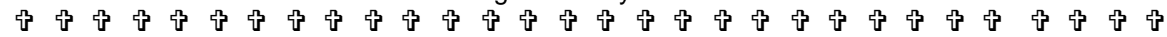


**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

December 16, 2007

Organist: Arlys Willis



**PRAYER**

Loving Father,  
Keep us from being blinded by the celebrations of the world, and let us see clearly the spiritual gifts which You offer. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

**GUIDES FOR WORSHIP**

The order of worship begins on page 184 as announced.

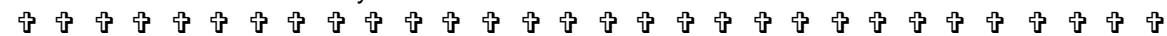
The Hymns are: 345 – 346 – 347 – 554

Sermon Text: Matthew 11:2-15

Sermon Theme: "Great Expectations"



Church Attendance:	Saturday, December 8, 2008:	32
	Holy Communion:	29
	Sunday, December 9, 2009:	120
	Holy Communion:	67
	Sunday School:	39



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We sincerely welcome all who have come to worship with us today. On this Third Sunday of Advent, we encourage everyone to think often about God's gift to us in Christ. What love God has for each of us! And what love we should have for one another.

**Today at the worship service**, we recognize our new members here at Peace. They include: Warren and Tracey Mathwig - Jonathan Petersen - Jennifer Peters and her daughter Alivia - Gordon and Marlys Schauer and their son Mathew - Lois Kube - James and Stacie Mueller and their sons Jordan and Joseph - Lisa Holberg - Allen and Darlene Weckwerth – Anthony and Katherine Kohls - Jason and Dana Lenertz - Mark and Jackie Lieske and their children, Dylan, Nicole and Quentin - Chad and Lynzi Kleist – Michael Mathwig. Meet them in the fellowship hall after worship.

**In addition to the Sunday School practices** for the Christmas program, we will be hosting a Birthday Party Celebration for the Sunday School students to honor Jesus' Birthday and the beginning of the 25th Anniversary Celebration for Peace Lutheran Church. This celebration is for the Sunday School Children and will be held after their practice on Saturday December 22nd.

At this time we are in need of some items for donation. We are looking for milk, juices and any birthday party items (such as balloons, napkins, paper plates, crepe paper, etc.) that anyone would like to donate. Please contact Amy Stearns at 507-237-5340 or Barb Reiersen at 964-2661 if you would like to donate. Have all items brought to the church by Friday, December 21st. We appreciate all your assistance and donations; we know it will be a fun celebration for the children.

**There will be no Sunday School** on December 23<sup>rd</sup> and December 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Today following worship, a door offering** to help defray the cost of the Christmas bags for the children will be taken.

**"Feeding of the 500 Club"** will meet tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Chicken dumpling will be the soup of the day.

**Church council will meet** on Thursday evening, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Have all agenda items in the church office by 10:00 a.m. Thursday morning.

**The January "Usher & Acolyte" schedule** has been printed. Check your distribution box for a copy.

*The Children's Worship Service will be at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. The Christmas Day Worship Service will be held at 9:30 a.m. and will be "A Carol Service of Nine Lessons". Holy Communion will also be celebrated.*

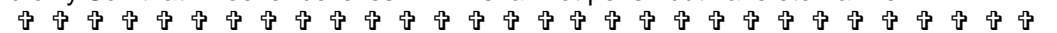
**The 2007 church books** will be closed following the worship service on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please have all donations in the offering at this time.

**The January – March "Portals of Prayer"** are on the table in the narthex.

**The 2008 church contribution envelopes** are on the table in the narthex. Please stop and pick your envelopes up before you leave if you have not already done so.

Known to be hospitalized this week: Ray Sommers

The Bible verse to memorize this week is: **John 3:16** - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.



**THIS WEEK AT PEACE**

Today	9:30 a.m.	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday	11:30 a.m.	"Feeding of the 500 Club"
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class at Highland Commons
	4:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	6:45 p.m.	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
Wednesday	3:45 p.m.	Catechism Class
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Final Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Program
	11:00 a.m.	Birthday Party
	5:00 p.m.	Worship Service
Sunday		<i>No Sunday School</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Service

A nursery is available for parents with small children while attending our worship service. If you need to use it, please ask one of the ushers and they will direct you to it.