

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, Admin Asst
Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

March 2, 2025

Our mission:

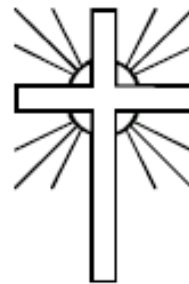
*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,
honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.*

Welcome. Behold the heavenly glory of God, veiled in ordinary, earthly form! The white paraments you see dressing our sanctuary today symbolize the shining face and dazzling clothes of Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration. For just a few precious moments, the disciples were allowed to see the Son of God in his full radiance. It was one last breathtaking epiphany of Jesus before he descended the mountain and went to the cross to suffer and die for our sins. Even now, and until Christ comes again, God's glory remains hidden from our view. Yet, with eyes of faith we perceive him still among us. We can hear his voice speaking to us through the Word. We can taste the fruits of his cross in the Communion meal. "Tis good, Lord, to be here!"

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 cry room 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.

PREPARATION



PRELUDE “Wie schoen leuchtet der Morgenstern” - J. Pachelbel

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. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Most merciful God,
C have mercy on us.

All: We confess that 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 trusted You with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In Your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by Your Spirit that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and truth. Amen.

P With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.
C Thanks be to God!

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN 821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (st. 1-3)

KYRIE *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

Pastor: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: Congregation:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
mer - cy.

The musical score consists of three staves. The first staff is for the Assistant, and the second and third staves are for the Congregation. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The lyrics are: "Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy." The Assistant's part is a single line of music. The Congregation's part is split across two lines of music.

Pastor: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Pastor: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)

Pastor: Assistant:
Help, save and de - fend us, O God.

Cong: Congregation:
A - - - men.

The musical score consists of two staves. The first staff is for the Assistant, and the second staff is for the Congregation. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The Assistant's part is a single line of music. The Congregation's part is a single line of music. The lyrics are: "Help, save and de - fend us, O God." and "A - - - men." The Assistant's part is a single line of music. The Congregation's part is a single line of music.

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1:

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great
peo - ple of God.

To refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *To refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *To refrain*

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God,

in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son

You confirmed the mysteries of the faith

by the testimony of Moses and Elijah.

In the voice that came from the bright cloud

You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace.

Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory

And bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven;

through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.



C Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (see back)

PSALM: Psalm 99



- ¹The LORD reigns;
let the peoples | tremble!*
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the | earth quake!
- ²The LORD is great in | Zion;*
he is exalted over all the | peoples.
- ³Let them praise your great
and | awesome name!*
Ho- | ly is he!
- ⁴The King in his might loves | justice.*
You have established equity;
you have executed justice and
righteousness in | Jacob.
- ⁵Exalt the LORD our God; worship at
his | footstool!*
Ho- | ly is he!
- ⁶Moses and Aaron were among his
priests, Samuel also was among those
who called up- | on his name.*
They called to the LORD, and
he | answered them.
- ⁷In the pillar of the cloud he | spoke to
them;*
they kept his testimonies and the
statute that he | gave them.
- ⁸O LORD our God, you | answered them;*
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrong- | doings.
- ⁹Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at
his holy | mountain;*
for the LORD our God is | holy!
- 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: Hebrews 3:1-6 (see back)

ALLELUIA VERSE:

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat optional

HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9th chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Luke 9:28-36

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

APOSTLES' CREED (Inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P ...Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

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

For comfort:

King Family	Death of Sue	Teschke
Burroughs Family	Death of Mary	Teschke

For those with health concerns:

Pat McCann	Janice Nuneviller	Cole Garrow	Carol Farley	Sid	Greg
John Tarlo	Donna Poucel	Phil Unetic	Claudia Zucker	Susan	Zane
Fran Byrzkinsky	Pete Serone	Carol Yost Band	Grant and Noah	Chris	JoAnne
Claudia Zucker	John O'Neil	Mariah Martinez	Monica Benesch	Rose	Claire
Kay Compton	Dottie Brown	Terry Farley	Lolly Hoagland	Beverly	Barbara
				Brennan	

