



# St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

(609) 466-0939    [www.stpeternj.org](http://www.stpeternj.org)

[pastor@stpeternj.org](mailto:pastor@stpeternj.org)    [secretary@stpeternj.org](mailto:secretary@stpeternj.org)

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

Chris Fusco, Music Director

Amy Van Hise, Office Administrator

Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

## Last Sunday of the Church Year

*November 24, 2024*

### **Our mission:**

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

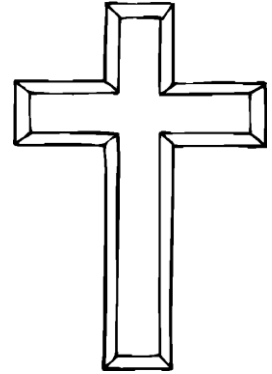
**Welcome!** How many times in a day do we wonder, "What time is it?" Human beings are timekeepers by nature. We are always using time to help us anticipate things that are to come - whether that's counting the hours until school lets out or the months until we can retire. But how often does God's Word factor into our timekeeping? Isaiah reminds us that this present Creation has an expiration date (Is 51). Jesus teaches his followers how to be ready for the day of his return (Mark 13). And Jude warns us not to take our sins lightly, but praises the One who can keep us from stumbling and present us blameless before Him on the Last Day. (Jude) Our times are in God's hands!

**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 One***  
***LSB page 151***

***The Preparation***



**Prelude:** “Cornet Voluntary” – Anonymous

**Words of Welcome**

**Invocation, Confession, and Absolution** (page 151)

***The Service of the Word***

**Opening Hymn:** 516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

**Kyrie** (page 152 - sung)

**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** page 154 Gloria in Excelsis

**P:** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**

**We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:**

**You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**

**For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ,  
so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit  
that, ever mindful of Your glorious return,  
we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living;  
for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



**Old Testament Reading:** Isaiah 51:4-6 (see back cover)

## Psalm 93



<sup>1</sup> The LORD reigns; he is robed  
in | majesty;\*  
the LORD is robed; he has put on  
strength | as his belt.

Yes, the world is es- | tablished;\*  
it shall nev- | er be moved.

<sup>2</sup> Your throne is established | from of old;\*  
you are from ever- | lasting.

<sup>3</sup> The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the  
floods have lifted | up their voice;\*  
the floods lift up their | roaring.

<sup>4</sup> Mightier than the thunders of many  
waters, mightier than the waves | of the  
sea,\*  
the LORD on high is | mighty!

<sup>5</sup> Your decrees are very | trustworthy;\*  
holiness befits your house, O LORD,  
for- | evermore.

**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:** Jude 20-25 (see back cover)

**Alleluia Verse** (page 156)

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Gospel Reading:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter. C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Mark 13:24-37** (see back cover)

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

**Nicene Creed** (see inside back cover of hymnal)

## Children's Message

**Hymn of the Day:** 336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

## 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 those with health concerns:*

Janis	Janice Nuneviller	Barbara	Carol Farley
Chris	Zane	Brennan	Valerie Nebbie
Beverly	Pete Serone	Carol Yost Band	Grant and Noah
Ursula	John O'Neil	Sid	Allison
Kay Compton	Claire	Rose	Jamie
Cambria	Robert Bauer	John Tarlo	Steve Hauptman
Gail	Gordon	Joe	Suzanne

### *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 Anne
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	William
Sonia	Barbara	Henry J.	

### *For those with needs around the world:*

Government officials and people of our nation	Prayers for peace, unity, safety, and wisdom
Those coping with hurricane/drought/disaster	Prayers for provision and help
Those in need of employment	Provision of jobs
Wars in Europe and Middle East	Prayers for peace, forgiveness, and guidance
Family of Olga Nichols living in Ukraine	Prayers for health, safety, and provision

### *For those serving in the armed forces:*

LJ Lupinacci	Carrick Porter	Nate Fiske	Jake Grube	Jim Buckman
Daniel Gewecke	James Bannon	Harper Usiskin	Jesse Sowell	Mike Bahney

*For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:*

For staff and families of the school

For enrollment

**Birthdays:**

Joe Scheblein Nov 24

Sandy Hammond Nov 25

Lesley deDufour Nov 25

Jamison Hoppe Nov 29

**Anniversaries:**

Norm and Leslie Klesat Nov 26

**The Service of the Sacrament**

**Gathering of the Offering and Offertory**

Instrumental Offertory: “Lobet den Herren” – J. G. Walther

Congregational Offertory: LSB 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own (v. 1-2)

**We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

**May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give.**

**Order of Holy Communion** (page 160)

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 pow’r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna. 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

Pax Domini (page 163)

**Sharing of the Peace:** (Please share the peace with one another with the words:  
“The peace of the Lord be with you.”, “And also with you.”)



