

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025

Our mission:

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

Welcome! "Cuidado - Attention - Achtung!" In many public places you'll find signs like these warning everyone to stay alert for potential dangers in their environment. Today's Gospel reading for this First Sunday in Lent reminds us that our world is also filled with spiritual traps and pitfalls - things that tempt us to doubt God's Word and jeopardize our salvation. Right at the beginning of his ministry, Christ confronted these dangers head on! He was subjected to the devil's temptations, but wielded God's mighty Word as an effective weapon to resist and stand firm. Knowing we have a Savior who fights for us, we too can stand firm in our faith when tempted.

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: "Ich ruf du zir, Herr Jesu Christ" – J. S. Bach

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 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: 814 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

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.

Prayer of the Day

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land.

Guide the people of Your Church

that following our Savior

we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come;

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: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (see back cover)

Psalm: Psalm 91:1-13



- ¹ He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High* will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
- ²I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my | fortress,* my God, in | whom I trust."
- ³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the | fowler* and from the deadly | pestilence.
- ⁴He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find | refuge;* his faithfulness is a shield and | buckler.
- 5 You will not fear the terror | of the night,* nor the arrow that | flies by day,

- ⁶nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,*
 - nor the destruction that wastes at | noonday.
- ⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your | right hand,* but it will not come | near you.
- 8 You will only look with your eyes* and see the recompense of the wicked.
- ⁹ Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—* the Most High, who is my | refuge—
- no evil shall be allowed to be- fall you,* no plague come near your tent.

- 11 For he will command his angels con- cerning you* to guard you in all your ways.
- ¹² On their hands they will | bear you up,* lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.
- ¹³ You will tread on the lion and the | adder;* the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

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: Romans 10:8b-13 (see back cover)

Lenten Verse (page 173)

Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:1-13 (see back cover)
Acclamations (sung): Glory to you, O Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

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

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 424 O Christ, You Walked the Road

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:

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 Lolly Hoagland Claudia Zucker Susan Zane Grant and Noah Fran Byrzkinsy Pete Serone Carol Yost Band Chris **JoAnne** Claudia Zucker Claire Haenisch John O'Neil Monica Benesch Rose Claire Kay Compton Dottie Brown Terry Farley Gordon Anderson Barbara Beverly Phil Unetic Brennan Mary

For those with cancer:

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

For those with needs around the world:

Government officials and people of our nation Prayers for peace, unity, safety, and wisdom

Those coping with disasters – 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:

Sadie Bloom Mar 9 Fran McAllister Mar 11 Joe Gallagher Mar 10 Ed Heebner Mar 12

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Instrumental Offertory: "O Lamm Gottes" – J. Pachelbel

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

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.

Service of the Sacrament

Order of Holy Communion (page 177)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary... evermore praising you and saying:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. 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

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

C: Amen.



C: Agnus Dei 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, grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn: 547 The Lamb

Nunc Dimittis: Song of Simeon (page 182)

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 ev'ry 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;

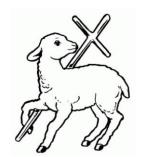
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (page 183)

Benediction (page 183)

Closing Hymn: 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

Postlude: "Ein Feste Burg" – J. G. Walther



TAKE IT FURTHER: Today's Distribution Hymn LSB 547, The Lamb

The inspiration for this lovely hymn was a painting of a white lamb on a black background, legs tied and neck offered. Composer and author Gerald P. Coleman (b. 1953) asked his fellow seminarian and artist James Disney for a copy of the painting, and was inspired to write the hymn during a three-hour summer school class at Concordia, St. Louis. He desired to present the ultimate triumph of the Lamb, sacrificial and on the throne in majesty. He wrote the tune first, ending each verse with what he felt was the most significant part of the hymn, the refrain: "Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own! The Lamb is reigning on His throne!" It was the only hymn from his works for which he made no revisions, feeling it was truly inspired.

-Concordia Publishing House. Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns. (2019), p. 558-560

Memory Verse Challenge: Romans 10:9

...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.



Announcements – Week of March 9, 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: Joe Scheblein (Communion Assistant), Joey Dunbar (Reader and usher), Andy Wright (Acolyte), Steve deDufour (Usher), Audrey deDufour and Hope Dunbar (Communion/coffee set-up and clean-up) and Amy Van Hise (Live-streaming).

Today's service will be live streamed on You Tube at the following link: https://youtube.com/live/lfaf-Hlcn1M 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 8:15 Bible Study: Ten Commandments. The penitential season of Lent calls us to a deeper reflection on God's Law as a guide for human life - a Law which is clearly and simply expressed in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). This week we'll begin a new study on this topic as we explore the 1st Commandment - "You shall have no other gods before me." What are the common false gods people worship today? What good gifts of God are we tempted to treat as idols? Why is God alone worthy of our fear, love, and trust?

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:

TUESDAY (3/11) 6am Men's Breakfast @ Orlandos

WEDNESDAY (3/12) 6:30pm Soup Supper; 7:30pm Lenten Service

THURSDAY (3/13) 9:30-2pm Circuit Pastors Meeting @ Good Shepherd, Old Bridge NJ SUNDAY (3/16) 8:15 Sunday School/Bible Study; 9:30 Worship; 11am Discussion Group

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 today! 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.

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 March 2: 69/ 5 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$4557

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

Lenten/Easter Schedule at St. Peter:

Lenten Soup Suppers Wednesdays, 6:30 PM, Mar 12-April 9
Midweek Lenten Services Wednesdays, 7:30 PM, Mar 12- Apr 9

Service of Healing
Palm Sunday Service
Maundy Thursday Service
Good Friday Service
Tuesday, March 18, 7:00 PM
Sunday, April 13, 9:30 AM
Thursday, April 17, 7:30 PM
Friday, April 18, 7:30 PM

Easter Sunday Services Sunday, April 20, 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Easter Breakfast Sunday, April 20, 9:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, April 20, 10:00 AM



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1–11

1"When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, 2you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.' 4Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

5"And you shall make response before the LORD your God, 'A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. 6And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. 7Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. 9And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. 11And you shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you."

Epistle: Romans 10:8b-13

8"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. 3The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." 4And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone." 5And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, 6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. 7If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

"'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'"

⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

"'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,'

11and

"'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

¹²And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.