



# St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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Rev. Jon Dunbar, Pastor (402) 641-4813

Chris Fusco, Music Director

Amy Van Hise, Office Administrator

Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

## Last Sunday of the Church Year

*November 26, 2023*

### **Our mission:**

*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,  
honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.*

**Welcome!** When Jesus comes again to judge the living and the dead, Scripture says our deeds will be examined and the content of our hearts made known. Those who trust in Christ for their salvation will be separated from those who trust in themselves and have shown no love for their neighbors. Until that day comes, we heed God's call to repentance, and we look to Jesus for our comfort and confidence.

**Welcome guests!** We are delighted you are with us for worship this morning. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Jon, sign the guest book next to the front doors, and let us know how we can be of service to you. The order of service is printed in this bulletin starting on page 2. A cryroom is available at the back left of the sanctuary for families with young children if there is a need.

**Communion Note:** We believe that our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us. Because unworthy reception of the sacrament can be harmful, those who are not yet instructed, are uncertain or doubtful, or hold to a different confession should speak to the Pastor before participating.

***Divine Service, Setting One***  
*LSB page 151*

***The Preparation***

**Prelude:** “Cornet Voluntary” – Anonymous

**Words of Welcome**

**Invocation, Confession, and Absolution** (page 151)

***The Service of the Word***

**Opening Hymn:** 711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

**Kyrie** (page 152 - sung)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise** This Is the Feast (page 155)

**C: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**



## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Eternal God, merciful Father,

You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead.  
Enable us to wait for the day of His return  
with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own  
from the foundation of the world;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



**Old Testament Reading:** Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (see back cover)

## Psalm 95



<sup>1</sup>Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;\*  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock  
of our sal- | vation!

<sup>2</sup>Let us come into his presence with  
thanks- | giving;\*  
let us make a joyful noise to him  
with | songs of praise!

<sup>3</sup>For the LORD is a | great God,\*  
and a great King a- | bove all gods.

<sup>4</sup>In his hand are the depths | of the earth;\*  
the heights of the mountains are  
his | also.

<sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he | made it,\*  
and his hands formed the | dry land.

<sup>6</sup>Oh come, let us worship and | bow  
down;\*

let us kneel before the LORD,  
our | Maker!

<sup>7</sup>For he | is our God,\*  
and we are the people of his pasture  
and the sheep | of his hand.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

**Epistle Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (see back cover)

**Alleluia Verse** (page 156)

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 25:31-46 (see back cover)

Acclamations (sung): **Glory to you, O Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Nicene Creed** (see inside back cover of hymnal)

**Children's Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day:** 353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

**Sermon**

**Prayers** After each petition of the prayer P: Lord in your mercy,  
C: **Hear our prayer.**

**Prayer Request List** (Names are placed on the list by request only.)

*For comfort:*

Beck family	Death of Ed	Dunbar
Weiss family	Death of Chickie	Teschke
Pittore family	Death of Spring	Teschke
Fresco family	Death of Cecilia	Teschke
McCough family	Death of Frank	Teschke

*For those with health concerns:*

Pastor John Babbits	Claire Haenisch	Ursula	Pat Dietz
Bob Latimer	Gloria Garefino	Marge Carr	Kay Compton
Doug Meckel	Mina Ciqus	Bob Van Hise	Tom Reside
Brennan	Phillip Trivett	Sue Nelson	

*For those with cancer:*

Charlie Huebner	Yolanda Piekaoskey	Rich deDufour	Lynn
Rich Knechel	Rose Bonecki	Aaron Kline	Linda
Carol Tezla	Karen Shevchuk	Jane Chmielecki	Kathy
Edward Keenan	Kathy Lamkin	Mary Ellen	Mary Ann

*For those serving in the armed forces:*

Jake Grube	LJ Lupinacci	Carrick Porter	Nate Fiske	Daniel Gewecke
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***For those suffering around the world:***

War in Europe  
Family of Olga Nichols living in Ukraine  
War in Middle East

Prayers for peace and forgiveness  
Prayers for health, safety, and provision  
Prayers for peace and forgiveness

***Birthdays***

MaryAnne Reside      Nov 19  
Joe Scheblein        Nov 24

Lesley deDufour      Nov 25  
Jamison Hoppe        Nov 29

***Anniversaries***

Norm and Leslie Klesat    Nov 26

***The Service of the Sacrament***

**Gathering of the Offering and Offertory**

Instrumental Offertory: “Interlude” – Anonymous (18<sup>th</sup> Century)

Congregational Offertory: 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own (st. 1,2)

