

Saint Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 18, 2024

Our mission:

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

Welcome! As another school year approaches, here's a timely question: "What makes a person wise?" Many people mistake things like a quick wit, persuasive rhetoric, or encyclopedic knowledge for wisdom. God's Word, however, points not to any innate human attribute, but to a reverence for God that recognizes our dependence upon Him. "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom." (Proverbs 9:10) Human reason, that wonderful tool we use for understanding the world, can sometimes become a stumbling block to deeper wisdom. When Jesus said, "Whoever feeds on me will live because of me," many shook their heads and walked away. (John 6:57) Lord Jesus, guide us by your words, and teach us to walk as wise children of faith! (Ephesians 5:15)

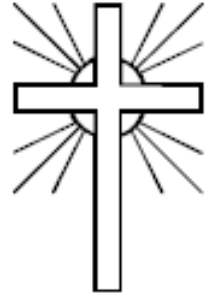
Welcome guests! We are delighted you are with us for worship this morning. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Jon, sign the guest book next to the front doors, and let us know how we can be of service to you. The order of service is printed in this bulletin starting on page 2. A cryroom is available 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 Three

LSB page 184

The Preparation



Prelude: “Siciliana” - M. Camidge

Words of Welcome

Invocation, Confession and Absolution page 184

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

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.)

P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn: 697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

Kyrie page 186 (*sung*)

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Hymn of Praise: Gloria in Excelsis page 187 (*sung*)

P: Glory be to God on high:

**C: And on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer;
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Service of the Word

Prayer of the Day page 189

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God,
whom to know is everlasting life,,
grant us to know Your Son, Jesus,
to be the way, the truth, and the life,
that we may steadfastly follow His steps
in the way that leads to life eternal;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 9:1-10 (see back cover)

Psalm: Psalm 34:12-22



¹²What man is there who de- | sires life *
and loves many days, that he may | see
good?

¹³Keep your tongue from | evil *
and your lips from speak- | ing deceit.

¹⁴Turn away from evil | and do good; *
seek peace and pur- | sue it.

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are toward
the | righteous *
and his ears | toward their cry.

¹⁶The face of the LORD is against those
who do | evil, *
to cut off the memory of them | from
the earth.

¹⁷When the righteous cry for help,
the | LORD hears *
and delivers them out of all
their | troubles.

¹⁸The LORD is near to the
broken- | hearted *
and saves the crushed in | spirit.

¹⁹Many are the afflictions of
the | righteous, *
but the LORD delivers him out | of
them all.

²⁰He keeps | all his bones; *
not one of them is | broken.

²¹Affliction will slay the | wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous
will | be condemned.

²²The LORD redeems the life of
his | servants; *
none of those who take refuge in him
will | be condemned.

**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: Ephesians 5:6-21 (see back cover)

Triple Alleluia page 190 (*sung*)

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

John 6:51-69 (see back cover)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed (page 191 or the inside back cover of the hymnal)

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day: 696 O God, My Faithful God

Sermon



Prayer Response after each petition P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

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

For comfort:

Stein family	Death of Chris	Mallepalle
Thurm family	Death of Andy	deDufour

For those with health concerns:

Roger Newton	Janice Nuneviller	Jared Casper	Carol Farley
Pat Dietz	Zane	Valentina Teschke	Valerie Nebbie
Beverly	Pete Serone	Brennan	Grant and Noah
Rev. Gwisock Lee	Betty Kay Foster	Carol Yost Band	Phillip Trivett
Melissa	Rose	Kay Compton	Ursula

For those with cancer:

Rosalie Reinbacher	Lance	Rich deDufour	Lynn
Rich Knechel	Rose Bonecki	Aaron Kline	Dick Butterfoss
Carol Tezla	Karen Shevchuk	Jason	Kathy
Barbara	Kathy Lamkin	Mary Ellen	Mary Ann
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling	Nancy Gilliland	Anna Mantel	Linda
Trudy	Kaleigh Moore	Steve Saumsiegle	Doris
Jane Fry	Jerry	Gerry Campbell	Brad Hoppe
Barbara Howard	Dottie	Dave Bond	

