



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

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 14, 2024

Our mission:

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

Welcome. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" (John 1:46) Nathanael's skeptical question about Jesus sounds a lot like some modern attitudes toward the Christian faith. Many people today (including Christians!) have adopted a cynical view of their lives that overshadows the gracious and joyous work God is still doing in the world. Equally remarkable is that WE, the members of Christ's Body (the Church) are His chosen instrument for carrying out that work. Our message to the world? "Come and see!" (John 1:46)

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 Four

LSB page 203

Prelude: “Cornet Voluntary” – M. Camidge

Words of Welcome

Invocation, Confession and Absolution (page 203)

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn: 400 Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

Kyrie (page 204)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord...

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

(The congregation sings this in response to each petition.)

Hymn of Praise To God on High Be Glory (page 204)

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth.
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav’nly King.



To You, O sole begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
 O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
 Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
 Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
 Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
 You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
 In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

Prayer of the Day (page 205)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.
 Almighty and everlasting God,
 who governs all things in heaven and on earth,
 mercifully hear the prayers of Your people
 and grant us Your peace through all our days;
 through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (see back cover)

Psalm: Psalm 139:1-10



¹ O LORD, you have searched me
 and I known me!*

² You know when I sit down and when I
 rise up; you discern my thoughts I from
 afar.

³ You search out my path and my I lying
 down*
 and are acquainted with I all my ways.

⁴ Even before a word is I on my tongue,*
 behold, O LORD, you know it
 alto- I gether.

⁵ You hem me in, behind I and before,*
 and lay your hand up- I on me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonder- I ful for
 me;*
 it is high; I cannot I attain it.

⁷ Where shall I go from your I Spirit?*

Or where shall I flee from
 your I presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, I you are there!*

If I make my bed in Sheol, I you are
 there!

⁹ If I take the wings of the I morning*
 and dwell in the uttermost parts I of
 the sea,

¹⁰ even there your hand shall I lead me,*
 and your right hand shall I hold me.

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

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (see back cover)

Alleluia and Verse (page 205)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading: John 1:43-51

Acclamations (spoken): **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Day: 589 Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

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:

Buiocchie family
Vaccaro family
Steve Hauptman and family

Death of Carol
Death of Joe
Death of Jeri

Farley
Wright
Farley

For those with health concerns:

Ekaterina
Tom Reside
Bob Latimer
Marge Carr

Fran Bryzinski
Claire Haenisch
Harry Tinsman
Mina Ciquis

Kay Compton
Ursula
Phillip Trivett
Brennan

Rich Decee
Pat Dietz
Keith Riley

For those with cancer:

Charlie Huebner
Rich Knechel
Carol Tezla
Edward Keenan
Andrea (Andy) Hoteling

Yolanda Piekaoskey
Rose Bonecki
Karen Shevchuk
Kathy Lamkin
Nancy Gilliland

Rich deDufour
Aaron Kline
Jane Chmielecki
Mary Ellen
Anna Mantel

Lynn
Linda
Kathy
Mary Ann

For those serving in the armed forces:

LJ Lupinacci
Daniel Gewecke (in Middle East)

Carrick Porter

Nate Fiske

Jake Grube



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

Rich deDufour

Jan 15

Jeanne Hoppe

Jan 15

Amy Van Hise

Jan 15

Offering

Instrumental Offertory: “Diapason Movement” – S. Goodwin

Order of Holy Communion (page 208)

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 Sabaoth adored;

Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God... Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed...

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

C: Amen.

C: O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: 629 What is This Bread

Nunc Dimittis

C: O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav’nly peace,

For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace;

A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,

The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,

All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;

For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,

God’s triune name resounding Through all eternity.



Benedicamus and Benediction (page 212)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

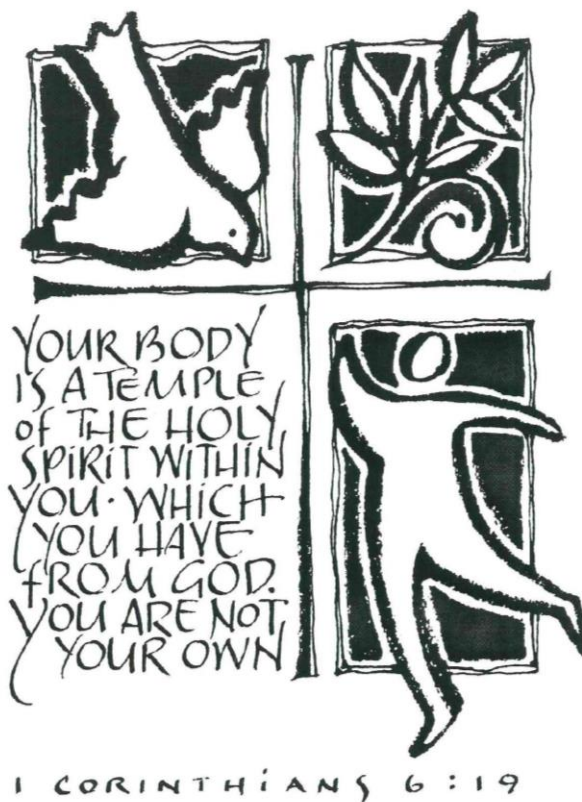
P: The Lord bless you and...

