



Second Sunday after Christmas

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)

W156 N5436 Bette Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI | 262-781-3520 | office@pilgrimcares.org

The Dawn of Redeeming Grace

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” We know that keeping little children occupied for an entire church service can be a challenge. Don’t worry; most of those worshipping around you have been in your shoes at one time. If you feel that you need to take your child out of church at any time, we have a Children’s Room to the right as you exit the worship area. The first parking space in front of church is designated for **expectant mothers and families with small children**.

Restrooms are located to your left as you exit the worship area. There are **changing tables in both restrooms**.

LARGE PRINT copies of worship materials are available from the ushers. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to ask an usher.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Preacher
Organist

Pastor Aaron Winkelman
Pastor Greg Lyon
Jenny Raasch

The Service, Setting One

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

CW 362



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending, and in
3 Ja - cob's Star in all its splen - dor beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, from sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; loud - ly sing his
love our race be - friend - ing, in our need his
com - fort sweet and ten - der, forc - ing Sa - tan
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, from the grief that



love a - maz - ing, wor - thy folk of Christ - en - dom.
help ex - tend - ing, saved us from the wi - ly foe.
to sur - ren - der, break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
sore dis - tressed us, we, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
when by faith we grasp this blessing,
when, O Christ, we come addressing
thanks to you and highest praise!

6 Gracious Child, in mercy hear us,
from your lowly manger cheer us,
gently lead us and be near us
till we join th' angelic choir.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: German, 14th cent. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712872 Tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

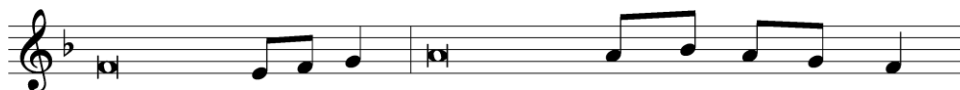
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



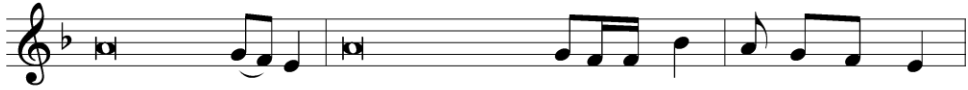
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



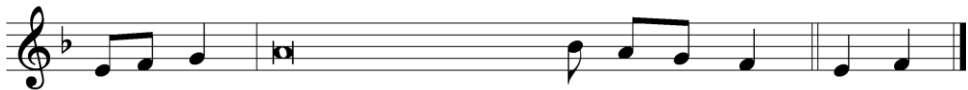
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

¹⁰I delight greatly in the LORD;
my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness
and praise spring up before all nations.

¹²For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.

²The nations will see your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.

³You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All You Works of God, Bless the Lord

Psalm 148E sts. 1, Ref, 3, 6



1 All you works of God, bless the LORD!
3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold,
6 Bless the LORD, all you pure of heart;



All you an - gels, now bless the LORD;
dews of sum - mer, your song un - fold;
all you hum - ble, his praise im - part;



come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,
light and dark - ness, you day and night,
God the Fa - ther and Son a - dore,



praise the LORD and his maj - es - ty:
clouds of thun - der, you light - nings bright:
bless the Spir - it for - ev - er - more!

Refrain



Raise your voic - es high, praise and mag - ni - fy,



all you works of God, bless the LORD!

Text: Stephen P. Starke Tune: Jamaican; adapt. Doreen Potter Text: © 1995 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712872 Tune: © 1975 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712872

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3–18

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

¹¹In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹²in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Only Son from Heaven

CW 383



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, fore - told by an - cient seers,
2 O time of God ap - point - ed, O bright and ho - ly morn!
3 O Lord, our hearts a - wak - en to know and love you more,
4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore you with God the Ho - ly Ghost



by God the Fa - ther giv - en, in hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the King a - noint - ed, the Christ, the vir - gin - born,
in faith to stand un - shak - en, in spir - it to a - dore,
and Je - sus, we a - dore you, O Pride of an - gel host.



No sphere his light con - fin - ing, no star so
grim death to con - quer for us, to o - pen
that we, through this world mov - ing, each glimpse of
Be - fore you mor - tals low - ly cry, "Ho - ly,



bright - ly shin - ing as he, our Morn - ing Star.
heav'n be - fore us and bring us life a - gain.
heav - en prov - ing, may reap its full - ness there.
ho - ly, ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

Text (sts. 1-3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500-1535; (sts. 1-3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-1874, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978;
Tune: Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein, Erfurt, 1524, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Eternal and gracious Lord, in this holy season we rejoice with hearts and voices because you sent your one and only Son from his majestic glory to save us from the slavery of sin and the agonies of death. He took on our human flesh that he might reveal your divine glory. He became our brother that we might become your children forever.

