle would already be over.

Do you confess this reality?

People: I confess that I am by nature sinful. I cannot please God in my thoughts, words, or actions. I cannot come home to Him.

Pastor: The next verse in Romans gives us an answer: "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" Jesus left His home in heaven to come to us. He was born for us. He lived for us. He died for us. And now He lives again for us. Jesus is the One Who brings us home. He is the One Who takes our brokenness, Who takes our sin, and makes us His. And so, as a called and ordained minister of Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

Pastor: It's like we were sitting in darkness. It's like we were living in the land of the shadow of death. In a way, it's like we were in a war we could not win. We were weary, and we just wanted to go home.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty
From thence 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.**

Please Be Seated

+ + WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER + +

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(For those with dietary restrictions, we offer non-alcoholic wine in the cups in the center of the individual trays.)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"O Come, Let Us Adore Him"

by Phillis Ann Huber

¹ O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord.

² He gives us His own body
He gives us His own body
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord.

³ My Lord here now has led me
Within His Holy place
And here Himself has fed me
Christ the Lord.

⁴ The bread which you have broken
The wine which you have poured.
Is Living bread from Heaven.
Christ the Lord.

LSB 373 "See Amid the Winter's Snow"

LSB 393 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

COMMUNION DISMISSAL BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: About 2700 years ago, God spoke through the prophet Isaiah:

READING *Isaiah 9:2–7*

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great Light;

People: Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has Light shined.

Pastor: You have multiplied the nation; You have increased its joy;

People: They rejoice before You as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

Pastor: For the yoke of His burden, and the staff for His shoulder, the rod of His oppressor, You have broken as on the day of Midian.

People: For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

Pastor: For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder,

People: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Pastor: Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

People: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

DEVOTION

Pastor: Jesus chose to make His home here, on this dusty, dirty earth, in a little town named Bethlehem.

HYMN

LSB 361 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

READING *Luke 2:1–7*

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

DEVOTION

Pastor: God didn't hide what He had done; He told shepherds that He came for them!

HYMN LSB 368 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Pastor: When something good happens, we want to respond with happiness. We speak responsively:

PSALM *Psalm 96*

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song;

People: Sing to the LORD, all the earth!

Pastor: Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.

People: Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!

Pastor: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

People: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

Pastor: Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

People: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

Pastor: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts!

People: **Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth!**

Pastor: Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; He will judge the peoples with equity."

People: **Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;**

Pastor: Let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth.

People: **He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in His faithfulness.**

Pastor: The King has chosen to make His home here. He was not silent about it either, but sent His angels to tell others. And like all the rest of creation, the angels praised.

READING *Luke 2:8–20*

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby, Who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this Child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

DEVOTION

Pastor: The King chose to make His first home a barn. He did that for us!

HYMN LSB 364 “Away in a Manger”

READING *Titus 2:11–14*

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

DEVOTION

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS & GREET THOSE AROUND YOU

As the gifts are gathered, we ask that all worshipers sign the Record of Fellowship, indicating Communion attendance if offered and then pass the booklet to the person next to you in the pew. When all have signed the book, pass it back to the end of the pew.

To our visitors: This is a time in our service when congregation members give of the gifts God has given them to support the work of their congregation. You are welcome but not obligated to participate in supporting our ministries. We are blessed to have you worship with us. Please come again.

OFFERING

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You left Your home in heaven to join us here on this broken earth. You left the warmth of Your Father’s embrace to join us in the cold world. You fill us with awe.

People: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

HYMN LSB 386 “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” vs.1–2

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we are sinful from birth, but You were born pure and holy. Born of a virgin, You chose to rest in a bed of hay. We praise You for Your perfection, and we thank You for choosing to rescue us.

People: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

HYMN

LSB 370 "What Child Is This"

Pastor: You came to die for us, to take our guilt, so we can find a home in heaven. Infant King, we confess our sin and rejoice that You've taken it from us. O Jesus, it is good that You have made a home for us in heaven with You.

People: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

HYMN

LSB 383 "A Great and Mighty Wonder" vss.1, 4-5

Pastor: So many don't know what You've done for us. They think their homes are here. Open our mouths to share the wonder of what You did on Christmas. Open our eyes to opportunities, and give us wisdom and courage to speak of Your grace.

People: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

HYMN

LSB 388 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Pastor: O Jesus, take all these offerings of praise and use them to Your glory. Help us look forward to home, and we pray the words You taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: We join together in the prayer that He has taught us to pray...

All: 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: We remember what it looked like when Jesus chose to make His home here.

HYMN

LSB 363 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God, You made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold Him in all glory in the life to come; through Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: We respond to Jesus, Who made a home for us in heaven!
Merry Christmas!

CLOSING PRAISE LSB 386 “Now Sing We Now Rejoice” vss. 1,3,4

POSTLUDE

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And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!” Luke 2:13–14

New Year’s Service Schedule

New Year’s Eve- December 31

7 p. m.

