

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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Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Our mission:

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

Welcome! Ask little children to form a line, and you will likely see some jostling for positions accompanied by loud, insistent cries -- "I get to be first!" Adults may be a little better with impulse control, but our hearts are right there with the little ones. "Me first!" we cry, if only on the inside. Patiently, Jesus teaches his toddler disciples that the Way of God means service and submission to the needs of others. Jesus lived, and died, this way himself as a ransom for sinners. Now he calls us to follow. Thank you, Jesus, for your servant's heart!

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: “Prelude in g minor” – 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 the 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: 560 Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed

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.

Almighty God,

by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people
that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul;
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: Jeremiah 31:31-34 (see back cover)

Psalms: Psalm 119:9-16



⁹How can a young man keep his | way
pure?*

By guarding it according | to your word.

¹⁰With my whole heart I | seek you;*
let me not wander from your
com- | mandments!

¹¹I have stored up your word | in my
heart,*
that I might not sin a- | gainst you.

¹²Blessèd are you, | O LORD;*
teach me your | statutes!

¹³With my lips | I declare*
all the just decrees | of your mouth.

¹⁴In the way of your testimonies | I delight*
as much as in all | riches.

¹⁵I will meditate on your | precepts*
and fix my eyes | on your ways.

¹⁶I will delight in your | statutes;*
I will not for- | get your word.

**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: Hebrews 5:1-10 (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 10:35-45 (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: 392 God Loves Me Dearly

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:

Hoffschneider family	Death of Sherry	Dunbar
Erkeboni/Teschke families	Death of Becky	Teschke
Pilchard family	Death of Rob	Heebner

For those with health concerns:

Ekaterina	Fran Bryzinski	Kay Compton	Stephen Gewecke
Tom Reside	Claire Haenisch	Ursula	Sue Miller
Jim Jones	Hudson	Phillip Trivett	Audrey deDufour
Brennan	Marge Carr	Pat Dietz	Valerie Nebbie
Diane Pullen	Barbara Nixon	Pete Serone	Maryanne Reside

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 Gilliland	Anna Mantel	Judy Grube
Trudy	Kaleigh Moore	Steve Saumsiegle	Candace
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 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 deDufour Mar 17 Hope Dunbar Mar 18

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Instrumental Offertory: “Adagio” – G. Greene

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.

The 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:

Heaven 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: 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

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: 433 Glory Be to Jesus

Announcements

Dismissal P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Herzlich tut mit verlangen" – J. Pachelbel



Announcements – Week of March 17, 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: Jim Steimle (Communion Assistant and Reader), Dave deDufour (Usher), Jason Bloom (Live-streaming), Lydia Bloom (Acolyte), Audrey deDufour and Lesley deDufour (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/48X_ItNXsFE?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. 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.

Sunday Bible Study. This Sunday we'll discuss the Daily Impact of our Baptism. What are the "Old Adam" and the "New Man" that live within every Christian? How do they interact with one another every day? What do we really mean by saying, "Remember your baptism?" Join us as we discuss these important topics!



(Announcements cont'd)

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

Healing Service on Tuesday, March 19, 7 PM. Join us for an interactive service of worship, song, and healing prayer, a welcome respite of peaceful reflection and devotion.

Spring Clean-up continues – many thanks to those who were able to come and help on Saturday! If you weren't able to make it then, a task list is posted on the bulletin board for anyone who wants to work on those during the week as we prepare for Easter.

Easter Egg Hunt – new opportunity! In addition to our regular Easter morning egg hunt, we will be offering a *March 30 Saturday morning egg hunt at 10 AM for Nursery School students and their families.* There are additional eggs in the narthex to be filled with wrapped treats, and we would welcome helpers on Saturday morning at 9:00 to help hide eggs and join the fun - see the sign-up for both hunts on the bulletin board. Thanks for your help!

Easter Flowers available for purchase. If you'd like to buy Easter flowers to decorate the altar for our Easter celebration, please sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board. Lilies - \$14, 6" daffodils, tulips, and hyacinths - \$10. Flowers can be taken home following the late service.

Lenten Services & Meals. This Wednesday at 6:30 will be our last Lenten soup supper! Then join us for evening Vespers at 7:30pm. We'll continue 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 has focused 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.

Operation Christmas Child. As we look forward to this year's collection, we are focusing on certain supplies during each month. For **March** 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. **March's collection is Breakfast – cereal, pancake mix, syrup, breakfast bars, Pop Tarts, etc.**

St. Peter's is Saved to Serve! You can't miss the new display board in the narthex! 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!

Faithfulness Report: Attendance: 3/10: 55
Gen Fund (plate and electronic): \$ 2685

Weekly Schedule.

TUESDAY (3/19) Noon Planning Council; 4:30pm Confirmation Class;
7:00pm Service of Healing
WEDNESDAY (3/20) 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper; 7:30pm Midweek Lenten
Service
THURSDAY (3/21) 9:45/11:15am Nursery School Chapels
SUNDAY (3/24) 8:15am Bible Study/SS; 9:30am Worship



Lenten/Easter Schedule at St. Peter:

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

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

This week's Bible memory verse challenge: *Isaiah 53:5*

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:31–34

³¹Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Epistle: Hebrews 5:1–10

¹Every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you";

⁶as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek."

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Holy Gospel: Mark 10:35–45

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to [Jesus] and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" ³⁹And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴²And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."