

## LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

### From the Pastor's Desk...

*Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh...*

1 Timothy 3:16

This great mystery is what we celebrate at Christmas. The eternal Son of God took upon Himself real flesh and blood! The true God became true man! God was manifested in the flesh!

God teaches this amazing truth throughout the Scriptures. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."* (John 1:1 & 14) The title "Word" used of the eternal Son of God, indicates how He is the supreme message to us. *"Every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God."* (1 John 4:3) These passages emphasize the incredible reality that Jesus Christ, our God and Creator, is also a real man, fully human in every respect.

Jesus became true man in order to save us from our sins. *"And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death."* (Col. 1:21-22) He has saved you by becoming a true man and then dying on the cross in your place. Christ is our true substitute!

And, although Jesus truly died in the flesh for our sins, yet He rose from the dead with a glorified body, and He remains both fully God and fully man. One day we will see our risen Savior with our own eyes just as Job says: *"Yet in my flesh I shall see God."* Job 19:26

What an incredible mystery we celebrate at Christmas time! Our loving God became true man to save us sinners. May God bless our worship and praise of Him this Christmas season. *"Anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest!"*

In His service,  
Pastor Knuth



Advent Services will be held at Noon and 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, November 30, and December 7, 14 and 21 with an Advent supper at 6:00 p.m. If you can help with the meals, see the sign up sheets located in the Narthex.



This year's Children's Christmas Program will be during the 10:30am service on **Sunday, December 18**. Join us as the children remind us once again that *"On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save us; Christ, His Son, to save us!"*



Everyone is welcome to join our Youth Group as we visit homes with Christmas caroling on Sunday, **December 11 from 1 to 3 p.m.** We will enjoy pizza and hot cocoa in the fellowship hall when we return.

# BEHOLD

AND HE SHALL  
BE THEIR PEACE.

(Micah 5:5)

COME JOIN US TO RECEIVE HIS  
FORGIVENESS, LIFE AND SALVATION.



**Sunday, December 18th**

8:00 a.m. Divine Service w/Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with  
*Children's Christmas Program*

**Saturday, December 24th**

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Sunday, December 25th**

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service  
w/Holy Communion

**Saturday, December 31st**

5:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Service  
w/Holy Communion

# AROUND PELLA

## From the Vicar's Desk...

We now continue our walk through the Divine Service with the Introit. The title "Introit" comes from the Latin word *introitus*, which means entrance. It also has ties to the Latin translation of Psalm 43:4 "I will go to the altar of God" (*introibo ad altare Dei*). As we discussed in last month's article, Confession and Absolution was historically not included in the Divine Service, as it was usually done some time prior to worship. Confession and Absolution is considered preparation for coming to worship our God. The Introit is the official "entrance" into our Divine Service and traditionally the clergy would enter into the sanctuary and process to the altar while it was being sung. The Introit is also the opening of the first half of worship known as "The Service of the Word." The focus of The Service of the Word is that of reading the Scriptures and the preaching of the sermon.

It is fitting that the Introit opens The Service of the Word, as it is a small selection of Scriptures that is typically, but not exclusively, taken from a Psalm and is connected to a general theme of the day. Since the Introit changes each day it is known as a "proper" (i.e. it is proper for that specific day). Propers also include the Collect, Gradual, and the lectionary readings. The Introit contains three parts: (1) the antiphon, (2) the verse(s), and (3) the Gloria Patri. The antiphon summarizes the focus of the day's propers and so

is stated twice: at the beginning and at the end of the Introit. The verses are chosen to support the antiphon or other readings as best as possible. The Gloria Patri is our statement proclaiming the eternal glory of the Holy Trinity.

If you look at the Introit as it is printed in each bulletin insert, you will see the Bible verses that are used, including the antiphon, to the right of the title. For example, if you look at the insert for the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost (Nov 13, 2022), you will see the verses used are from Psalm 121 (vv.1-2, 5, 7-8) and the antiphon is Luke 21:33. The excerpt from Luke is Jesus stating that "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." This is a very eschatological statement; that is, dealing with the second coming of Christ in judgment. It fits well with the Old (Malachi 4:1-6) and New (Luke 21:5-28) Testament readings, as both readings for that day talk about the coming judgment. The day's Epistle (2 Thess 3:6-13), discusses a related topic: not becoming idle while we wait for the Lord to come again. I encourage everyone to meditate on the Introit, especially the antiphon, and how it connects to the other proper readings. This can be a fun and edifying activity for families to discuss together.