Closing Hymn: 829 Christ the Eternal Lord

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Voluntary in G" – H. Heron





Announcements – Week of January 14, 2024

**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: Steve deDufour (Communion Assistant and Reader), Jason Bloom (Usher and Live-streaming), Lydia Bloom (Acolyte), Judy Grube and Cheryl Gewecke (Communion and coffee set-up and clean-up).

Today's service will be live streamed on You Tube at the following link:

<https://youtube.com/live/7j32l7xArJI?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.

NEW Sunday Bible Study. This Sunday (1/14) we'll continue our topical study on God's calling on our lives - "Who Am I? What Am I Doing Here?". We'll talk about God's Law, which is His will for how human beings should live in harmony with our Creator. Did you know there are two distinct ways God reveals His will to people - natural and special revelation? Come and learn more about these important teachings.

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study. Next week (1/17) we will begin at Acts 17:16. Paul arrives in the city of Athens, known for its many idols and...philosophers. His speech before an audience at the Areopagus (Mars Hill) is a template for how we can share the Gospel today with people who have no background in Christianity. Come and join our discussion!. (You can find archived recordings of our studies on our church website - www.stpeternj.org)

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry. The Prayer Shawl ministry team continues to meet every other week, creating gifts to share. Consider joining them in January!

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

Mark Your Calendar! Our **Annual Voters' Assembly** is scheduled for January 28, 2024 after service. We'd love to see everyone there to see the presentation from NJDU participants- find out what's ahead in 2024! *Please sign up on the bulletin board to let us know you're coming!*

Thank You from the Dunbars! Our family wishes to thank the congregation for the wonderfully generous Christmas gift presented to us on Christmas Eve. Your faith in Jesus and your caring support of church staff adds joy to this ministry!

NOAH Potluck Secret Santa Party, coming Fri, Jan 19th, noon to 2! Sign up now on the bulletin board to attend this potluck luncheon. Bring something tasty to share, along with an unwanted new, slightly used or Special gift to exchange with others. We ask that the gift be under \$20 and it be wrapped, but without any identifying names or tags. If you have any questions, please contact Jim or Shirley Yost.

Midwinter Lecture on Religious Freedom. *What does the Constitution say about religious freedom? And how does that impact how we practice our Christian faith? Did you know that one of the most important Supreme Court cases on religious freedom in recent years involved an LCMS school?*

Join us on Sunday, February 4th at 3pm for a lecture titled: "Religious Freedom in US Law and Policy: Introduction and Recent Developments" by our own Christopher Fusco, JCL, Esq. Chris serves as in-house legal counsel for the Diocese of Metuchen as well as moderator of the diocesan Tribunal, and is well-versed in this pertinent subject. The event will open with Evening Vespers and conclude with refreshments following the lecture. All are welcome, free of charge. This event is sponsored by Partners in Mission.

Operation Christmas Child. As we look forward to this year's collection, we are focusing on certain supplies during each month. For January we could use **mini spiral notebooks (need 50)**, and **6"x 9" writing tablets (need 30)**, so if you can, pick up a few and drop them in the collection box in the narthex.

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.

Lambertville Food Pantry. Please grab some non-perishable items at the grocery store to add to our food pantry collection box in the narthex. **January's collection is paper products – paper towels, toilet paper, and tissues.** You can also sign up to deliver the donations; see the bulletin board sign-up.

Faithfulness Report 1/7 Attendance: 45 (+12 online)
Gen Fund: \$ 3329 Loan angel: \$975 Flowers: \$25

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

Website and Facebook. Our website is at 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 (1/16)	Noon Planning Council Meeting; 4:30pm Confirmation Class
WEDNESDAY (1/17)	7:30pm Zoom Bible Study
THURSDAY (1/18)	9:40/11:50am Nursery Chapel Services
FRIDAY (1/19)	Noon-2pm NOAH Seniors Secret Santa Party
SUNDAY (1/21)	8:15am Bible Study/SS; 9:30am Worship; 6:30-8:30pm NJ Youth Group at St. Paul, Flemington

Other Important web links.

NJ District LCMS	njdistrict.org
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod	lcms.org
LCMS World Relief and Human Care	lcms.org/ca/worldrelief
The Lutheran Hour" Broadcast	lhm.org

This week's Bible memory verse challenge: Romans 6:3-4

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Old Testament Reading:

1 Samuel 3:1–10

¹The young man Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

⁴Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

⁶And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the young man. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12–20

¹²"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. ¹³"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also

raise us up by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Holy Gospel: John 1:43–51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."