Give us quiet time during these busy days to reflect on your love and ponder the miracle of our Savior's incarnation. Help us look beyond our gift-giving and gift-receiving, and discover the greatest gift: the forgiveness of sins and life with you. Put the joys of Christmas into the perspective of our eternal celebration, and let music and art lift our hearts to Christ who is truly the center of the season.

Keep in your loving care all whose Christmas joys are diminished by sickness and sadness, by unhappy recollections and uncertain hopes. Comfort those who sense this Christmas may be their last, and raise their eyes to the brilliant lights of heaven. Soothe consciences that are troubled by guilt and regret, and show them the forgiving love of Christ.

We commend to your care all who proclaim the message of Christ during these holy days; all who care for people in hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons; and all who put themselves out to bring joy to others, especially children. Let the light of your grace shine through all ministries of mercy.

Send us your Holy Spirit, gracious Lord, that the proclamation of the Christmas gospel may lighten the load of guilt and fear and lift our hearts to confident faith and holy living. By the power of your Word, bring your light to hearts struggling to understand you and searching to find you that they may know the joys of this season as we do. Empower us to lead them to your love in our words and deeds.

All this we ask in the name of the newborn King, born in Bethlehem and now living and reigning forever in heaven. Amen.

Offering

If you wish to give an electronic offering, you may use the QR code located at the end of the bulletin or you may go to pilgrimcares.org/giving. We present the offerings before the altar as a reminder that our giving overflows out of the Gospel and is itself an act of worship.

My Worth Is Not in What I Own

CW 753 sts. Ref, 4

4 I will not boast in wealth or might, or
hu - man wis - dom's fleet - ing light. But I will
boast in know - ing Christ at the cross. *Refrain*
Refrain
I re-joice in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,
well-spring of my soul. I will trust in him, no oth - er; my
soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Graham Kendrick, b. 1950 Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Graham Kendrick, b. 1950
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The Sacrament

The Bible teaches that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ, and with one another, as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. With that in mind, we invite all members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod to come forward. If you wish to partake of the Supper with us in the future, please speak to one of the Pastors after the service. They would be happy to help you take that step.

Stand

Preface

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes or bar lines. The final phrase 'A - - men.' has a long horizontal line under the 'A' and a dash, indicating a long note or a pause.

Be seated

Distribution

I Stand beside Your Manger Here

CW 334



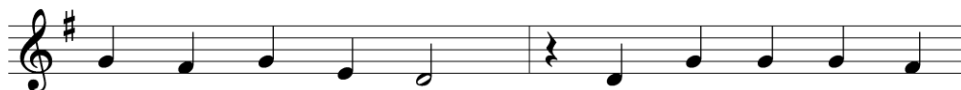
1 I stand be - side your man - ger here, O Je - sus,
 2 Be - fore I ev - er came to be, or knew of
 3 Death held me in the deep - est night till you, my
 4 One thing I hope; my Sav - ior, hear; be - stow on



life from heav - en. The gifts I bring as I draw near
 you, my Sav - ior, you'd cho - sen me, been born for me,
 sun - shine beam - ing, brought joy and bliss and life and light,
 me this bless - ing, that I may ev - er hold you near,



are what to me you've giv - en: my spir - it,
 that I might have your fa - vor. Be - fore you
 in love my soul re - deem - ing. O Sun, your
 you as my own pos - sess - ing. So let my



cour - age, mind, and heart— take all I am, take
 formed me by your hand in grace you had al -
 rays so warm and fair have made my dark - ness
 heart your man - ger be; come, ho - ly Child, lie



ev - 'ry part; in mer - cy let it please you.
 read - y planned how I would learn to love you.
 dis - ap - pear— faith's pre - cious light is shin - ing.
 down in me with all your joy - ful trea - sures.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963 Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug
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Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters

CW 678



1 Once in the blest bap - tis - mal wa - ters I put on
 2 His bod - y and his blood I've tak - en in his blest
 3 Though death may come to - day, to - mor - row, I know in
 4 And thus I live in God con - tent - ed and die with -



Christ and made him mine; now, num - bered with God's sons and
 sup - per, feast di - vine; now I shall nev - er be for -
 Christ I per - ish not; he grants the peace that stills all
 out a thought of fear; to God's good plans I have con -



daugh - ters, I share his peace and love di - vine. My God, for
 sak - en for I am his and he is mine. My God, for
 sor - row, gives me a robe with - out a spot. My God, for
 sent - ed, my faith is fo - cused, firm, and clear. By grace, in



Je - sus' sake I pray your peace may bless my dy - ing day.
 Je - sus' sake I pray your peace may bless my dy - ing day.
 Je - sus' sake I pray your peace may bless my dy - ing day.
 Je - sus' name I say, "Lord, you will bless my dy - ing day!"