For those with cancer:

Rosalie Reinbacher	Lance	Rich deDufour	Lynn
Rich Knechel	Rose Bonecki	Aaron Kline	Dick Butterfoss
Carol Tezla	Karen Shevchuk	Jason	Kathy
Nico Benesch	Linda	Mary Ellen	Mary Anne
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling	Nancy Gilliland	Lexi Launchbaugh	Dora
Trudy	Kaleigh Moore	Steve Saumsiegle	Doris
Jane Fry	Jerry	Gerry Campbell	Brad Hoppe
Barbara Howard	Dottie	Dave Bond	William
Sonia	Barbara	Henry J.	Logan Mattessich
Aunt Jean	Karen Radcliffe	Marci Fehlhafer	Frank Cignus

THIS IS
MY SON
MY CHOSEN



LISTEN TO HIM

L U K E 9 : 3 5

For those with needs around the world:

Government officials and people of our nation	Prayers for peace, unity, safety, and wisdom
Those coping with disaster – Himes family	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	Emily Arndt
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 '25-'26

Birthdays:

Gina Behnfeldt	Mar 5	Samuel Dunbar	Mar 6	Sharyn Johnson	Mar 8
Jason Bloom	Mar 5	Michele Manura	Mar 6		

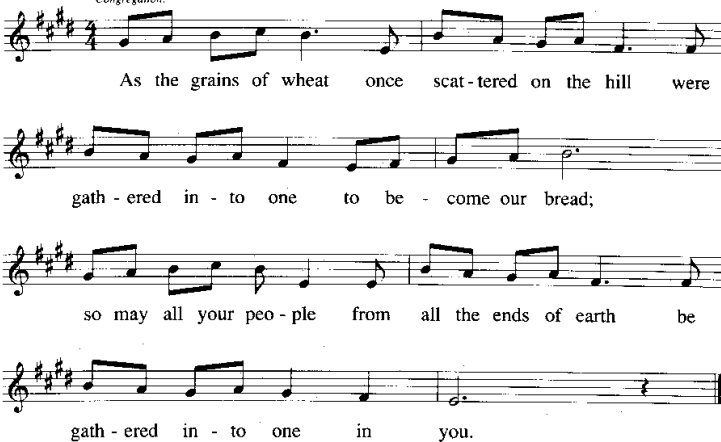
GATHERING OF THE OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Instrumental Offertory "Interlude in D" - S. Goodwin

Congregational Offertory:

Refrain

Congregation:



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

verses

1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, _____
2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when _____

To refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 417 Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE “Wie schoen leuchtet der Morgenstern” - J.C. Bach



TAKE IT FURTHER: Today’s Hymn of the Day, LSB 414 ‘Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

This hymn is a popular choice for the celebration of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, and was written at a time when there were few hymns dedicated to this celebration. As we have seen in several instances before, the author of the hymn intentionally penned the lyrics when he saw a void that needed filling. It was written in 1888 by Joseph Armitage Robinson (1858-1933), Dean of Christ’s College, Cambridge and assistant curate of Great St. Mary’s Church, a man who does not generally have recognition as a hymn writer. Don’t miss that the tune used for this hymn was composed by Johann Sebastian Bach in his Fugue in E Major, and has been used as the tune for several hymns.

-Concordia Publishing House. *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns.* (2019), p. 224-226

Memory Verse Challenge: Luke 9:35

And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!”



Announcements – Week of March 2, 2025

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: Stephen Behnfeldt (Communion Assistant and Reader), Juliet Behnfeldt (Acolyte), Dave deDufour and Joe Gallagher (Ushers), MaryAnne Reside (Communion/coffee set-up) and Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming and Communion/Coffee clean-up).

