



# 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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## First Sunday in Lent

*February 18, 2024*

### **Our mission:**

*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,  
honor God, serve others*

**Welcome!** Tests are given to prove that something is either genuine or not. While they can be unpleasant, we recognize that they are necessary. God put Abraham's faith to a frightful test, but also provided a sacrificial lamb for a gracious substitute. How remarkable that the Son of God himself would willingly submit to being tempted by Satan! In this way, Jesus was proven to be genuine and true, a worthy lamb for sacrifice, and our substitute.

**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 Two***  
***LSB page 167***

***The Preparation***



**Prelude:** “Ich ruf du zir, Herr Jesu Christ” – J. S. Bach

**Words of Welcome**

**Invocation, Confession and Absolution**

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

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for personal confession.)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. 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.**

***The Service of the Word***

**Entrance Hymn:** 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

**Kyrie** (page 168)

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.**

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness  
and brought them to the promised land.

Guide the people of Your Church  
that following our Savior  
we may walk through the wilderness of this world  
toward the glory of the world to come;  
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:** Genesis 22:1-18 (see back cover)

**Psalms:** Psalm 25:1-10



<sup>1</sup> To you, | O LORD,\*  
I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> O my God, in you I trust; let me not  
be | put to shame;\*  
let not my enemies exult | over me.

<sup>3</sup> Indeed, none who wait for you shall  
be | put to shame;\*  
they shall be ashamed who are  
wantonly | treacherous.

<sup>4</sup> Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;\*  
teach me | your paths.

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth and teach  
me, for you are the God of my  
sal- | vation;\*  
for you I wait all the | day long.

<sup>6</sup> Remember your mercy, O LORD, and  
your | steadfast love,\*  
for they have been | from of old.

<sup>7</sup> Remember not the sins of my youth or  
my trans- | gressions;\*  
according to your steadfast love  
remember me, for the sake of your  
goodness, | O LORD!

<sup>8</sup> Good and upright | is the LORD;\*  
therefore he instructs sinners | in the  
way.

<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in | what is right,\*  
and teaches the humble | his way.

<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast  
love and | faithfulness,\*  
for those who keep his covenant and  
his testi- | monies.

**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:** James 1:12-18 (see back cover)

**Lenten Verse** (page 173)

**Return to the Lord, your God,  
for He is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
and abounding in steadfast love.**

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 1:9-15 (see back cover)

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

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

**Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day:** 438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

**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:***

Rev. Greg Jans and Family  
Behnfeldt/Galli families

Death of Karen, Greg's mother  
Death of Rose

Dunbar  
Behnfeldt

***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

Corrine  
Pat Dietz  
Keith Riley

***For those with cancer:***

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

Yolanda Piekaoskey  
Rose Bonecki  
Karen Shevchuk  
Kathy Lamkin  
Nancy Gilliland  
Jason

Rich deDufour  
Aaron Kline  
Jane Chmielecki  
Mary Ellen  
Anna Mantel

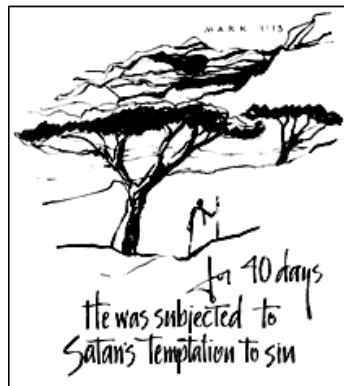
Lynn  
Linda  
Kathy  
Mary Ann  
Judy Grube

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

LJ Lupinacci Carrick Porter  
Daniel Gewecke (in Middle East)

Nate Fiske  
Jim Buckman

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*

Kathy Hill

Feb 18

*Anniversaries*

Tom and Maryanne Reside

Feb 18

**Gathering of the Offering and Offertory**

**Instrumental Offertory:** “O Lamm Gottes – J. Pachelbel”

**Congregational Offertory:** 955 “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord”

**C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

**Service of the Sacrament**

**Order of Holy Communion** (page 177)

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, Lord God of pow’r and might:**

**Heav’n and earth are full of your glory. 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

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

**C: Amen.**

**C: Agnus Dei**

**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, grant us peace.**



Distribution Hymn: 547 The Lamb

Nunc Dimittis: Song of Simeon (page 182)

**C: Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people;**

**A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving (page 183)

**Benediction** (page 183)

**Closing Hymn:** 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

**Postlude:** "Ein Feste Burg" – J. G. Walther



**This week's Bible memory verse challenge:** *Ephesians 3:17b-19*

*...that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*



## Announcements – Week of February 18, 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: Jason Bloom (Communion Assistant and Live-stream), Lydia Bloom (Reader), Stephen Behnfeldt (Usher), Juliet Behnfeldt (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/-N8-FM7anZQ?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.** Join us this Sunday as we dive into God's Word and enjoy lively discussion!