Agnus Dei      **C: 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.**

Distribution Hymn: 525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Post Communion Cantic: Nunc Dimittis (page 165)

**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 every 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

**Benediction** (page 166)

**Closing Hymn:** 506 Glory Be to God the Father

### **Announcements**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord;

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** “Vater unser in Himmelreich” – J.S. Bach

### **TAKE IT FURTHER: Today’s Opening Hymn: 516 Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying**

The theme of Philipp Nicolai’s (1556-1608) hymn is the Church awaiting the Bridegroom (Christ) and joyfully announcing His coming! Nicolai was “one of the most zealous defenders of orthodox Lutheran doctrine in the sixteenth century.” He lived and served during a time of clashes with both Catholics and Calvinists, as well as a devastating epidemic that brought about the death of more than 1,400 of his town’s population of 2,500. In 1599 he wrote a timely book called Mirror of the Joys of Eternal Life based on Romans 8:18 – “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” This hymn, as well as the familiar ‘O Morning Star, So Fair and Bright’ (LSB 395) were included in its appendix. This book left its mark on the German people who felt so battered at their circumstances, and these hymns continue to leave their mark on congregations today.

-Concordia Publishing House. *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns*. (2019), p. 1151-1152

### ***Memory Verse Challenge: Mark 13:31***

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.



## **Announcements – Week of November 24, 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: Tyson Wilhelm (Communion assistant), Joey Dunbar (Reading), Dave deDufour and Bob Maguire (Ushers), Nathan Wilhelm (Acolyte), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming and Communion/coffee clean-up), Lillian Maguire (Communion/coffee set-up)

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

<https://youtube.com/live/1eWCZiluF00?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.

**Bible Study on Gospel of Luke.** This Sunday at 8:15am we continue a 12-week study of selections from Luke's Gospel. **Our study lesson for this Sunday will be Luke 21:25-36, "The Coming of the Son of Man".** Jesus teaches His Church what to look for and how to be spiritually ready for the Day of His final return. Many people are either frightened by talk of the End Times, or they dismiss it as mere superstition. What does Jesus tell us about that event, and how should his words shape our day-to-day living?

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

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Study.** Our Wednesday evening Bible study is now on break until January 8 of the New Year.

### **Weekly Schedule:**

MONDAY (11/25)	5:30pm Planning Council Meeting
TUESDAY (11/26)	6:00am Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's
WEDNESDAY (11/27)	7:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service
SUNDAY (12/1)	8:15am SS/Bible Study; 9:30 Worship; 11:00 Discussion Group; 3:30pm Christmas Jam/Afternoon Song Circle

### **Men's, Women's, Senior's, Youth and Family Ministry**

**Pennington Churches Thanksgiving Potluck!** The Pennington Clergy Association is hosting its second annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Potluck **this evening** starting at 5:00pm at St. Matthews Episcopal Church in Pennington. The event will include food, fellowship, singing and expressions of gratitude. Please see the poster on the bulletin board for more info and let Pastor Jon know if you're interested in attending.

**Caroling for friends and shut-ins – Sunday, Dec 15, 3 pm.** Join us as we bless our shut-ins and friends of the congregation singing some familiar Christmas carols and spreading good cheer! All are welcome – let Pastor Jon know if you can come along!

**Jamafternoon Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 3:30 pm!** Join us for a holiday sing along! Bring an instrument, bring your voice, bring a friend for a great time of making music and having fun. National Youth Gathering youth will be providing snacks for a free will donation as a fundraiser for their upcoming New Orleans trip!

**Nursery School Crafts, Carols and Christ Party Sat. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>.** The St. Peter Nursery School is celebrating their Christmas program and party on Sat, Dec. 7th from 10am-12pm and could use some church volunteers to greet families, help with the potluck, extra hands at the crafts, and be all around goodwill St. Peter congregational ambassadors on the day. It's always a wonderful event. Keep an eye out for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

**Youth Candlelight Service Wednesday Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>.** This year's final midweek Advent service will be led by the youth of our congregation. The group rehearsal for our service will be held after church on Sunday December 15th. Lunch will be provided. Please let Hope Dunbar know if you have a son or daughter interested in participating. All ages are welcome. Also, if you plan to prepare a musical piece, let Hope know that as well. There will be a group choir piece, but also many speaking parts to fill!