New Year’s Day-January 1

9 a.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES
Serving December 31 & January 1,
2016

Officiate

Pastor Douglas Bergelin

Lay Minister

12/31-7:00 pm- George Feller

1/1/2017-9:00 am am- Tim Zindl

Acolyte

12/31-7:00 pm- Nathan Kehl

1/1/2017-9:00 am am- Chellie Hildebrandt

Altar Guild

Cheryl Maas & Cindy Maas

Children's Bulletin & Basket

There are special bulletins for children. If your child did not receive one, ask the usher. There is also a Children's Basket in the narthex that contains crayon and pencil packets along with children's books and Christian coloring books. We love having children in worship and sometimes they need additional stimulation to keep them interested. These items are there for your children to enjoy. Please return items to the basket at the end of the service.

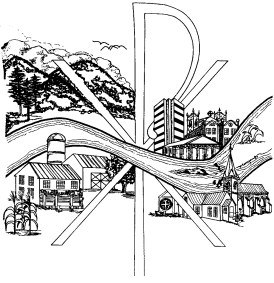
Members

In the event that you or your family may need Pastoral care or comfort, please don't assume that the Pastor or church office has been contacted by the facility you have been admitted to. Due to certain policies, some places cannot share that you or a loved one has been admitted and are in need of comfort or counseling and many times the church is notified days after an admittance to a facility has happened. In your time of need, please don't hesitate to contact the Pastor by calling his cell number or the church office, which are listed on the back of the bulletin or Grapevine.

Visitors

Visitors are asked to stop at the welcome center in the narthex where you will find information about our church, newsletters, devotional materials and other items we hope you will find helpful. Please be sure to sign the attendance book that you find in the pew and is passed around during the offering.

The 2017 Church Offering Envelopes can be picked up in the Narthex.



ST. PETER'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
W4661 CTH MM P.O. Box 115
Lebanon, Wisconsin 53047



*Reaching out . . .
to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ
through teaching, preaching,
and promoting spiritual growth.*

Pastor: Reverend Douglas Bergelin

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Pastor Email: pastorbergelin@stpetersoflebanonwi.org

Church Email: congregation@stpetersoflebanonwi.org

Web Site: www.stpetersoflebanonwi.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/st.peterslebanon

Board of Directors

Larry Beyer	Executive Director	920-285-6060
Debbie Groeler	Secretary	920-925-3342
Bob Nass	Lay Ministry	414-630-2265
Connie Holz	Stewardship	414-416-2976
Dennis Groeler	Evangelism	920-285-3342
Pam Kuehl	Youth Ministry	920-285-6113
Bonnie Lauersdorf	Christian Ed – JSB	920-988-5834
Vacancy	Christian Ed – Parish	
John Christian	Church Properties	920-925-3482

Church Office	925-3547
School Office	925-3791 (Immanuel Campus)
School Building	925-3525 (St. Peter's Campus)
Early Childhood Center	925-3040

LLS Program Staff

Julia Wackt—Principal
Kiki Damrow—Kindergarten, Art
Kathy Fortlage—1st & 2nd Grade, Music
Jennie Berken—3rd & 4th Grade
Pam Bartee—5th & 6th Grade
Julia Wackt—7th & 8th Grade
Jenny Meyers—7th & 8th Grade
Dennis Messman—K-8th Phy. Ed.
Tori Long--K-2 Aide
Anna Witan—K-8th Grade Spanish
Karen Braun - Administrative Assistant
Jackie Unke—Early Childhood Center Director
Donna Schleicher—Grade PreK-3
Heidi Field—Grade PreK-4

Support Staff

Pennie May	Church Secretary
Email: (secretary@stpetersoflebanonwi.org)	
Yvonne Weisensel	Church Custodian
Barb Boyd	LLS Custodian
Vacancy	LLS-ECC Custodian

St. Peter's – A congregation of over 400 souls – is a member congregation in the South Wisconsin District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. We have been a vital part of the Lebanon community for nearly 130 years.

Worship Services-Labor Day-Memorial Day

Communion at both services every Sunday and all Festival Days
8:00 & 10:30 am

- Sunday School and Bible Study for all ages 9:15 am
- *Summer Worship Times Memorial Day-Labor Day*

We Celebrate Two Sacraments

In **Baptism**, God freely offers His grace and lovingly establishes a new community. In **Holy Communion** those who come to the table receive in bread and wine the body and blood of their Lord. This gift is itself the real presence of God's forgiveness and mercy, nourishing believers in union with their Lord and with each other.

Lebanon Lutheran School (LLS) &

LLS - Early Childhood Center (State Licensed Facility)

Lebanon Lutheran School is an association serving children with Childcare, Preschool, and Kindergarten through Grade 8. It is a joint ministry of St. Peter's and Immanuel Lutheran Church of Lebanon (NALC).