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Study.** We're on break from our study of Acts until after Easter. Join us for worship on Wednesdays at 7:30pm through the season of Lent. We'll resume on Wednesday, April 3rd.

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

**We need your updated data!** The final step of getting our directories out to you is to verify your important information so we are completely current. Please grab a pink form, fill it in, and drop it in the office to help us out. **PLEASE RETURN BY NEXT SUNDAY, FEB 25.**

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

**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**

**Lenten Services & Meals.** Lent is a 40-day season of repentance that prepares us to celebrate Easter. Join us for evening Vespers every Wednesday at 7:30pm. We'll follow the Lenten theme: "O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High". Borrowed from the title of a beautiful hymn (LSB 544) and based on Ephesians 3:17-21, this sermon series will focus on the enormous dimensions of God's merciful love for sinners in Christ, with the goal of helping us more fully comprehend and rejoice in "the breadth and length and height and depth" of that love as we experience it through Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. **Starting on February 21, come early at 6pm and enjoy our Lenten soup supper with friends!** Look for more information about these meals on the church bulletin board or talk to Leslie Klesat.

**NOAH and all seniors** are invited to enjoy a fun filled PIZZA and BINGO afternoon in the St. Peter fellowship hall at noon on Friday, February 23. Bring a friend. A free will offering (suggest \$7) will be taken to offset the cost of the pizza. Sign up on the bulletin board. NOAH Planning Committee – (Bill Kianka, Hank and Jean, Jim and Shirley, Norm and Leslie)

**Operation Christmas Child.** As we look forward to this year’s collection, we are focusing on certain supplies during each month. For **February** we could use **children’s or costume jewelry, jump ropes, and matchbox cars**, so if you can, pick up a few and drop them in the collection box in the narthex.

**Flowers.** Although flowers will not be placed on the altar during Lent, there is a flower sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for spring. Flower contributions can be made in honor of someone, in thanksgiving for God’s grace, or for a special occasion. 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. **February’s collection is Fruits, Juices, and Condiments – canned fruits, fruit juices, mayo, mustard, ketchup, canned tuna, and lunch bag stuff.** You can also sign up to deliver the donations; see the bulletin board sign-up.

**Faithfulness Report:** 2/11    Attendance: 45    Gen Fund (plate and electronic): \$3014

**Weekly Schedule.**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| TUESDAY (2/20)   | 12:00pm Planning Council; 4:30pm Confirmation Class      |
| WEDNESDAY (2/21) | 6:00pm Lenten Soup Supper; 7:30pm Midweek Lenten Service |
| THURSDAY (2/22)  | 9:45/11:50am Nursery School Chapels                      |
| SUNDAY (2/25)    | 8:15am Bible Study/SS; 9:30am Worship                    |

**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!

**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>                                 |

**Lenten/Easter Schedule at St. Peter:**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Lenten Soup Suppers</b>     | <b>Wednesdays, 6:00 PM, Feb 21-March 20</b>   |
| <b>Midweek Lenten Services</b> | <b>Wednesdays, 7:30 PM, Feb 21–March 20</b>   |
| <b>Service of Healing</b>      | <b>Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 PM</b>             |
| <b>Palm Sunday Service</b>     | <b>Sunday, March 24, 9:30 AM</b>              |
| <b>Maundy Thursday Service</b> | <b>Thursday, March 28, 7:30 PM</b>            |
| <b>Good Friday Service</b>     | <b>Friday, March 29, 7:30 PM</b>              |
| <b>Easter Sunday Services</b>  | <b>Sunday, March 31, 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM</b> |
| <b>Easter Breakfast</b>        | <b>Sunday, March 31, 9:15 AM</b>              |
| <b>Easter Egg Hunt</b>         | <b>Sunday, March 31, 10:00 AM</b>             |





## FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

### Old Testament Reading: Genesis 22:1–18

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." <sup>2</sup>He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." <sup>12</sup>He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

<sup>15</sup>The angel of the LORD called to

Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup>and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

### Epistle: James 1:12–18

<sup>12</sup>Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. <sup>13</sup>Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted by evil, and he himself tempts no one. <sup>14</sup>But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup>Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

<sup>16</sup>Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. <sup>17</sup>Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

### Holy Gospel: Mark 1:9–15

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup>The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

<sup>14</sup>Now 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."