

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.
(609) 466-0939 web site: stpeternj.org

Amy Van Hise, Admin Asst
Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

Our mission:

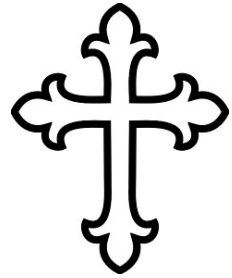
*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,
honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.*

Welcome Today we live in an age of skepticism where many say, "I'll believe it when I see it." We may be more likely to trust our own imperfect senses and flawed reasoning than to trust God's Word. After rising from the dead, Jesus visited Thomas and rebuked him for being skeptical about the truthfulness of the Easter Gospel. Jesus calls blessed those who trust what God has spoken even in the absence of visible proof.

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 cry room 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.

PREPARATION



PRELUDE “Trumpet Tune” – H. Purcell

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. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Most merciful God,
C have mercy on us.

All: We confess that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In Your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by Your Spirit that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and truth. Amen.

P With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.
C Thanks be to God!

SERVICE OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE HYMN 467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (st. 1-3)



KYRIE *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

Pastor: In peace, in peace,

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff is labeled 'Assistant:' and contains the lyrics 'Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,'. The second staff is labeled 'Congregation:' and contains the lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have'. The third staff continues the 'Congregation:' part with the lyrics 'mer - cy.'.

Pastor: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Pastor: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff is labeled 'Assistant:' and contains the lyrics 'Help, save and de - fend us, O God.'. The second staff is labeled 'Congregation:' and contains the lyrics 'A - - - men.'.

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1:


Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great
peo - ple of God.


To refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:




Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ


To refrain




for ev - er.

Verse 3

Congregation:




3. For God has come to dwell with us,



to make us peo - ple of God; to make

To refrain



all things new.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P
C
P

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection

may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation

that Jesus is Lord and God;

through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and forever.

C

Amen



FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35 (see back cover)

PSALM: Psalm 148



¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from
the | heavens; *
praise him | in the heights!

² Praise him, all his | angels; *
praise him, | all his hosts!

³ Praise him, | sun and moon, *
praise him, all you | shining stars!

⁴ Praise him, you highest | heavens, *
and you waters above the | heavens!

⁵ Let them praise the name | of the
LORD! *
For he commanded and they were
cre- | ated.

⁶ And he established them forever
and | ever; *
he gave a decree, and it shall
not | pass away.

⁷ Praise the LORD | from the earth, *
you great sea creatures and | all deeps,

⁸ fire and hail, | snow and mist, *
stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!

⁹ Mountains and | all hills, *
fruit trees and all | cedars!

¹⁰ Beasts and all | livestock, *
creeping things and | flying birds!

¹¹ Kings of the earth and all | peoples, *
princes and all rulers | of the earth!

¹² Young men and maidens to- | gether, *
old men and | children!

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is ex- | alted; *
his majesty is above earth and | heaven.

¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for | all his saints, *
for the people of Israel who are near
to him. | Praise the LORD!

**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: 1 John 1:1 – 2:2 (see back cover)

ALLELUIA VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord**

John 20:19-31 (see back cover)

After the reading:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED (Inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P ...Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

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

For comfort:

Carroll family	Death of their daughter, a student at HoVal	Dunbar
Diller family	Death of Jonathan, NYPD officer	deDufour

For those with health concerns:

Ekaterina	Fran Bryzinski	Kay Compton	Stephen Gewecke
Tom Reside	Claire Haenisch	Ursula	Esther
Jim Jones	Pete Serone	Phillip Trivett	Maryanne Reside
Brennan	Marge Carr	Pat Dietz	Valerie Nebbie
Robert Bauer	Gerry Campbell	Nathan Wilhelm	

For those with cancer:

Charlie Huebner	Yolanda Piekaoskey	Rich deDufour	Lynn
Rich Knechel	Rose Bonecki	Aaron Kline	Linda
Carol Tezla	Karen Shevchuk	Jason	Kathy
Charles Greenberg	Kathy Lamkin	Mary Ellen	Mary Ann
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling	Nancy Gilliand	Anna Mantel	Judy Grube
Trudy	Kaleigh Moore	Steve Saumsiegle	Doris
Gunter			

