

T E R M	D E F I N I T I O N
<b>Acolyte</b>	The worship assistant who is the attendant, or helper of the Pastor or Presider.
<b>Advent</b>	The first season of the church year, which prepares us for the coming celebration of Christ's birth. The word comes from the Latin, <i>advenire</i> , which means "to come."
<b>Advent Wreath</b>	This is the large evergreen wreath with 4 candles, that we use during Advent for the lighting litany each week of Advent.
<b>Alb</b>	A white linen garment reaching from the neck to the feet, worn by the principal clergy at liturgical functions. The alb is a symbol of the purity of soul that should be present during worship. <i>Albio</i> is the Greek word for <i>white</i> .
<b>Altar</b>	The table on which the Eucharist is offered during Communion. The altar is the heart of the church building, because it is around the altar that the People of God gather to God gather to receive the Bread of life, the Eucharist.
<b>Ambo</b>	The pulpit from which the pastor, lector, assistant minister, or cantor functions; from the Greek for <i>mountain</i> or <i>elevation</i> .
<b>Anthem</b>	A Peace Singers or Peace Ringers selection performed immediately following the <i>Prayer of the Day</i> . Distinguished from <i>Special Music</i> , which is a musical offering by musicians other than those two groups immediately following the Prayer of the Day.
<b>Apostle's Creed</b>	One of the three ecumenical (universally accepted) creeds. This creed is an expression of the Trinitarian faith.
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	This day, which marks the beginning of Lent, is 40 days before Easter. (Sundays are not included in the count.) The theme of the day is repentance, which in some churches is visually depicted by the placing of ashes on the forehead while the words of Gen. 3:19 are spoken: "From dust you are and to dust you will return."
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	Assistant Ministers participate in the service, assisting the Pastor with the actual service. They take part in the liturgy and lead the congregation in prayers and other participatory sections. They assist with communion, baptism, liturgy and special events, and guide the acolytes, crucifers, lectors, ushers, and cantors throughout the service.
<b>Athanasian Creed</b>	One of the three ecumenical (universally accepted) creeds, it probably originated around A.D. 500. Though it bears the name of Athanasius (Fourth Century), it was certainly not written by him. This creed is a grand expression of the Trinitarian faith.
<b>Bulletin Team</b>	This team coallates and staples the bulletins for worship services every week.
<b>Cantor</b>	One who leads singing, especially that of the congregation. One of Luther's associates, Johann Walter, is considered the first Lutheran cantor. J. S. Bach is probably the most renowned cantor.
<b>Chalice</b>	A Middle English word from the Latin <i>calix</i> , meaning "cup," the chalice is the cup used to distribute the blood of Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar.
<b>Chant (verb)</b>	A method of singing liturgical texts that are not metered (as in a hymn). Most chant consists of short phrases that are sung responsively between pastor and people. Psalms may also be chanted, as well as parts of the liturgy.
<b>Chausible</b>	A loose-fitting, poncho-like vestment worn by the celebrant at the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is usually in the color of the day.
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	A 2 to 3 minute object lesson given after the Gospel reading during worship by a layperson or Pastor. It may be based on one of the lessons for the day.
<b>Children's Time</b>	Occurs immediately after the Children's Sermon. This is a scripture-related activity time held in the Fellowship Hall, facilitated by a qualified teenager or adult. Children from ages 4 through 9 are included. Activities include puzzles, games, singing, coloring, and other crafts. Children are escorted back to the Sanctuary at the Sharing of the Peace.
<b>Christmas</b>	The feast that marks the birth of Christ. December 25 is the most common date given for this holiday.
<b>Church Council</b>	Administrative elected body, headed by the Executive Committee (Pres., Vice Pres., Sec., Treas. and Pastor). Includes, Communications, Worship and
<b>Church Year</b>	The church's calendar, which developed over centuries, provides a yearly rehearsal of the life and teaching of Christ. The first half begins with Advent and continues with Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost. The second half of the year (Sundays after Pentecost/Trinity) focuses on the ministry of Christ, concluding with an emphasis on the End Times.