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

https://youtube.com/live/NueGUu_Ifo0 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 8:15 Bible Study: Angels and Demons. This Sunday we'll finish up our study by discussing the mission and activity of God's holy angels. We'll look at examples in the Bible of how angels have offered protection and deliverance to God's people. What are the angels doing for God in heaven? And what does the Bible say about guardian angels? Come and be a part of our discussion!

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study. Our evening classes are now on break as we enter the season of Lent. Join us for Wednesday meals at 6:30pm and worship at 7:30pm. We'll resume our bible studies after Easter!

Weekly Schedule:

WEDNESDAY (3/5)	7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service
FRIDAY (3/7)	9-2:30pm Lutheran Educators Workshop, Basking Ridge (Pastor and NS Staff)
SATURDAY (3/8)	7:30am Men's Breakfast; 9am Partners in Mission Meeting
SUNDAY (3/9)	8:15 Sunday School/Bible Study; 9:30 Worship; 11am Discussion Group; 3pm Holy Trinity, Somerset 65th Anniversary; 6:30pm Impact Youth Group @ St. Paul, Flemington

Service of Healing. All are invited to our spring Service of Healing on **Tuesday, March 18th at 7:00pm.** For those who haven't experienced it yet, this is an evening of singing, devotion, and prayer around the theme of healing. This informal service is an interactive experience that includes the opportunity to be prayed over by fellow believers, anointing with oil, baptismal remembrance, and candle lighting. **Invite a friend!** Fellowship time with refreshments will follow the service.

You are invited to the 65th Anniversary Service of Holy Trinity Lutheran, Somerset, at 3:00pm on Sunday, March 9. Come celebrate with Pastor Greg Jans and the congregation! Offering to benefit the Lutheran Campus Ministry at Rutgers. *Live stream available at the [HTL Facebook video page](#).*

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.

Operation Christmas Child. In March we will be collecting matchbox cars and girls' hair accessories and jewelry to prepare for the Christmas in July packing party! Place in the narthex box.

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

The Prayer Shawl/Lap Blanket Ministry. If you would like to join us in the making of these special blankets to bless those in need of comfort or in celebration of a life event, please speak with Barbara Greenberg at (609) 512-1928.

Senior Youth Game Night - March Mayhem! On Sunday, March 23rd the New Jersey District LCMS is hosting a game night for all youth, from 8th grade to seniors in high school! The event is being held at Somerset Hills Lutheran Church in Basking Ridge, NJ from 2-6pm. It will include Wii Game competitions, 9-Square in the Air, and many classic board games, as well as food, fellowship, and devotional time. Talk to Pastor Jon if you're interested. Car-pooling is available!

Service and Other

Lenten Services & Meals. Lent is a 40-day season of repentance that prepares us to celebrate Easter. Beginning **March 5 (Ash Wednesday)**, join us for evening Vespers every Wednesday at 7:30pm. **From March 12-April 9, come early at 6:30pm and enjoy our Wednesday Lenten soup supper with friends!** Look for more information about these meals on the church bulletin board or talk to Leslie Klesat.

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 the birthdays of Sadie, Lydia, and Jason Bloom.

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.

Faithfulness Report: Attendance Feb 23: 70/ 4 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$ 4097
Building: \$50

St. Peter YouTube Channel. You can help increase St. Peter's online visibility by liking and subscribing to our [YouTube channel](#). This is the platform we use to live-stream and record our worship services as well as Wednesday Zoom bible studies. You can find it linked to our church website or by going to YouTube and searching "Saint Peter Lutheran Church". Thanks!

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

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 34:1–12

¹Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, ²all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, ³the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. ⁴And the LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, ‘I will give it to your offspring.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.” ⁵So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, ⁶and he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. ⁷Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. ⁸And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

⁹And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. ¹⁰And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, ¹¹none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, ¹²and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

Epistle: Hebrews 3:1–6

¹Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of

our confession, ²who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God’s house. ³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

Holy Gospel: Luke 9:28–36

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings [Jesus] took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, ³¹who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. ³⁴As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!” ³⁶And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.