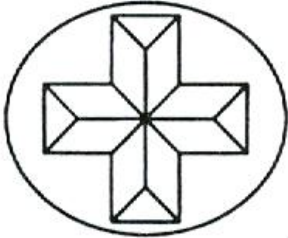


St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 15, 2024

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

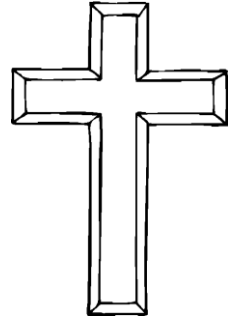
Welcome! Voices of faith. Voices of doubt. We hear examples of both in our readings this morning. And sometimes those two opposite voices may spring from the same heart! "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief," pleads the desperate father of a spiritually afflicted boy (Mark 9). Church is a good place to bring our doubts. Speak them to God. Share them with a Christian friend. Doubts do not disqualify us from God's grace in the least. But we should not try to bear them alone. "Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD, and rely on his God." (Isaiah 50)

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: “Voluntary in G Major” – H. Huron

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: 537 Beautiful Savior

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.

Hymn of Praise This is the Feast (page 171)

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,
our support and defense in every need,
continue to preserve Your Church in safety,
govern her by Your goodness,
and bless her with Your peace;
for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4-10 (see back cover)

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-9



¹ I love the LORD, because | he has heard*
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.

² Because he inclined his | ear to me,*
therefore I will call on him as
long | as I live.

³ The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;*
I suffered distress and | anguish.

⁴ Then I called on the name | of the
LORD:*
“O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!”

⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;*
our God is | merciful.

⁶ The LORD preserves the | simple;*
when I was brought low, he | saved me.

⁷ Return, O my soul, | to your rest;*
for the LORD has dealt bountifully | with
you.

⁸ For you have delivered my | soul from
death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet
from | stumbling;

⁹ I will walk be- | fore the LORD*
in the land of the | living.

**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 3:1-12 (see back cover)

Gospel Reading:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Mark 9:14-29 (see back cover)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed (see inside the back cover of the hymnal)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

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:

The deDufour family
The Howard family
The Robinson family
The Schmidt family
The Baer family

Death of Richard
Death of Mio
Death of Ryan (nephew)
Death of Fred
Death of Rich

Dunbar
Manura
Robinson
Yost
Teschke

For those with health concerns:

Roger Newton	Janice Nuneviller	Jared Casper	Carol Farley
Robert Wilson	Zane	Brennan	Valerie Nebbie
Beverly	Pete Serone	Carol Yost Band	Grant and Noah
Ursula	Betty Kay Foster	Barbara Greenberg	Phillip Trivett
Kay Compton	Michele Manura	Rose	William

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

For those serving in the armed forces:

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

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For staff and families of the school	For continued last minute enrollment
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Birthdays:

Siegfried Haenisch Sep 20

Anniversaries:

Kevin and Sue Lauricella Sep 22

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Instrumental Offertory: "Voluntary in E-flat Major" – S. Goodwin

Congregational Offertory: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord" (page 955)

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.



Announcements – Week of September 15, 2024

Need assistance? The Church Office is staffed each week

MON, TUES and WED from 1:00 - 3:00

Worship, Sunday School, and Bible Study

Welcome! Serving in worship today are: Jason Bloom (Communion and live-streaming), Jenna Bloom (Reader), Lydia Bloom (acolyte), Joe Gallagher and Bob Maguire (ushers), Lillian Maguire 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/OatmLS9xoJk?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.

NEW Sunday Bible Study: How We Got the Bible. This morning we continued a 5-week study called How We Got the Bible. Each week we'll watch and discuss a video by Dr. Paul Maier that answers important questions like: Where did the Bible come from? Who wrote it, and why? Who decided which books to include? What about critics who question its reliability? Participants in this study will gain a new appreciation of God's Word as our primary source of truth and "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (1 Timothy 3:16b).

A Study of the Psalms - Wednesdays via ZOOM. Join us on **Wednesdays at 7:30pm** as we dive into the Old Testament Book of Psalms. In this 12-week study, we'll learn how to read and appreciate Hebrew poetry as God's inspired Word. We'll also learn about the different kinds of psalms (e.g. praise, confession, royal, lament) and how they express the wide spectrum of emotions we feel as followers of Christ living in a broken - but still beautiful - world. This Zoom study is open to all - look for the link that was emailed out this week, or ask Pastor. Invite your friends!

After-Service Sermon Discussion continues today! Join us after service in the fellowship hall for a lively discussion!

Weekly Schedule:

TUESDAY (9/17)	12pm Elders Meeting; 2pm Pennington Clergy Meeting
WEDNESDAY (9/18)	7:30pm Zoom Bible Study of Psalms
THURSDAY (9/19)	9:45am/11:15am Nursery School Chapel Services
SUNDAY (9/22)	8:15am Bible Study; 9:30am Worship; 11:00am Readings Discussion Group 6:30pm Impact Youth Ministry @ St. Paul, Flemington

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.



Thanks to all who set up, cooked, contributed, and cleaned up for our fabulous picnic last Sunday, and to all who were able to stay and make it a fun time together! What a great way to start back into our regular schedule.

Service and Other

New Jersey March for Life. On **Thursday, September 26** you can add your voice to this important issue by attending the New Jersey March for Life at the state capitol in Trenton. The event runs from 11:00am to around 1:00pm. Parking will be difficult, so participants are strongly encouraged to use public transportation. Those who wish to carpool with Pastor Jon should meet at 9:30am at the church. Please let him know if you're interested in attending!

Jamafternoon coming soon- Sunday, September 29, 4-6 pm! Are you a lover of music, singer of songs, player of instruments? Or do you just enjoy a fabulous get-together with folks who are ready to spend an afternoon lifting their voices together? Leave the stress behind and come share in a good old-fashioned American folk tune (and more) sing- and play- along!

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 today in honor of Kevin and Sue Lauricella's anniversary.

Lambertville Food Pantry. Please grab some non-perishable items at the grocery store to add to our food pantry collection box in the narthex. **September's collection is Breakfast** - cereal, pancake mix, syrup, cereal bars, pop tarts, etc

Faithfulness Report: Attendance: 9/8: 82/5 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$5294
HVAC: \$1000

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:

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod lcms.org NJ District LCMS njdistrict.org
LCMS World Relief and Human Care lcms.org/ca/worldrelief The "Lutheran Hour" Broadcast lhm.org

TAKE IT FURTHER: Today's Closing Hymn, LSB 549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All of today's hymns, each a familiar and well-loved old favorite, emphasizes the power and majesty of Christ, and His great love for us, sinners though we be. What a joy to conclude our service with the magnificence of All Hail the Power of Jesus' name, written by an itinerant preacher named Edward Perronet in around 1779. It was one of the top-ten hymns by the end of the nineteenth century, evidenced by the number of hymnals in which it appeared. It is a blessing to remember that we join in the everlasting praise of Christ with all Christendom in crowning Christ Lord of all!

-Concordia Publishing House. *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns.* (2019), p. 563-566

Memory Verse Challenge: Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and above the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.