In Christ our King,  
Vicar Schober

### December Select Mission: LeadaChild

LeadaChild is an independent Lutheran Mission Agency, dedicated to *sharing the Good News of Jesus' love to children through Christian education in third world countries.*

LeadaChild gathers gifts and donations to provide scholarships, fees and supplies for children to attend Lutheran schools and after school programs. They provide professional development for leaders and teachers at their sites, with an emphasis on effective ways to share the Gospel and teach Biblical truths to children.

On Sunday, December 11, Dr. Phil Frusti will be here to share with us more about this mission agency.

### Pella's Vicar Program

At the Congregational meeting in October it was decided to apply for a Vicar for 2023-2024. Beyond that, we will need to evaluate and raise funds to continue having a Vicar. If you would like to specifically donate toward the support of our Vicar, please indicate "Vicar" on your special offering.

### Reminder to Sunday School Parents:

Children's Christmas program practices will be held on Saturdays, December 10 and 17 from 9-10:15 am. It is important that your child(ren) be present for these practices so they will feel confident and ready for the program.

# AROUND PELLA

## Orphan Grain Train

Our OGT packing operations have remained steady and we have shipped out many hundreds of boxes this past year to those in need. As you think about gifts during this time of giving, please consider a donation to help with shipping costs for Orphan Grain Train. Simply write a check to Pella and write "Orphan Grain Train (or OGT)" on the memo line.



**In His Hands Preschool** is having a wonderful year! The students have been listing their blessings and thanking God for His gifts. They're now busy preparing for their Christmas program, which will be held on Thursday, December 22.

## New Members

Recently we have been pleased to welcome our new members: Rosie Wucherer, and Dan and Holly Flatau and their four young children, Eliana, Neilia, Ansel and Mabel. We are glad to have them part of our congregation and offer a sincere and warm welcome to Pella!



## CPH Resource Center

There are some new Christmas books available to purchase at the Resource Center table in the church office hallway, as well as some free pamphlets that help explain Biblical truths and what it means to be a Lutheran. Remember you can also take home a catalog to browse through or check out the vast number of resources and gifts on the CPH website.

## Youth Group News

**December 3, 1-3pm:** We will be decorating cookies in the Pella kitchen which will be used for Christmas cheer bags for our members who are shut-in.

**December 11, 1-3pm:** Join us for Christmas caroling! Details are on page 1.

**December 21 at 6 pm:** Youth will have their last meeting of the year with a Jesus Birthday Party.

## December Birthdays

2	Alexus Harmsen	20	Sarah Bunkoske
4	Victoria Belleville	20	Liam Aellig
5	Blakely Mitchell	21	Luke Hahn
5	Paulette Smit	23	Holly Flatau
6	Julie Bonack	23	Andrew Pater
7	Dekker Landaal	24	Shirley Peters
7	Owen Shurpit	25	Jaclyn Teachout
8	Alexandra Parsons	27	Lisa Dykstra
12	Julie Derksen	28	Neilia Flatau
12	Jayne Hull	29	Lora Huizenga
13	Marjorie Gibson	30	Daniel Flatau
17	Diana Beder	30	Shawn Lang
18	Gustav Madigan	31	Alice Rahn

## December Anniversaries

9	Milford and Patricia Hopp	50
27	Chris and Tierney Cornelius	8

## Christmas at Concordia



Concordia University Wisconsin's Music Department is proud to present the 35th annual *Christmas at Concordia!* This year the concert will take place on Friday, December 2 and Saturday, December 3, 2022. A cherished tradition at CUW, this concert features sacred and secular selections by all of our music ensembles, as well as sing-along carols performed by organist, Dr. Craig Sproat. Join us as we usher in the Advent and Christmas seasons! Watch online at 7:30 p.m. at:

<https://www.cuw.edu/stream/christmas.html>



# PELLA

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### **Bible Verse of the Month**

She will bear a son,  
and you shall call his  
name Jesus, for he  
will save his people  
from their sins.