For those with needs around the world:

Government officials and people of our nation	Prayers for peace, unity, safety, and wisdom
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 God's guidance in U.S. response
Farmers and those experiencing weather disasters	Prayers for favorable weather and safety

For those serving in the armed forces:

LJ Lupinacci	Carrick Porter	Nate Fiske	Jake Grube	Jim Buckman (son)
Daniel Gewecke	James Bannon	Harper Usiskin		

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For the nursery school staff and families

Birthdays

Janet Reside O'Connor	Aug 22	Kevin Lauricella	Aug 24
John deDufour	Aug 23	Janice Nuneviller	Aug 24
Cheryl Gewecke	Aug 23		

Anniversaries

Pastor Steve and Cheryl Gewecke Aug 20

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Instrumental Offertory: “Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier” - J. G. Walther

Congregational Offertory: Create In Me page 192 -193 (*sung*)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free Spirit. Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament

Order of Holy Communion page 194

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with thy spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God

C: **It is meet and right so to do.**

P: It is truly meet, right and salutary....evermore praising You and saying:

C: (*sung*) **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest.

Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

C: (*spoken*) **Our Father who art in heaven...**

Words of Institution (Consecration)

Pax Domini

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

Sharing of the Peace (please greet one another with the words: “The peace of the Lord be with you.”,
responding “And also with you.”)

Agnus Dei page 198 (*sung*)

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world; grant us Thy peace. Amen

Distribution Hymn: 642 O Living Bread from Heaven

Post Communion Cantic: Nunc Dimittis page 199 *(sung)*

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Thanksgiving page 200

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for He is good, **C: and His mercy endureth forever.**
P: (Prayer of Thanksgiving) **C: Amen.**

Salutation and Benedicamus page 201

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And with thy spirit.**
P: Bless we the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Benediction page 202

P: The Lord bless you... **C: Amen, amen, amen.**



Closing Hymn: 798 The God of Abraham Praise (v. 1-3, 9)

Announcements

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!
C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: “Trumpet Tune” - J. Bennett

TAKE IT FURTHER: Today’s Hymn of the Day, LSB 696 O God, My Faithful God -

Today’s Hymn of the Day is 400 years old! Written by Pastor Johann Heermann during what is thought to be the most difficult period in his life, it was first published under the title “A Daily Prayer.” The text makes it clear that Heermann is confessing the faithfulness and goodness of God, yet in the face of devastating hardships, including a throat infection so severe that it affected his air passages and prevented him from preaching his own sermons, and suffering with the Thirty Years’ War (1618-1648) which had terrible consequences in Heermann’s hometown of Silesia. Despite those challenges, the hymn prays peace in faith and love toward God as well as neighbors, with a special focus on concern for what one says and how one speaks. Even after 400 years this concern is still paramount as we live and interact in this world!

-Concordia Publishing House. *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns.* (2019), p. 218-220

Memory Verse Challenge: Proverbs 9:10

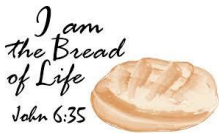
*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.*

EPHESIANS 5:19



SING PSALMS and ♥
HYMNS and SPIRITUAL SONGS
AMONG YOURSELVES. ♥
SINGING and MAKING
MELODY to THE LORD
♥ in YOUR HEARTS

The text is rendered in a decorative, calligraphic font. It is framed by a curved banner at the top left and a scroll at the bottom left. Two musical instruments, a lute-like instrument on the left and a double bass on the right, are integrated into the design. Small hearts are placed around the text, and horizontal lines separate the main phrases.