**The Prayer Shawl/Lap Blanket Ministry** is a prayerful ministry which reaches out to those in need of comfort, and also to share the joy of those celebrating a marriage or the birth of a child. Blessings are prayed into the items for the recipients. These items are meant to be given away unconditionally and are NOT to be sold. Since the beginning of the ministry in 2015, we have given away a total of 384 items which include shawls, lap blankets, baby caps, and baby blankets. In addition to individuals, we have contributed lap blankets and shawls to the Disabled American Veterans Hospital; baby caps to hospitals; fidget blankets to Alzheimer patients; and red, white and blue blankets to Hospice in honor of WWII veterans. Finally, we would like to thank those of you who have contributed to this ministry for the purchase of supplies.

**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*

**Opportunity to give toward Helene Disaster Relief through NJ District.** The NJ District continues to match dollar for dollar any individual/family gift given through the District up to \$250. A designation has been set up on the District website ([njdistrict.org](http://njdistrict.org)) where people can give online. Once you are on the website scroll down and click on the "Give Now" button. Scroll down and click on the Hurricane Helene Disaster relief icon.

**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 Norm and Leslie Klesat's 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary!**



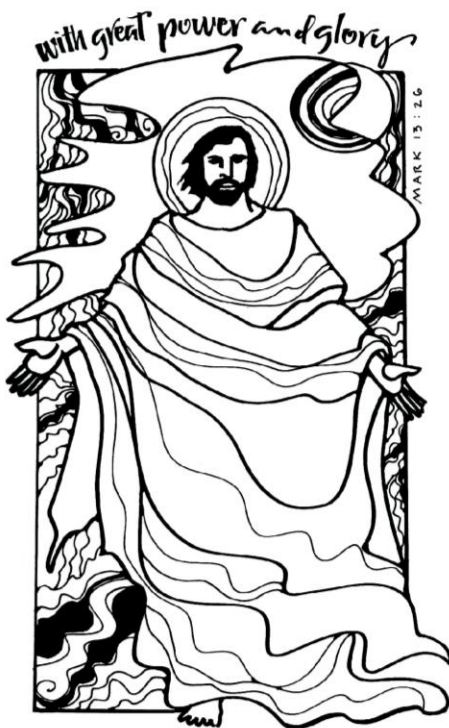
**Lambertville Food Pantry.** Please grab some non-perishable items at the grocery store to add to our food pantry collection box in the narthex. ***SPECIAL NEED – toilet paper! December’s collection is Baking and Cooking*** – flour, sugar, salt, cooking oil, vinegar, baking powder, baking soda, spices...

**Faithfulness Report:** Attendance 11/17: 56 / 9 online                      Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$4994  
Flowers: \$100    Mortgage \$50

**Website and Facebook.** Come online to check us out! Our website is at [www.stpeternj.org](http://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](http://lcms.org)                      NJ District LCMS [njdistrict.org](http://njdistrict.org)  
LCMS World Relief and Human Care [lcms.org/ca/worldrelief](http://lcms.org/ca/worldrelief)    The “Lutheran Hour” Broadcast [lhm.org](http://lhm.org)





*Advent and Christmas at St. Peter*

*December:*

<i>Sun</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>9:30 am</i>	<i>Advent begins</i>
		<i>3:30 pm</i>	<i>JamAfternoon Song Circle: Christmas Songs</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>7:30 pm</i>	<i>Midweek Advent Service</i>
<i>Thurs</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1 pm</i>	<i>Christmas Decorating</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>11 am</i>	<i>NOAH Seniors – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse</i>
<i>Sat</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>10 am</i>	<i>Nursery School Christmas Celebration</i>
<i>Tues</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>6:00 am</i>	<i>Men’s Breakfast at Orlando’s</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>7:30 pm</i>	<i>Midweek Advent Service</i>
<i>Sun</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>3:00 pm</i>	<i>Christmas Caroling for shut-ins/friends</i>
		<i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>NJ Youth Group (Impact) at St. Paul, Flemington</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>7:30 pm</i>	<i>Youth-led Advent Service</i>
<i>Tues</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>5:00/7:00 pm</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Services</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>Christmas Day Service</i>



## LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

### Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 51:4–6

- <sup>4</sup> “Give attention to me, my people,  
and give ear to me, my nation;  
for a law will go out from me,  
and I will set my justice for a  
light to the peoples.  
<sup>5</sup> My righteousness draws near,  
my salvation has gone out,  
and my arms will judge  
the peoples;  
the coastlands hope for me,  
and for my arm they wait.  
<sup>6</sup> Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens vanish like  
smoke,  
the earth will wear out like  
a garment,  
and they who dwell in it will  
die in like manner;  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my righteousness will  
never be dismayed.”

### Epistle: Jude 20–25

<sup>20</sup>But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; <sup>21</sup>keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. <sup>22</sup>And have mercy on those who doubt; <sup>23</sup>save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

<sup>24</sup>Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, <sup>25</sup>to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

### Holy Gospel: Mark 13:24–37

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. <sup>35</sup>Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning—<sup>36</sup>lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”