<b>Collect</b>	A concisely written prayer that "collects" the prayers of the people. The Collect of the Day is prayed toward the beginning of the worship service, prior to the reading of the lessons and Gospel.

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<b>Confirmation</b>	Confirmation is a pastoral and educational ministry of the church which helps the baptized child through Word and Sacrament to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in its mission.
<b>Confirmation Class</b>	The prescribed curriculum that confirmands must cover before Confirmation. This is usually a two year sequence at Peace Lutheran taught by a teacher.
<b>Corporal</b>	A small, white linen cloth, upon which the Eucharistic species rests during Communion. All sacred vessels that hold the elements of Communion must be placed on the corporal, so that no fragments of the Eucharist are lost.
<b>Council President</b>	The elected head of Peace Lutheran Church who serves two year terms as Council Chair.
<b>Council Vice President</b>	The elected assistant head of Peace Lutheran Church who serves two year terms as Council Assistant Chair.
<b>Credence Table</b>	A small, moveable table, located off to the side of the altar, which holds the necessary items for liturgical functions, particularly Communion, such as the chalice, basin, and finger cloth and towel.
<b>Crucifer</b>	The worship assistant who carries the Crucifix.
<b>Crucifix</b>	A cross with an image of Christ's body on it. Symbolic of the Passion and death of Christ, it is used in public and private devotions.
<b>Director of Music</b>	Peace Lutheran employee who collaborates with Pastor and Worship and Music Liaison on worship service; directs the Peace Singers;oversees all musical activities.
<b>Director of Youth and Family Services</b>	Peace Lutheran Employee who is in charge of youth programs and related family programs.
<b>Easter</b>	The central religious feast of the church year, the Resurrection of our Lord, estimated between AD26 and 36.
<b>Education Team</b>	This group manages Children's Time, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School at Peace Lutheran.
<b>Elements of Communion</b>	Bread and the wine that are served during the Eucharist.
<b>Epiphany</b>	From the Greek, meaning "to appear." Observed on January 6, Epiphany is the church's celebration of the proclamation of Jesus' birth to the Gentiles; hence, the reading of the story of the visit of the Magi from Matt. 2. Originally, and still in the Orthodox churches, Epiphany served as the celebration of Jesus' birth. It wasn't until the fourth century that Dec. 25 was established in the western church for this celebration.
<b>Eternal Flame</b>	A sanctuary lamp, usually with red glass, is kept burning at all times to mark the location of the tabernacle.
<b>Eucharist</b>	One of the many terms for the Lord's Supper. It comes from the Greek word meaning "thanksgiving." Even as Jesus gave thanks when he instituted the Lord's Supper, so do we give thanks that in this holy meal our Lord gives us his body and blood for forgiveness and life.
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Peace Lutheran worship assistant who distributes the wine or grape juice during Communion.
<b>Evangelism Team</b>	This group works on growing the church membership through ongoing activities, handles refreshments after worship and the Greeter Ministry.
<b>Fair Linen</b>	Linen cloth that covers the Altar surface.
<b>Finance Team</b>	This group manages the annual budget, prepares reports, works in various fiduciary matters for Peace Lutheran.
<b>Flagon</b>	The container that holds the wine before it is dispensed during Communion.
<b>Foot Washing</b>	Liturgical rite that is rooted in the ancient custom of washing the feet of one's house guest, since sandals were the footwear. Used at Peace Lutheran.
<b>Gospel</b>	Refers to the reading of one of the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) in the worship. The reading of the words of Jesus is given the highest place of prominence by being read last. The congregation stands for the reading. Especially on high festivals, like Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, etc., the Gospel may be read from the center of the nave, symbolizing what it means that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

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<b>Gospel Procession</b>	The movement from the Altar to the center aisle and back for the reading of the Gospel. Includes the Pastor, Assistant Minister, Acolytes, Bookbear
<b>Kyrie Eleison</b>	From the Greek, it is a direct address to God, meaning "Lord, have mercy." The Kyrie appears early in the worship service. It is not part of the conf
<b>Lector</b>	A worship assistant who reads the lessons of the day from the Lectern or Ambo.