Text: Emilie Juliane von Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, 1637–1706, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Christian Möck, 1737–1818
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

CW 363



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to thee.
3 Now through his Son doth shine the Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground,



he from whom joy stream - eth poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign - ing o'er us through sin and van - i - ty
where the an - gels sing - ing with all his saints u - nite,



not so bright - ly beam - eth the sun in yon - der skies.
thro' thy grace and mer - it, blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
till he o - pened for us a bright e - ter - ni - ty.
sweet - est prais - es bring - ing in heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt. Tune: German, 14th cent., alt. Text and tune: Public domain



Pilgrim Lutheran Church can receive offerings electronically through a secure website. Scan the QR code with your smart phone (you might need to download a free QR scanning app) to be directed to Pilgrim's giving page or visit pilgrimcares.org/giving. Save the check – give online!

News & Notes

Sunday Bible Class and Sunday School are on break until January 11. See you then!

The 2026 Flower Chart is on the wall outside of the Mother's room. The cost for one family (2 vases) is \$60. For two families (1 vase each) is \$30 per family. Make checks payable to **Pilgrim** and put in Box #20 (Glatzel). When you order flowers, they can be picked up after the second service. **Please make sure to return the containers to church after you have disposed of your flowers, they are reused.** If you have any questions, contact the office.

The Tabitha Society will begin the new year by looking back—way back—175 years to be exact! WELS archivist Susan Willems, our guest speaker, will tell us about her job and about her part in producing the new pictorial history of the synod, *Christ Through Us*. She will also have copies of this wonderful book available for sale. All women of the congregation and their friends are invited to this informational meeting. We will meet at 1:30 on Thursday afternoon, January 8, 2026, in the conference room at school. Joan Schmick and Elke Warren will provide refreshments.

Crafting for a Cause Saturday January 17, this is our 50th event! We would like people to save that date and stop by on Saturday to see what Crafting for a Cause really is. More details soon!

Evensong: A Discipleship Event Join us on the Third Thursday of January, January 15, in the church for a night of study and fellowship. Our evening will begin with a look at the rich theology and history of a few hymns. We will look at each appointed hymn, their origins, and their messages. Following our study we will break for fellowship and conversation during which charcuterie and wine will be served. We will end the evening with an evening prayer service in which those same hymns will be featured. Evensong begins at 6pm and wraps up around 8pm. We hope to see you there!

Answers Class - Tuesday, January 27 we will begin a new session of Answers at 6:30pm. Answers is for those looking to dig into the basics of what the Bible teaches. Upon completion those interested in membership at Pilgrim are eligible to join. Already a member but looking for a refresher course on the basic teachings of the Bible? Answers is for you too!

After School Care Position Pilgrim Lutheran Preschool and Childcare is hiring for an After-School Care Teacher to work with our school-aged group. This role is approximately 6-10 hours per week, 2-3 days a week. Hours may be flexible, but would be from 2:15 pm to 5:00 pm most days. The position may require some training based on current educational status. CPR/First Aid is required. We are looking for this person to start the week of January 19th, with some training hours before that start date. For more details, please contact: Amanda Berg, ECM Director aberg@pilgrimcares.org 262-781-8305

Pans & Percussion Concert Saturday, January 10, at 6:30 PM, enjoy a pans & percussion concert featuring the ensembles of Wisconsin Lutheran and Kettle Moraine Lutheran High Schools. The concert will be held in KML's Performing Arts Center and also livestreamed at kmlhs.org/stream.

	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Ushers		
1-4	Glen Kuphall Jason Wetzel	Jim Prekop Mark Murphy
1-11	Phill Lepple Tony Jackson	Bryan Giesenschlag John Kufahl
Worship Hosts		
1-4	Irene Lape & Pat Knack	Paul & Kathy Arnhold
1-11	Joe & Marlene Bedalov	Peggy Haas & Carol Bradtke

Pilgrimcares.org

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608.548.0670

Pastor Aaron Winkelman
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Pastor Greg Hermanson
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Early Childhood Director Amanda Berg
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