

PEACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH of Oak Forest, Illinois, is by God's grace a *truly orthodox* Lutheran congregation in doctrine and practice. It holds to the Holy Scriptures as the verbally inspired, inerrant, clear, and infallible Word of God, which is and ever must be the only source and norm of Christian doctrine, as well as the only reliable measure and standard of Christian practice.

Peace is a member congregation of the **Concordia Lutheran Conference**, which itself is not a church in the Scriptural meaning of that word but an organization of local churches bound together in true, God-pleasing fellowship based on unity of faith and confession (Amos 3:3; John 8:31-32; 17:21; I Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 4:3).

Besides the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, our fellowship accepts all of the confessional writings comprising the *Book of Concord* of 1580 and the *Brief Statement* of 1932 (drawn up by the Missouri Synod in the long-gone days of its orthodoxy) as a further such correct exposition of Holy Scripture and an uncompromising basis in our time for God-pleasing union between us and other Lutherans.

In these last days of sore distress, in which even so-called Lutherans "*will not endure sound doctrine*" but will rather have their ears tickled with what they want to hear (II Timothy 4:3-4), we offer by God's grace a **clear alternative**; and *we eagerly invite your further inquiries concerning our church!* Communicant membership is established by a transfer from a congregation already in our fellowship OR by profession of faith after a period of instruction in the chief articles of Christian doctrine. Classes can be arranged to fit most schedules by contacting our Pastor at:

Telephone: (708) 532-4288

Pastor's E-mail: pastormensing@yahoo.com

On the Web: <http://www.PeaceEvLutheran.com>

You are always welcome to attend our services.



New Year's Eve

December 31, 2021



Peace Ev. Lutheran Church

(Concordia Lutheran Conference)

Central Avenue at 171st Place
Oak Forest, Illinois

The Rev. David T. Mensing, Pastor

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Hymn 125: "The Old Year Now Hath Passed Away"

The Opening Liturgy (Hymnal, p. 15ff.)

Selected Epistle Lesson: Colossians 3:1-17

Selected Gospel Lesson: John 15:1-9

The Nicene Creed (Hymnal, p. 22)

Hymn 529: "I Leave All Things to God's Direction"

The Sermon— Eisenach Epistle Text: Romans 8:28-32

*Theme: We Christians Rest Our Hopes for the New Year
upon Our Gracious God*

I. ...upon what He has already done for us, and

II. ...upon what He promises yet to do for us.

Offering... "to prove the sincerity of your love." (II Cor. 8:8)

New Year's Prayer

Hymn 121: "For Thy Mercy and Thy Grace"

Communion Exhortation (Hymnal, p. 47) Pastor

Prayer for the Communicants Congregation: "Amen."

Communion Liturgy (Hymnal, p. 24ff.)

Please note: Since the holy Supper of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is intended only for true believers who repent of their sins and cling alone to the merits of Christ for salvation, for those who sincerely intend to amend their sinful lives in evidence of their faith, and for those who are in the true unity of the Spirit with their fellow-communicants, we admit to the Lord's Table only those of our fellowship. We expect them to have made previous announcement to their pastor as their shepherd and overseer and to have examined themselves in accordance with God's Word. (This Scriptural practice is known as *Close* or *Closed Communion*.)

Hymn 316: "O Living Bread from Heaven"

(To be sung during the distribution of the Sacrament)

Closing Liturgy (Hymnal, p. 29ff.)

The Benediction of the Lord Congregation: "Amen, Amen, Amen!"

Silent Prayer

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Announcements

For spiritual care during the week, particularly in case of serious illness or emergency, please take a moment to call Pastor Mensing at his **study** here at church, **532-4288**, at **home** at the parsonage, **532-9035**, or on his **cell**, **601-3943**.

VISITORS are always welcome to attend our services here at Peace. Masking and distancing are optional. Please register in our Guest Book, and leave also your address and telephone number if you would like the Pastor to contact you further. And please come again!

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Celebrating in advance

The Epiphany of Our Lord

— 8:30 a.m., **Sunday School** and **Adult Bible Class** for all.

— 10:00 a.m., **The Divine Worship Service** also for all, with **HOLY COMMUNION** for our members who announced beforehand to the Pastor and who examined themselves according to the Apostle's injunction (I Corinthians 11:28).

A Happy and Blessed New Year to All of You!