<b>Lent</b>	The penitential period of preparation before the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Its 40-day duration (not counting the Sundays in Lent) begins on Ash Wednesday, as early as Feb. 4 and as late as Mar. 10, depending on the date of Easter. The name comes from the Anglo-Saxon (in the northern hemisphere).
<b>Liaison</b>	Council member at Peace Lutheran Church who heads a committee and supports the work of the committee in tandem with the broader goals of the Church Council's mission statement.
<b>Litany</b>	In general, a responsory prayer with repeated congregational responses. During worship, the Kyrie is sometimes cast in the form of a litany, with the congregation responding to each petition with the words, "Lord, have mercy." Setting VIII in the ELW is an example of this.
<b>Liturgical Dance</b>	Liturgical Dance is a type of religious or sacred dance by an individual, a group or the entire worshipping assembly that enriches the prayer of the assembly.
<b>Liturgy</b>	In the Lutheran Confessions, liturgy is defined as "public service" in the sense that the proclamation of the Gospel and administration of the sacraments is God's service done on behalf of his people.
<b>Lord's Prayer</b>	Prayer that Jesus taught to the Apostles as a prototype for prayer.
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	From the Latin word <i>mandatum</i> , which means "command." The reference is to the Holy Gospel appointed for the day from John 13:34, "A new command I give you: Love one another."
<b>Missal</b>	The liturgical book containing all of the worship instructions and texts needed for the entire church year.
<b>Multimedia Team</b>	Team who manages microphones, hearing aids, and other audio visual enhancements for worship at Peace Lutheran Church.
<b>MYPLC.ORG</b>	Peace Lutheran Church's website, designed by Dan Brennan, Church Administrative Assistant.
<b>Narthex</b>	Greek for "enclosure." The narthex is an entryway or gathering room that leads into a church.
<b>Nave</b>	From the Latin <i>navis</i> , which means ship. The nave is the main section of a church where the worshipers are gathered. The term may have derived from the ship-like appearance of early naves or from the early church understanding of the church as the ark of salvation.
<b>Nicene Creed</b>	Composed in A.D. 325 at a council of bishops in Nicaea as a defense against the false teaching that Jesus was not true God. The creed was expanded to its present form at the Council of Constantinople in A.D. 381. It has been used in the worship service as a corporate confession of the faith for centuries.
<b>Nursery</b>	Designated, staffed playroom to the left of the Sanctuary at Peace Lutheran. Wired for sound so members can hear the service while caring for their children, aged 3 and younger. A window allows visual contact with worship.
<b>Offering</b>	Collection of donations or tithes during the worship service, which follows the Sharing of the Peace.
<b>Offertory</b>	Music played or sung while the offering is being collected.
<b>Order of Worship</b>	The term is used to refer to the order of service at Peace Lutheran Church.
<b>Ordinary</b>	Those parts of the service that remain constant from week to week.
<b>Paraments</b>	This is the general term given to liturgical cloths that are placed on the altar, pulpit, and lectern. They are usually in various colors coordinated to specific seasons and days of the church year.
<b>Paschal Candle</b>	A large candle that has special significance during Easter. It is also used at baptisms and funerals. Ordinarily it is located near the baptismal font. From Easter through Pentecost, it is placed near the altar, and at funerals it stands near the casket. <i>Paschal</i> comes from the Greek word for Passover, and refers specifically to the celebration of Christ's resurrection.
<b>Passion Sunday</b>	In the three-year lectionary, the Sunday before Easter. Traditionally referred to as Palm Sunday, the day commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem but then shifts focus toward the suffering that Jesus endured on our behalf. In the historic one-year series, the fifth Sunday in Lent is called "Passion Sunday."
<b>Pastor</b>	Ordained leader of a Christian congregation.

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<b>Paten</b>	Latin for "dish." A paten is a plate from which the Communion bread is distributed.
<b>Peace Ringers</b>	Peace Lutheran Handbell Choir, conducted by Tara Derr. This is an intergenerational group of about 12 members.
