



St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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Rev. Jon Dunbar, Pastor (402) 641-4813

Chris Fusco, Music Director

Amy Van Hise, Office Administrator

Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024

Our mission:

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

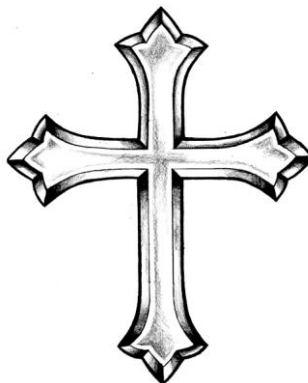
Welcome. Every great undertaking requires proper management, someone at the top who assumes responsibility for the outcome of that worthy project. The spread of God's Kingdom on earth should be of utmost importance to Christians everywhere. But who's ultimately in charge? God alone! Our readings today emphasize that it's God who causes the seed of the Gospel to grow and spread in ways we can't control or predict. Our calling is to be faithful servants and witnesses, and trust God to deliver the harvest!

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, Lead Thou On” – 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.**

Opening Hymn: 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty (st. 1-3)

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.

Blessed Lord,

since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning,
grant that we may so hear them,

read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them

that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life;
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: Ezekiel 17:22-24 (see back cover)

Psalm 1



¹ Blessèd is the man who walks not in
the counsel of the | wicked,*
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor
sits in the seat of | scoffers;

² but his delight is in the law | of the
LORD,*
and on his law he meditates | day and
night.

³ He is like a tree planted by streams of
water that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not | wither.*
In all that he does, he | prospers.

⁴ The wicked | are not so,*
but are like chaff that the wind | drives
away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in
the | judgment,*
nor sinners in the congregation of
the | righteous;

⁶ for the LORD knows the way of
the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

**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: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (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 4:26-34

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

Nicene Creed

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day: 834 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

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:

Godown family
Gibbs family

Death of Charlie
Death of Linda

Teschke
Teschke

For those with health concerns:

Betty Kay Foster
Pat Dietz
Beverly

Rose
Zane
Pete Serone

Kay Compton
Ursula
Brennan

Phillip Trivett
Valerie Nebbie

For those with cancer:

Rosalie Reinbacher
Rich Knechel
Carol Tezla
Barbara
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling
Trudy
Gunter
Jane Fry

Lance
Rose Bonecki
Karen Shevchuk
Kathy Lamkin
Nancy Gilliland
Kaleigh Moore
Jerry
Linda

Rich deDufour
Aaron Kline
Jason
Mary Ellen
Anna Mantel
Steve Saumsiegle
Gerry Campbell

Lynn
Dick Butterfoss
Kathy
Mary Ann
Judy Grube
Doris
Brad Hoppe

The Kingdom of God



FIRST A LEAF
BLADE PUSHED
THROUGH AND
LATER THE WHEAT
HEADS APPEARED
AND FINALLY THE
GRAIN RIPENED.

M A R K 4:26

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 God's guidance in U.S. response

For those serving in the armed forces:

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

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For the nursery school staff and families	For Nursery School summer programs
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Birthdays:

Nate Behnfeldt	Jun 18	Barbara Greenberg	June 18
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Offering

Instrumental Offertory: "Air" – W. Bennett

Offertory Hymn: 894 For the Fruits of His Creation (st 1&3)

Order of Holy Communion (page 208)

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 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

Distribution Hymn: 620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing

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.**



Post-Communion Collect p. 212

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen

Benedicamus and Benediction (page 212)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and...

Closing Hymn: 783 Take My Life and Let It Be

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Basse de Trompette" – L. Clerambault

TAKE IT FURTHER: Today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 834 Martin Franzmann's hymn "O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth" was written in 1967, when he was commissioned to write a hymn for the 450th anniversary of the Reformation. It is an esteemed mission hymn which "place(s) the power behind growing the church in the right place – with God..." Franzmann (1907-1976) is well known as a Concordia Theological Seminary – St. Louis professor and theologian, and as a hymn writer/translator. Six of those hymns are in our LSB, including LSB 578, "Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness."

-Concordia Publishing House. *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns.* (2019), p. 1270-1273

Memory Verse Challenge: 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

Announcements – Week of June 16, 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: Bill Kianka (communion), Joey Dunbar (reading), Stephen Behnfeldt and Jesse Dunbar (ushers), Jesse Dunbar (live-streaming), Juliet Behnfeldt (acolyte), Shirley Yost and Cheryl Gewecke (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/zi1ibEyeLIM?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 weekly Zoom bible study is on break for the summer. You're encouraged to join our Sunday morning study of Genesis or choose a book of the bible to read independently.

Sunday Bible Study. This Sunday we'll continue learning about God's Grace in Genesis. We'll read Genesis 4 and see how the cycle of sin started by Adam and Eve continued on through their sons, Cain and Abel. But we'll also look for God's grace in response to this act of deadly violence. **To prepare, read Genesis 4:1-26**

Weekly Schedule:

WEDNESDAY (6/19) 5-9pm Graduation Open House for Jesse Dunbar
SUNDAY (6/23) 8:15am Bible Study/SS; 9:30am Worship w/Baptism of Gabriella Allardice

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

St. Peter's is Saved to Serve! Check out how you are shining Christ's light at work, in civic and social organizations, in your recreation, etc. and see where God is sending us out each Sunday after worship and through the week!

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.

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. **June's collection is Baking and Cooking** – flour, sugar, salt, cooking oil, vinegar, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, etc

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!

Faithfulness Report: Attendance: 6/16: 67 in person, 3 online
Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$4880

Other Important web links:

NJ District LCMS

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

LCMS World Relief and Human Care

The "Lutheran Hour" Broadcast

njdistrict.org

lcms.org

lcms.org/ca/worldrelief

lhm.org



St. Peter's is warmly invited to Jesse's Graduation Open House

Wednesday June 19th 5pm-9pm at the parsonage.

Come congratulate the graduate!



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 17:22–24

²²Thus says the Lord God: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:1–10

¹We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are

at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Holy Gospel: Mark 4:26–34

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.