



# St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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Rev. Jon Dunbar, Pastor (402) 641-4813  
Chris Fusco, Music Director  
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## Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2024

### **Our mission:**

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

**Welcome.** You've probably heard of the Latin phrase, "Carpe Diem". It means, "Seize the day!" By contrast many of us struggle with procrastination, putting off important work that should be done today for a later time. A sense of spiritual urgency runs through our readings this Sunday - urgency around God's calling us to repent, to believe, to follow. These matters are far more pressing than anything else on your to-do list, or mine!

**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:** “Jesus, Thy Church” - P. Manz

### **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:** 770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

### **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,  
 mercifully look upon our infirmities  
 and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us;  
 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: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (see back cover)

#### Psalm: Psalm 62



<sup>1</sup> For God alone my soul waits  
 in | silence; \*  
 from him comes my sal- | vation.

<sup>2</sup> He only is my rock and my salvation,  
 my | fortress; \*  
 I shall not be greatly | shaken.

<sup>3</sup> How long will all of you attack a man  
 to | batter him; \*  
 like a leaning wall, a | tottering  
 fence?

<sup>4</sup> They only plan to thrust him down  
 from his high position. They take  
 pleasure in | falsehood; \*  
 They bless with their mouths, but  
 inwardly | they curse.

<sup>5</sup> For God alone, O my soul, wait  
 in | silence; \*  
 for my hope is | from him.

<sup>6</sup> He only is my rock and my salvation,  
 my | fortress; \*  
 I shall not be | shaken.

<sup>7</sup> On God rests my salvation and  
 my | glory; \*  
 my mighty rock, my refuge | is God.

<sup>8</sup> Trust in him at all times, O people;  
 pour out your heart be- | fore him; \*  
 God is a refuge | for us.

<sup>9</sup> Those of low estate are but a breath;  
 those of high estate are a de- | lusion; \*  
 in the balances they go up; they are  
 together lighter | than a breath.

<sup>10</sup> Put no trust in extortion; set no vain  
 hopes on | robbery; \*  
 if riches increase, set not your | heart  
 on them.

<sup>11</sup> Once God has spoken; twice have  
 I | heard this: \*  
 that power belongs to God, <sup>12</sup> and that  
 to you, O Lord, belongs | steadfast  
 love.

For you will render | to a man \*  
 according | to his work.

**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 7:29-31 (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:** Mark 1:14-20

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

**Apostles' Creed**

**Children's Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day:** 856 O Christ, Who Called the Twelve

**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	Death of Carol	Farley
Vaccaro family	Death of Joe	Wright
Steve Hauptman and family	Death of Jeri	Farley

***For those with health concerns:***

Ekaterina	Fran Bryzinski	Kay Compton	Rich Decee
Tom Reside	Claire Haenisch	Ursula	Pat Dietz
Bob Latimer	Harry Tinsman	Phillip Trivett	Keith Riley
Marge Carr	Mina Ciquis	Brennan	Grayson Sweigart

***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
Andrea (Andy) Hoteling	Nancy Gilliand	Anna Mantel	

***For those serving in the armed forces:***

LJ Lupinacci	Carrick Porter	Nate Fiske	Jake Grube
Daniel Gewecke (in Middle East)			



*For those suffering around the world:*

War in Europe	Prayers for peace and forgiveness
Family of Olga Nichols living in Ukraine	Prayers for health, safety, and provision
War in Middle East	Prayers for peace and forgiveness

*Birthdays*

Stephen Behnfeldt	Jan 20	Scott Garrow	Jan 22
Richard deDufour	Jan 23		

*Anniversaries*

Fred and Judy Grube	Jan 27
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**Offering**

**Instrumental Offertory:** “Jesu Christe wahres licht” - W. Zachau

**Order of Holy Communion** (page 208)

P: The Lord be with you.	<b>C: And also with you.</b>
P: Lift up your hearts.	<b>C: We lift them to the Lord.</b>
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	<b>C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.</b>

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**

Special Music “The LORD is My Shepherd” – Paul Zach sung by Hope Dunbar

Distribution Hymn: 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

**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:** 730 What Is the World to Me

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

**Postlude:** "Trumpet Finale" - F. Manfredini



**Announcements – Week of January 21, 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: Stephen Behnfeldt (Communion Assistant and Reader), Jim Steimle (Usher), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming), Juliet Behnfeldt (Acolyte), Leslie Klesat and Jeanne Hoppe (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/YdLKr3qU2c0?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.

**Sunday Bible Study.** This Sunday (1/21) will be part 3 our 6-week topical study on God's calling on our lives - "Who Am I? What Am I Doing Here?". We'll talk about what the Bible says about our origins and how this compares with some of the primary tenets of evolutionary theory. How does belief in a God-given and purpose-filled Creation help us find purpose in our lives as individuals? Come and learn with us!

## Announcements (cont'd)

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Study.** Next week (1/24) we will begin at Acts 18:1. Paul travels to the Greek city of Corinth where he encounters fierce opposition in the synagogue. But after an encouraging vision from the Lord, Paul refocuses his Gospel efforts and stays in that city for over a year! In what areas of life are you in need of encouragement? Join us! (You can find archived recordings of our studies on our church website - [www.stpeternj.org](http://www.stpeternj.org))

**Lutheran Basics Class for New Members.** Would you like to learn more about Lutheranism? Interested in becoming a member of St. Peter? Pastor Jon is offering a 4-week class that covers the basics of Lutheran teaching and what it means to be a member of the congregation. For more info, talk to Pastor. You can reach him at [pastor@stpeternj.org](mailto:pastor@stpeternj.org) or call (402) 641-4813.

### **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!*

**NOAH Potluck Secret Santa Party, coming Fri, Jan 26<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**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.

**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.

**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** 1/14 Attendance: 60 (+6 online)  
Gen Fund: \$ 6470 Flowers: \$200

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

**Flowers are placed on the altar today** in honor Joyce Stout by the deDufours.

**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 (1/23)	6am Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's; 4:30pm Confirmation Class
WEDNESDAY (1/24)	7:30pm Zoom Bible Study
THURSDAY (1/25)	9:40/11:50am Nursery Chapel Services; 7pm NJDU Zoom Mtg.
FRIDAY (1/26)	Noon-2pm NOAH Seniors Secret Santa Party
SUNDAY (1/28)	8:15am Bible Study/SS; 9:30am Worship; <i>Meal/Presentation &amp; Voter's Assembly following worship</i>

### **Other Important web links.**

NJ District LCMS	<a href="http://njdistrict.org">njdistrict.org</a>
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod	<a href="http://lcms.org">lcms.org</a>
LCMS World Relief and Human Care	<a href="http://lcms.org/ca/worldrelief">lcms.org/ca/worldrelief</a>
The Lutheran Hour" Broadcast	<a href="http://lhm.org">lhm.org</a>

### **This week's Bible memory verse challenge: 1 Timothy 2:5-6**

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.





### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

#### Old Testament Reading: Jonah 3:1–5, 10

<sup>1</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. . . .

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

#### Epistle: 1 Corinthians 7:29–31

<sup>29</sup>This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those

who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

#### Holy Gospel: Mark 1:14–20

<sup>14</sup>After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

<sup>16</sup>Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.