<b>Peace Singers</b>	Peace Lutheran Church choir, directed by William Derr. This is an adult choir for those 18 and older.
<b>Pentecost</b>	From the Greek for "fiftieth day." Pentecost is the liturgical celebration of that 50th day of Easter, when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples, marking the birth of the church. Liturgically, Pentecost is not the beginning of a new season, but the culmination of Easter.
<b>Preface</b>	The opening dialogue between pastor and people that begins the liturgy of Holy Communion. These words, dating from the Second Century, are likely the most ancient part of the worship service.
<b>Propers</b>	Those parts of the service that change from week to week, including the Introit, Collect, Gradual, readings, hymns, etc. The changing propers give shape and direction to the church year calendar.
<b>Property Team</b>	Council Committee that manages structural building issues, physical facilities, and maintenance concerns.
<b>Psalm</b>	Originally sung or played on a stringed instrument. At Peace Lutheran, the Psalm is read or sung between the Old and New Testament readings.
<b>Purificator</b>	The napkin used to clean the Chalice as wine is poured during Communion.
<b>Rubric</b>	Directions or instructions on how to conduct the service. Rubrics are often printed in red to distinguish them from the text of the service. The word comes from the Latin <i>ruber</i> , which means "red."
<b>Sacristy</b>	From the Latin <i>sacristia</i> , meaning "holy things." The room where the communion vessels and paraments are kept.
<b>Sanctuary</b>	From the Latin <i>sanctuarium</i> , meaning "a holy place." Refers to the area surrounding the altar, which is often enclosed by a communion rail, setting it off from the nave, the place where the people are seated.
<b>Sermon</b>	This is an oration by a member of the clergy.
<b>Sign of the Cross</b>	In the Small Catechism Luther encouraged that the sign of the cross be made each morning and evening as a reminder of one's baptism. The cross is signed by touching the fingers first to the forehead, then to the heart, then to one shoulder and finally to the other. Appropriate points in the Divine Service to make the sign of the cross are generally marked with a + sign.
<b>Social Concerns</b>	Council Committee that manages ministries aimed at helping the needy in the surrounding and global community.
<b>Special Music</b>	This is an instrumental or vocal music selection used directly following the Prayer of the Day.
<b>Stole</b>	A scarf-like fabric usually in the color of the day or season, often with symbols appropriate to the day or season, worn over the shoulders of those ordained to the pastoral office.
<b>Stripping of the Altar</b>	A ceremony that may conclude the Maundy Thursday service in which the altar is "stripped" of all its appointments (candles, vessels, linens, etc.). Other ornaments may also be removed from the sanctuary. The ceremony symbolizes the stripping of Jesus by his captors (both of his clothing and his honor) as well as the abandonment by his disciples. Usually Psalm 22 is prayed while the altar is stripped.
<b>Sunday School</b>	The education time between the Early and Late Service. All member can attend classes to learn about God.
<b>Synod</b>	A local Lutheran administrative region
<b>Tenebrae</b>	A Good Friday service, though originally observed earlier in Holy Week. Candles are extinguished following a series of readings and/or psalms.
<b>Torch</b>	The brass candles that are place in stands on the Altar.
<b>Torch Lighter</b>	The crook-shaped brass tool, on which the wick is lit so that the Acolyte can light the Torch and other candles on the Altar.
<b>Treasurer</b>	This is an Executive Committee member on the Church Council who provides fiscal and other budget reports at Council meetings.
<b>Usher</b>	From the Latin <i>ostiarius</i> , which means doorkeeper. Theses worship assistants at Peace collect the Offering, monitor movement in the Sanctuary and
<b>Vestments</b>	From the Latin <i>vestimentum</i> , meaning "garment." Vestments are worn by the pastor and other liturgical assistants. Among their many purposes is the fact that they identify the person vested as a servant of the church and cover any individuality of clothing style which may be a distraction in the service of God's Word.
<b>Worship and Music Team</b>	This Team works in tandem with the church administrator, the Pastor, Director of Music to organize worship services at Peace.

