

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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Chris Fusco, Music Director
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Palm Sunday Sunday of the Passion

April 13, 2025

Our mission:

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

Welcome! Palm Sunday gets its name from the palms that were spread before Jesus as he entered Jerusalem. The peoples' cry, "Hosanna to the Son of David!", clearly showed their excitement and anticipation over Jesus as the long-awaited Messianic King, come to deliver God's people. Yet only days later, our Lord would hear a very different cry, "Crucify him!" Today's service takes us along on that journey from joyful expectation to somber contemplation, highlighted by our responsive reading of the Passion narrative from Luke's Gospel. Thus, we are prepared to enter Holy Week -- the most important week of the entire Church Year!

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: “Herzlich tut mich verlangen” – J. Pachelbel

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.**

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna to the Son of David!**

Collect

Holy Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 19:28-40

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: **In the name of the Lord.**



Procession of Palms

(Starting with those in the **back pews**, worshipers please follow the Pastor up the center aisle to receive your palm at the altar and return by the side aisle. All the while we sing “All Glory, Laud, and Honor.”)

Congregation: 442 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

(Refrain) All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.



You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. *(Refrain)*

The company of angels is praising You on high;
And we with all creation in chorus make reply. *(Refrain)*

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before You went
Our praise and prayer and anthems before You we present. *(Refrain)*

All Glory, Laud and Honor (cont'd)

To You, before Your Passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To You, now high exalted, our melody we raise. (*Refrain*)

As You received their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev'ry blessing, our good and gracious King. (*Refrain*)

Response P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David!

Collect

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ,
to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross.
Mercifully grant
that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience
and be made partakers of His resurrection;
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 32:36-39

Psalm 118:19-29



¹⁹Open to me the gates of | righteousness,*
that I may enter through them and
give thanks | to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate | of the LORD;*
the righteous shall enter | through it.

²¹I thank you that you have | answered me*
and have become my sal- | vation.

²²The stone that the builders re- | jected*
has become the | cornerstone.

²³This is the LORD's | doing;*
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

²⁵Save us, we pray, | O LORD!*
O LORD, we pray, give | us success!

²⁶Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of
the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the
LORD.

²⁷The LORD is God, and he has made his
light to shine up- | on us.*

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
up to the horns of the | altar!

²⁸You are my God, and I will give | thanks
to you;*

you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.

²⁹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is
good;*

for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

**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: Philippians 2:5-11

Hymn of the Day: 443 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to St. Luke (Luke 22:39 – 23:49-56)

Hymn: 444 No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

Nicene Creed

Blessing of the Candle Lighter Stands

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:

Bridenbaugh/Gewecke families	Death of John (Cheryl's father)	Gewecke
Boniecki family	Death of Rose	McAllister

For those with health concerns:

Pat McCann	Janice Nuneviller	Cole Garrow	Barbara Nixon	Sid	Greg
Gordon Anderson	Donna Poucel	Lolly Hoagland	Claudia Zucker	Susan	Zane
Fran Byrzkinsy	Pete Serone	John Tarlo	Grant and Noah	Chris	JoAnne
Claudia Zucker	John O'Neil	Claire Haenisch	Monica Benesch	Rose	Claire
Kay Compton	Bob Van Hise	Terry Farley	Phil Unetic	Beverly	Barbara
George DiCostanzo	Freda Potts	Carl Lauricella	Kathy	Mary	Brennan

For those with cancer:

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

For those with needs around the world:

Persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ	For protection, strength, comfort, spread of Gospel
Government officials and people of our nation	For peace, unity, safety, and wisdom
Those coping with disasters – Himes family	For provision and help
Those in need of employment	For provision of jobs
Wars in Europe and Middle East	For peace, forgiveness, and guidance
Family of Olga Nichols living in Ukraine	For health, safety, and provision

For those serving in the armed forces:

LJ Lupinacci	Carrick Porter	Emily Arndt	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 '25-'26

Birthdays:

John Maguire	April 16	Liam McAllister	April 18
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Anniversaries:

Jason and Jenna Bloom	April 19	Doug and Kathy Hill	April 19
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Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Instrumental Offertory: “Jesu meine Freude” – J.S. Bach

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.

The 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: 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, Lord God of pow’r and might:

Heaven 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.

Distribution Hymn: 618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving (page 183)

Benediction (page 183)

Closing Hymn: 433 Glory Be to Jesus

Postlude: “Herzlich tut mit verlangen” – J. G. Walther



TAKE IT FURTHER: Today's Opening Hymn LSB 442, All Glory, Laud, and Honor

This familiar hymn which we associate so strongly with Palm Sunday likely dates all the way back to between 817-821. It is attributed to Theodulf, (ca.760-821), who was bishop of Orléans (in present-day France). He had been banished to a monastery in Angers for suspected complicity in a plot to overthrow King Louis the Pious. The legend is that Theodulf sang this hymn from his cell as the king passed by, which moved the king to order his release. However, there is no record of the facts to verify that this is true. At any rate, since its subject matter is so closely tied to the events of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we enjoy processing to this piece each year as we celebrate this season.