*Matthew 1:21*

Visit our Website  
[www.pellalutheran.org](http://www.pellalutheran.org)

#### Find Quick Links for:

Sermons  
Church Bulletins  
Newsletters  
CPH Blog Site (includes  
many interesting and  
encouraging articles)  
Lutheran Hour Devotions  
LCMS  
South Wisconsin LCMS

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# Pella Lutheran Church – December 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN; AND THE GOVERNMENT SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER, AND HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE. ISAIAH 9:6</b></p>				<p>10:00 AM Bible Study <sup>1</sup></p>	<p>Church Office Closed <sup>2</sup></p>	<p>7:00 AM Men's Bible Study <sup>3</sup> 1-3 PM Youth Cookie Day</p>
<p><sup>4</sup> 8:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast 6:30 PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><sup>5</sup> 6:00 PM Youth Board</p>	<p><sup>6</sup></p>	<p><sup>7</sup> 9:00 AM Quilting NOON Advent Service 6:00 PM Sr. &amp; Jr. Youth 6:00 PM Advent Supper 7:00 PM Advent Service</p>	<p><sup>8</sup> 10:00 AM Bible Study 2:00 PM Ladies Aid/LWML</p>	<p><sup>9</sup> Church Office Closed</p>	<p><sup>10</sup> 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Children's Christmas Practice</p>
<p><sup>11</sup> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast 6:30 PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><sup>12</sup> 7:00 PM Elders' Meeting</p>	<p><sup>13</sup> 6:30 PM Trustees' Meeting</p>	<p><sup>14</sup> 9:00 AM Quilting NOON Advent Service 6:00 PM Sr. &amp; Jr. Youth 6:00 PM Advent Supper 7:00 PM Advent Service</p>	<p><sup>15</sup> 10:00 AM Bible Study</p>	<p><sup>16</sup> Church Office Closed  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p><sup>17</sup> 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Children's Christmas Practice</p>
<p><sup>18</sup> 8:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service w/ Children's Christmas Program 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast 6:30 PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><sup>19</sup> 7:00 PM Church Council</p>	<p><sup>20</sup></p>	<p><sup>21</sup> 9:00 AM Quilting NOON Advent Service 6:00 PM Sr. &amp; Jr. Youth Jesus Birthday Party 6:00 PM Advent Supper 7:00 PM Advent Service</p>	<p><sup>22</sup> 10:00 AM Bible Study  NEWSLETTER MAILING</p>	<p><sup>23</sup> Church Office Closed</p>	<p><sup>24</sup> <b>Christmas Eve</b> 9:00 PM Candlelight Service </p>
<p><sup>25</sup> <b>Christmas Day</b> 9:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <i>O Come LET US adore HIM</i></p>	<p><sup>26</sup> Church Office Closed</p>	<p><sup>27</sup></p>	<p><sup>28</sup> 7:00 PM Divine Service</p>	<p><sup>29</sup> No Bible Study</p>	<p><sup>30</sup> Church Office Closed</p>	<p><sup>31</sup> <b>New Year's Eve</b> 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study  5:30 PM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion</p>

# December 2022 Serving Calendar

Date	Time	Organist / Pianist	Elder/Usher	Finance	Video Recording	Audio / Radio Recording
<b>Sunday December 4</b>	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Sarah Schober	Warren Schmitz	Marj Peachey Diana Beder	Val Loehrke	G. Baumann or W. Schmitz
<b>Advent, Wed. December 7</b>	NOON 7:00 PM	Lora Huizenga (both)	Ben Kuenzi Darwin Wetzell			
<b>Sunday December 11</b>	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Lora Huizenga	Kevin Hahn	F. & S. McIver	Val Loehrke	G. Baumann or W. Schmitz
<b>Advent, Wed. December 14</b>	NOON 7:00 PM	Lora Huizenga Candis Breitkruetz	Ben Kuenzi George Baumann			
<b>Sunday December 18</b>	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Christal Hopfensperger	Ben Kuenzi	Gail VanLoo Cheryl Pater	Duane Vande Zande	Dan Holz
<b>Advent, Wed. December 21</b>	NOON 7:00 PM	Lora Huizenga Candis Breitkruetz	Ben Kuenzi Darwin Wetzell			
<b>Christmas Eve December 24</b>	9:00 PM	Candis Breitkruetz	Ben Kuenzi			
<b>Christmas Day December 25</b>	9:00 AM	Candis Breitkruetz	Warren Schmitz	Ben & Debbie Kuenzi	Steve Schmitz	G. Baumann or W. Schmitz
<b>Wednesday December 28</b>	7:00 PM	Lora Huizenga	Darwin Wetzell			
<b>New Year's Eve December 31</b>	5:30 PM	Lora Huizenga	Kevin Hahn			

**Altar Circle Committee:** Ann Keyser & Sandy Flier  
**Soul Accounting:** Marion Birkholz & Darlene Birkholz-Lueck