For those serving in the armed forces:

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

For those with needs 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

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For the needs of the nursery school families For full 2024-25 enrollment

Birthdays

Kim Robinson April 7 George Pfeiffer April 11

Anniversaries

Chris and Trish Lorenzi April 8

OFFERING

Refrain

Congregation:



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;



so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be



gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, _____
2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

To refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Congregation:
Congregation
or Assistant:

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 763 When Peace, like a River

POSTLUDE "Trumpet March" – J. Lully

MY LORD and MY GOD



J O H N 2 0 : 2 8

This week's Bible memory verse challenge: 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.



Announcements – Week of April 7, 2024

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

Worship, Sunday School, and Bible Study

Welcome! Serving in worship today are: Stephen deDufour (Communion Assistant and Reader), Dave deDufour and Scott Garrow (Ushers), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming and Communion/coffee clean up), Andy Wright (Acolyte), Hope Dunbar (Communion set-up).

Today's service will be live streamed on You Tube at the following link:
<https://youtube.com/live/luwbea9XfEc?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 study of Acts will resume on April 17th after Pastor returns from a conference. NOTE: This is a later date than was previously announced!

NEW Sunday Bible Study. This Sunday we are beginning a new study on the 7 Signs of Jesus from the Gospel of John. Each week we'll look at a miracle of Jesus - most of them unique to John's Gospel - and talk about what it reveals about Jesus as our Savior. We'll learn why John referred to these miracles as "signs", and we'll talk about why the phrase "seeing is believing" isn't really true. Today's topic: Jesus turns water into wine (John 2:1-12) If you haven't attended Sunday bible study in a while, now is a great time to jump back onboard!

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!

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

Books and Breakfast - Help Needed! Every Saturday morning, "Books and Breakfast" volunteers meet at Turning Point UMC in downtown Trenton to cook and serve breakfast to those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity due to poverty. We are looking for helpers on Saturday, April 20th for a 7:00am or 9:00am shift. We will be serving alongside members of Pennington United Methodist Church who do this on a regular basis. No experience necessary! (12 years or older.) See the sign-up on the bulletin board or talk to Pastor Jon.

Flowers. If you would like to have flowers placed on the altar in honor of someone, in thanksgiving for God's grace, or for a special occasion, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to do so. Suggested donation is \$25. You may take the flowers home following the service on the day you select.

Today's flowers are placed on the altar in memory of Lois Wilson by the Van Beuzekoms.

Baby Shower Reception for Annie and James after Church on April 21st. Annie and James Allardice (daughter and son-in-law to Kevin and Sue Lauricella) are expecting their first baby! To celebrate, St. Peter congregation members are throwing a diaper, wipes and baby book shower for the expectant parents after church on April 21st! If you can't be at church that morning, you are welcome to drop your gift off ahead of time!

St. Peter's is Saved to Serve! The way we serve individually in our workplaces, homes, and communities is a way our whole congregation is visible to our neighbors! On a post-it note, jot down how you are shining Christ's light at work, in civic and social organizations, in your recreation, etc. so we can see where God is sending us out each Sunday after worship and through the week!

Operation Christmas Child. As we look forward to this year's collection, we are focusing on certain supplies during each month. To round out this year's donations, we could use **children's or costume jewelry**, and **matchbox cars**, 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. **April's collection is Pasta – penne, rigio, spirals, bow ties, spaghetti, linguini, noodles, lasagna, pasta sauce...**

Faithfulness Report: Attendance: 4/1/24: 67/71
Gen Fund (plate and electronic): \$ 8232 Easter Flowers: \$44 Debt relief: \$50

Weekly Schedule.

MONDAY (4/8) 10:00am Elders Meeting; **Pastor out of town Monday-Thursday**
TUESDAY (4/9) 6:00am Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's; NO Confirmation Class
SATURDAY (4/13) 7:30am Men's Breakfast @ Church
SUNDAY (4/14) 8:15am Bible Study/SS; 9:30am Worship

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!

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 lh.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 4:32–35

³²The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Epistle: 1 John 1:1–2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an

advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Holy Gospel: John 20:19–31

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.