**C: We give thee but Thine own,  
Whate’er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

**May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our first-fruits give!**



**Order of Holy Communion** (page 160)

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary... evermore praising you and saying:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth... one God now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father who art in heaven...**

P: Words of Institution

Pax Domini (page 163)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.      **C: Amen**

### **Sharing of the Peace of Christ**

Agnus Dei      **C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Distribution Hymn: 638 Eat This Bread (Congregation sings refrain)

Post Communion Cantic: Thank the Lord (page 181)

**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done.  
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.  
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of  
thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Benediction** (page 166)

**Closing Hymn:** 837 Lift High the Cross

### **Announcements**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord;

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** "Vater unser in Himmelreich" – J.S. Bach





## **Announcements – Week November 26, 2023**

**Need assistance? The Church Office is staffed each week  
Tues, Wed. and Thurs. from 1:00 - 3:00 to help.**

### **Worship, Sunday School, and Bible Study**

**Welcome!** Serving in worship today are: Stephen Behnfeldt (Communion Assistant and Reader), Juliette Behnfeldt (Acolyte), Jim Steimle (Usher), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming and communion clean-up), Audrey deDufour (Communion and coffee set-up).

**Sunday Bible Study.** In this eighth and final week of our Ecclesiastes study, we'll talk about the blessing of leaders who pass down wisdom to those under their direction. Do you have someone in your life that mentored you? Thank God for them! Suggested reading is Ecclesiastes 12:8-14. Come and join our discussion. Find the study guide at <https://stpeternj.org/archives/2853> **There will be NO Sunday bible study on December 3rd since Pastor Jon will be out of town.**

**Sunday School Classes** for all ages continue to meet during the adult bible study hour from 8:15-9:15am in the lower level of the church. Let's grow together in God's Word this year!

**Today's service will be live streamed** on You Tube at the following link:  
<https://youtube.com/live/4RXonzV6U30?feature=share> If you miss the service live, watch it whenever you like! The services are also posted after the fact to the church's website.

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Study.** Our discussion on Nov. 29th will cover the second half of Acts 16. This includes another imprisonment for the apostle Paul and the conversion of a Philippian jailer. Once again, we'll see how God used less than ideal circumstances as a mission opportunity for the Church. **There will be NO Wednesday bible study on December 6, 13, or 20 because of midweek Advent services.** We'll resume on January 3, 2024! (You can find archived recordings of our studies on our church website - [www.stpeternj.org](http://www.stpeternj.org))

**Midweek Advent Services:** Advent is a season in the church year that helps prepare our hearts to celebrate Christmas. With so many distractions this time of year, the world needs Advent more than ever! In this year's midweek Advent services we'll learn about three historical figures who carried the hope of Christ in their hearts and helped manifest His Light in the world:

Wed. Dec 6 at 7:30pm - Nicholas of Myra

Wed. Dec 13 at 7:30pm - Lucia of Syracuse

Wed. Dec 20 at 7:30pm - Katharina von Bora Luther (Youth-Led Service)

**Youth-led Advent Service:** Young people of all ages are invited to participate in our youth-led Advent service on Wednesday, Dec.20th at 7:30pm. We'll have a couple practices in December to get organized so look for more info coming on that. Ways to be involved include:

- ushering and acolyting
- solo/group music and singing
- reading
- sharing a written reflection on a reading
- other creative ideas??

Talk to Pastor Jon or Hope if you're interested in participating. All are welcome!

### *Men's, Women's, Senior's, Youth and Family Ministry*

**Prayer Shawl Ministry.** The Prayer Shawl ministry team has distributed 18 prayer shawls during the month of October. Twelve of those were given to the Veteran's Hospital. What a blessing!

**Prayer Chain.** The Prayer Chain is ready to receive your prayer requests. Simply call Barbara Greenberg at (609) 512-1928 to start or update a prayer.

### *Service and Other*

**Crafts, Carols, and Christ,** a Nursery School and church collaboration. Come and welcome the nursery school families and enjoy a special Christmas celebration on Saturday, Dec 9 from 10-12! We can celebrate with the families we serve during this special morning program of music, crafts, and fellowship!

**Church Christmas Decorating.** We are planning to decorate the church for Christmas (including the Christmas tree) on Saturday, December 9th starting at 1:00pm. Please come and help if you can. It's a great way to serve and get yourself into the holiday spirit!

