



## God's Word and Will as We Come Together

### *Message from Pastor Love*

As I write this it is exactly a month before I formally begin my service to God and to you at Peace Lutheran Church. I have been doing a lot of evaluating of the past and planning for the future. Additionally, I have many questions going through my head and I'm sure you do as well. At the advice of a good friend, I have been looking to the prayer that our Lord taught us to pray, especially the words, ***"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."***

Similar to entering the New Year, our new relationship together has me thinking about the ministry of Peace and what we want to do and hopefully WILL do in the coming year. That's fine, but let me encourage you, and myself, to focus on God's Word when we look to and plan for the future. The Word of God is the ONLY source of power and comfort in the life of a Christian. If we try to find strength and motivation in anything else, we WILL fail. Trying to live as a Christian with the strength and comfort that THIS world provides is like trying to light up the City of Detroit, or even the town of Deshler, with a little AAA battery. IT WILL NOT WORK!

God's Word holds so many wonderful and powerful promises and blessings for our lives. Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, has manifested His power, joy and PEACE for us by coming to us, in our world. We celebrate that joy, power and peace through the revelation of Jesus Christ as Savior during this season of Epiphany, but it doesn't stop there. The joy, power and peace of Jesus will be fully revealed as we journey through Lent, arriving at Easter and hearing again of our Lord's resurrection from the dead, knowing that we too WILL rise again on the Last Day!

Jesus Christ is our joy and peace as Christians. To be and remain effective as Christians we must always make our plans based on the Word of God. Here are some of God's powerful and peace giving words for us which tell us what He HAS DONE for us and WILL DO for us who are His people:

"Come to Me, ALL you that labor and are heavy laden, and I WILL give you rest." ~ Matthew 11:28

"All that the Father gives me WILL come to me;  
and him who comes to Me I will not cast out." John 6:37

"Call upon Me in the day of trouble;  
I WILL deliver you, and you shall glorify Me." ~ Psalm 50:15

"Father, I WILL that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am;  
that they may behold My glory, which You have given Me." ~ John 17:24

"I will not leave you desolate; I WILL come to you. Yet a little while,  
and the world will see Me no more, but you WILL see Me;  
because I live, you WILL live also." ~ John 14:18-19

"Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.  
In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I  
go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you,  
I WILL come again and WILL take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also." ~ John 14:1-3

Again, these are God's dear and wonderful promises to us of what He HAS DONE and WILL DO for those who put their faith and trust in Him. As we seek God's help to live by these promises, the Lord will bless our ministry together.

In Christ's service and yours,

Pastor Love