Announcements – Week of August 18, 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: Jim Steimle (Communion and reader), Andy Wright (acolyte), Dave deDufour and Steve deDufour (ushers), Lesley deDufour (live-streaming), Shirley yost and Amy Van Hise (coffee and communion set-up and clean-up).

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

https://youtube.com/live/LTtKYp_pmt0?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 and Wednesday Zoom Bible Studies. Our weekly bible studies are on break for the summer. You're encouraged to choose a book of the bible to read independently and stay strong in God's Word!

Sunday Sermon Discussion. "So...what did you think of today's sermon?" Today, and again on August 25th, Pastor Jon will be hosting a 30-minute group discussion of the Sunday readings and sermon after the service. This is your chance to respond to what you heard in worship! What questions did God's Word raise in your mind? What did you find most convicting or comforting? What modern issues do you think it touched on? You're welcome to join this informal discussion time during the month of August!

Weekly Schedule:

MONDAY (8/19) - 5:30pm Planning Council meeting

SUNDAY (8/25) - 9:30am Worship; 11:00am Bible Readings Group Discussion

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

JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL ST. PETER PICNIC ON SEPTEMBER 8! Yes, our annual picnic will take place following the service on Sunday, September 8. Sign up to bring specific needs (see list on the bulletin board) or just bring a side dish or dessert. It promises to be lots of fun – hope to see you there!

Air Hockey and Foosball Tables. Are you or someone you know interested in a free air hockey or foosball table? In an effort to tidy up our downstairs fellowship hall, we are searching for new homes for these two items. Both are in good working condition, other than a few minor broken pieces. Talk to Jenn Garrow or Pastor Jon if interested!

Back-To-School Blessing for Teachers and Students. Join us on Sunday, September 8th during our 9:30 service for a special *Blessing of the Backpacks!* As the new school year gets under way, we invite all students, teachers, and school staff to bring their backpacks, briefcases, or school bags to be blessed. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray for God's protection, guidance, and wisdom over all who are returning to school. Let's lift up our students and educators as they embark on another year of learning and growth!

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.

Flowers are placed on the altar this week in honor of Janet (Reside) O'Connor's birthday (Aug. 22) and in remembrance of Maria Niederbruening (birthday Aug. 20), by the Reside family.

Lambertville Food Pantry. Please grab some non-perishable items at the grocery store to add to our food pantry collection box in the narthex. **August's collection is Fruits, Juices, Condiments:** – canned fruit, fruit juices, mayo, mustard, ketchup, canned tuna or chicken, lunch bag stuff...

ARE YOU A LOAN ANGEL? We are now in the second year of our three-year interest only loan covering the cost of the new heating and air conditioning system. A huge thank you goes out to all the St. Peter Loan Angels, who have stepped in to pay the \$650 monthly interest bill. So far, we have made every payment while being able to "pay down" some principle. We are very blessed. There is still room for more loan angels. See Norm Klesat for more information or let Peter Johnson know of your desire to join this group of dedicated stewards.

Faithfulness Report: Attendance: 8/11: 54/ 5 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$2870
Special donation (sign letters): \$100

Website and Facebook. Come online to check us out! 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>.

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



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 9:1–10

- 1 Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn her seven pillars.
- 2 She has slaughtered her beasts; she has
mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
- 3 She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,
- 4 “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”
To him who lacks sense she says,
- 5 “Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
- 6 Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”
- 7 Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself
abuse,
and he who reproves a wicked man
incurs injury.
- 8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate
you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.
- 9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he
will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will
increase in learning.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is
insight.

Epistle: Ephesians 5:6–21

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk

with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Holy Gospel: John 6:51–69

⁵¹[Jesus said:] “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

Discussion Questions for God's Word Today

Which of the three readings or psalm did you find most thought-provoking?

What questions came up in your mind from today's readings or sermon?

What was your main takeaway from today's sermon?

What did you hear that was convicting or comforting?

What modern issues do you think today's Word touched on?

Which one of today's readings will you spend more time thinking, reading, praying, or studying about this week?