**St Peter Christmas Caroling.** Sunday December 10th @ 3:00 PM – to visit 2 of our Homebound members. Come one, come all! Join us Sunday afternoon as we visit 2 homebound members, raising our Hearts and Voices in Christmas joy! See Bill Kianka or Bob Maguire for additional Caroling details

**Operation Christmas Child.** As we look forward to next year's collection, we are focusing on certain supplies during each month. For November we could use **washcloths (need 70)** and **toddler socks (need 30 pr)** and **toddler bath toys (need 25)**, so if you can, pick up a few and drop them in the collection box in the narthex (next to the food pantry box).

**Lambertville Food Pantry.** Please grab some non-perishable items at the grocery store to add to our food pantry collection box in the narthex. November's collection is **PERSONAL PRODUCTS:** body wash, shampoo, conditioner, pads, liquid hand soap, bar soap, and dish detergent. You can also sign up to deliver the donations; see the bulletin board sign-up.



**Flowers.** A Flower sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Flower contributions can be made in honor of someone, in thanksgiving for God’s grace, or for a special occasion. The suggested donation is \$25.

**Faithfulness Report** (11/19) Attendance: 59

General Fund: \$ 3620 Debt reduction:\$ 25 Flowers \$50

(Weekly contributions of approx \$6,000 are needed to meet our Congregation-approved 2023 budget.)

**Flowers are placed on the altar today** in honor of the Klesat’s 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary!  
Last week’s flowers were placed in honor of MaryAnne Reside’s birthday.

**Website and Facebook.** Our website is at [www.stpeternj.org](http://www.stpeternj.org), and our Facebook page is Saint Peter Lutheran Church - the link is: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-Peter-Lutheran-Church/337705479662612>. Come check us out!

**Weekly Schedule.**

TUESDAY (11/28) 6am Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's; 4:30pm Confirmation Class  
WEDNESDAY (11/29) 7:30pm Acts Bible study via Zoom  
THURSDAY (11/30) Pastor & family out of town Thursday -- Monday, Dec. 4th  
SUNDAY (12/3) 8:15am Bible Study/Sunday School; 9:30am Worship

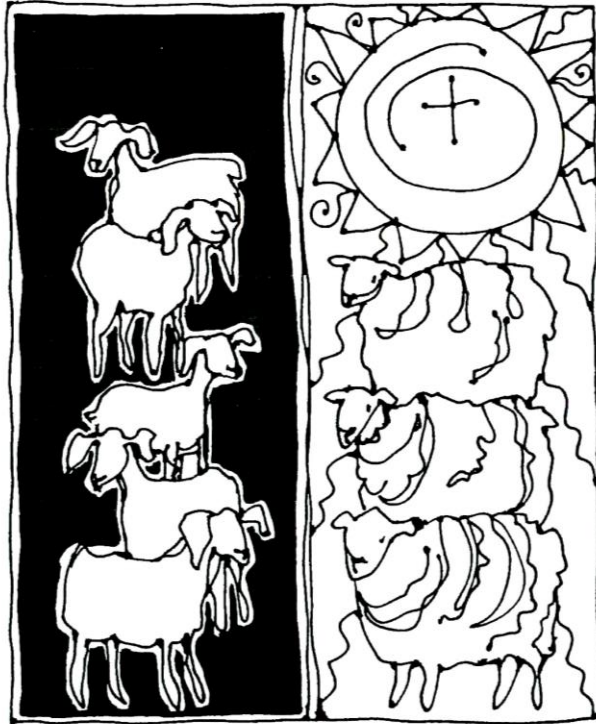
**A Look Ahead.** Mark your calendars!



Wednesday, December 6 & 13	7:30 pm	Advent Services
Saturday, December 9	10–noon	“Crafts, Carols, and Christ”, <i>a Nursery School and Church collaboration</i>
	1:00 pm	Church decorating
Sunday, December 10	3:00 pm	Christmas Caroling
Wednesday, December 20	7:30 pm	Youth-led Advent Service
Sunday, December 24	9:30 am	Sunday Advent Service
Sunday, December 24	5 pm & 7 pm	Christmas Eve Services
Monday, December 25	10:30 am	Christmas Day Service

**Other Important web links.**

- NJ District LCMS [njdistrict.org](http://njdistrict.org)
- The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod [lcms.org](http://lcms.org)
- LCMS World Relief and Human Care [lcms.org/ca/worldrelief](http://lcms.org/ca/worldrelief)
- “The Lutheran Hour” Broadcast [lhm.org](http://lhm.org)



WHEN THE SON  
OF MAN COMES

## LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

### Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

<sup>11</sup>“For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

<sup>20</sup>“Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

### Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his

enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup>For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. <sup>28</sup>When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:31–46

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? <sup>38</sup>And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? <sup>39</sup>And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

<sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”