-Concordia Publishing House. *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns*. (2019), p. 292-294

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 under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Announcements – Week of April 13, 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: Steve deDufour (Communion Assistant and Reader), Andy Wright (Acolyte), Scott Garrow and Dave deDufour (Ushers), MaryAnne Reside (Communion/coffee set-up), 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/K_MIdfu6KnQ If you miss the service live, watch it whenever you like! The services are also posted after the fact to the [church's website](#).

Blessing of Candle Lighter Stands. This Sunday's service includes the blessing of two stands that will hold our candle lighters. These stands are made of gold-painted steel and were purchased with memorial funds by the family of Richard W. deDufour. We give thanks to God for this gift to beautify our sanctuary and remember that Jesus is the Light of the world!

Sunday 8:15am Bible Study. This Sunday our study of the Ten Commandments continues with the 5th commandment: "You shall not murder." (Exodus 20:13). Jesus taught that this simple sounding command extends beyond the taking of life to include the harm we can do with our actions, words, and even thoughts. Also, how does this apply to specific issues such as abortion, self-harm, substance abuse, doctor assisted suicide, and capital punishment?

Discussion Group continues this week after service at 11:00. Join us for some deeper discussion around the morning readings.

Weekly Schedule:

MONDAY (4/14)	5:30pm Planning Council Meeting
THURSDAY (4/17)	9:45/11:15am NS Chapel services; 7:30pm Maundy Thursday service
FRIDAY (4/18)	12:00 Noon Good Friday Service at Bethany, 7:30pm Good Friday service
SATURDAY (4/19)	10:00am Nursery School Easter Egg Hunt
SUNDAY (4/20)	8:00am & 10:30am Easter services; 9am Easter Breakfast; 10am Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study. Our evening classes are now on break through season of Lent. We'll resume our bible studies on May 7th !

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

Spring Clean-up Day - Saturday April 12th 8:30am - Noon. Bring your shovels, rakes, clippers, gloves, wheelbarrows and cleaning supplies to help spruce up the property before Easter. We will be working inside and outside the building. If you can't make it on Saturday a task list will be posted on the bulletin board for anyone who wants to work during the week. A light breakfast will be served starting at 8am.

Operation Christmas Child. In April we will be collecting plastic tumblers (dollar store 3/\$1 are perfect), washcloths, and note-pads. Place in the box in the narthex. There is also a jar in the narthex to make donations toward the shipping costs - thanks so much!

St. Peter National Youth Gathering Easter Breakfast Fundraiser. The St. Peter delegation for the New Orleans Youth Gathering will be serving and helping with this year's Easter Breakfast and collecting free-will donations to put toward our outstanding trip expenses. Special thanks to Steve deDufour and Jim and Shirley Yost for helping coordinate our involvement. We're excited to be able to serve the congregation in this way and can't wait to share more about our fun plans for this summer. Be sure to take a look at the poster display in the Narthex. *If anyone has a Thrivent Action Gift card they could donate, we are looking for gift cards to pay for travel food for our trips down and back. Thank you!*

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.

The Prayer Shawl/Lap Blanket Ministry. Join us in making 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.

Service and Other

Lambertville Food Pantry. Please grab some non-perishable items at the grocery store to add to our food pantry collection box in the narthex. April's collection is Pasta - any varieties of noodles and sauces!

Faithfulness Report: Attendance April 6: 65/6 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$ 6257
Loan Angel: \$1000 Debt reduction: \$120

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> .

St. Peter YouTube Channel. Increase St. Peter's online visibility by liking and subscribing to our YouTube channel (where we live-stream and record our worship services and Wednesday Zoom bible studies. It is linked to our church website, or go to YouTube and search "Saint Peter Lutheran Church".

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:

Maundy Thursday Service	Thursday, April 17, 7:30 PM
*Good Friday at Bethany	Friday, April 18, 12:00 PM
Good Friday Service	Friday, April 18, 7:30 PM
Nursery School Egg Hunt	Saturday, April 19, 10:00 AM
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



PALM SUNDAY/SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 32:36–39

- ³⁶ The LORD will vindicate his people
and have compassion on his servants,
when he sees that their power is gone
and there is none remaining, bond or free.
- ³⁷ Then he will say, "Where are their gods,
the rock in which they took refuge,
³⁸ who ate the fat of their sacrifices
and drank the wine of their drink offering?
Let them rise up and help you;
let them be your protection!
- ³⁹ "See now that I, even I, am he,
and there is no god beside me;
I kill and I make alive;
I wound and I heal;
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand."

Epistle: Philippians 2:5–11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Holy Gospel: Luke 23:1–36

¹Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. ²And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king." ³And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man." ⁵But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place."

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. ⁹So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹²And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. ¹⁶I will therefore punish and release him."

¹⁷But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"—¹⁸a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for

murder. ²⁰Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²²A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." ²³But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

²⁶And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

⁴⁴It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. ⁴⁹And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

⁵⁰Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, ⁵¹who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. ⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. ⁵⁴It was the Day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments.

On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.