



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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 1, 2025

Our mission:

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

Welcome. When stories about the Christian Church and her leaders appear in headlines today, it may cause us to shake our heads in dismay. Some of these negative stories reflect the bias of a secular culture; many we have brought upon ourselves. God's Church is far from perfect! And yet Scripture calls her the Bride of Christ, beloved and holy in His eyes. Today's readings remind us how God led the apostles through the failure and loss of Judas to restore unity and renew their mission to the world (Acts 1). Sent into the world (John 17), our mission is to carry the healing gifts of Christ to the nations (Rev. 22). "Built on the Rock the Church shall stand, even when steeples are falling!" (LSB 645)

A special welcome to all our visitors this morning. 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: As Lutheran Christians we practice "close communion." This means that all who participate in this holy meal are affirming the Lutheran understanding of the Lord's Supper; that Christ's body and blood are truly present in the bread and wine and that the forgiveness of sins is given to those who trust him as their Savior and desire to serve him with a holy life. Baptized believers who share this faith with us are welcome at the Lord's Table. If you are uncertain about the teachings on the Lord's Supper we encourage you to speak with the Pastor before participating.

Divine Service, Setting One

LSB page 151

The Preparation



Prelude: “Allein Gott in der Hoeh' sei Ehr” – J. Vetter

Words of Welcome

Invocation, Confession and Absolution (page 151)

Entrance Hymn: 493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (st. 1-4)

Kyrie (page 152)

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 155)

C: (*Refrain*) **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (*Refrain*)

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. (*Refrain*)

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (*Refrain*)

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (*Refrain*)

The Service of the Word

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O King of glory, Lord of hosts,
uplifted in triumph far above all heavens,
leave us not without consolation
but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



First Reading: Acts 1:12-26 (see back cover)

Psalm: Psalm 133



¹ Behold, how good and pleasant it is*
when brothers dwell in unity!

² It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down on the beard, on the
beard of Aaron,*
running down on the collar of his
robes!

³ It is like the dew of Hermon, which
falls on the mountains of Zion!*
For there the LORD has commanded
the blessing, life forevermore.

**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.**

Second Reading: Revelation 22:1-6, 12-20 (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. John, the 17th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

John 17:20-26 (see back cover)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

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

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 645 Built on the Rock (st. 1-2, 5)

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:

For the Jones/Inderbitzin families

Death of Jim Jones

Farley

For those with health concerns:

Tom Dorsett	Pat McCann	Bill Akers	Barbara Nixon	Sid	Greg
Hank Van Beuzekom	Donna Poucel	Lolly Hoagland	Rick Wright	Susan	Zane
Fran Byrzkinsky	Pete Serone	John Tarlo	Grant and Noah	Chris	JoAnne
Claudia Zucker	John O'Neil	Claire Haenisch	Monica Benesch	Rose	Barbara
Gordon Anderson	Carl Lauricella	Terry Farley	Ursula Chirico	Beverly	
George DiCostanzo	Freda Potts	Dave Yost	Joanne	Mary	
Linda Wright	Pat Dietz	Phil Unetic	Anna	Claire	
Kay Compton	Drew Klesat	Mary Cobriere	Kristin	Brennan	

For those with cancer:

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



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

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	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
Those who are traveling	For safety and provision

Birthdays:

Audrey deDufour	June 2	Hank Van Beuzekom	June 5
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Anniversaries:

Mark and Liz Lange	June 1
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The Service of the Sacrament

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory: 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 blestest 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 Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

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.”)

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: 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

Post Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord (page 164)

C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction (page 166)

Closing Hymn: 829 Christ the Eternal Lord (st. 1, 4-5)

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD! **C: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: “Prelude in F” – M. Camidge

TAKE IT FURTHER: Today’s Hymn of the Day, LSB 645 Built on the Rock

There is speculation that the Danish pastor, teacher, historian, poet, and author N. F. S. Grundtvig (1783-1872) wrote this hymn after seeing the destruction following the English bombardment of the old cathedral in Copenhagen, Church of Our Lady. It perfectly reflected Grundtvig’s conviction that the Church is like “an old house” that stands even though towers may fall or sink into the ground. It is closely based on Matthew 7, where Jesus says that “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.” We are so thankful to have Jesus as our strong foundation!

-Concordia Publishing House. *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns*. (2019), p. 807-809

Memory Verse Challenge: Revelation 22:17

And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

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 Assistant), Lydia Bloom (Reader), Juliet Behnfeldt (Acolyte), Dave deDufour and Scott Garrow (Ushers), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming and Communion and coffee clean-up), Amy Van Hise (Communion and coffee set up)

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

<https://youtube.com/live/dWC5H3MOcY0> If you miss the service live, watch it whenever you like! The services are also posted to the church's website.

8:15am Sunday Bible Study. This Sunday (6-1) we will continue our study of selections from the book of Romans. Our focus will be on Romans 5:1-11. Paul presents Jesus' death on the cross as an act of reconciliation between God and humankind. This declaration of peace from God has profound meaning for how Christians understand our suffering in this life and how we deal with it. What does it say about Jesus that he died for us while we were still lost in our sins and enemies of God?

Join us for the after-service Discussion Group. Dig deeper into today's scripture readings following the service in the fellowship hall.

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study. This coming week (6-4) we'll be studying together 1 Peter 2:13-25. Building on his call for holy conduct in the previous passage, Peter expounds on why it's important for Christians to show respect to earthly institutions and roles of authority. Christ was no political revolutionary figure. He endured suffering at the hands of an unjust regime and used sacrificial love as the means to spread his kingdom and "overcome evil with good" (Rom.12:21). What guidance does Peter offer for our own relationships with authority (at all levels of society) today? Join the conversation!

Weekly Schedule:

WEDNESDAY (6/4)	7:30p Zoom Bible Study
THURSDAY (6/5)	9:45/11:15a Nursery School Chapels
SATURDAY (6/7)	9:30a Partners in Mission meeting in Princeton
SUNDAY (6/8)	8:15a Sunday School/Adult Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11:00a Discussion Group

Mark your Calendars: Recognition for our Music Director - Chris Fusco.



Last month marked ten years that Chris Fusco has so ably and faithfully served as St. Peter's music director. What a blessing he has been to our congregation with his many gifts! On **Sunday, June 29** we will express our appreciation to him with a presentation after the service and cake reception following. Join us!

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

Operation Christmas Child. Pick up the gold sheet on the narthex table with a list of the things we still need before the July 31 packing party. 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!

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. June's collection is Baking and Cooking products: flour, sugar, salt, cooking oil, vinegar, baking powder, baking soda etc

Faithfulness Report: Attendance 5/25: 48/6 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$3597
Flowers: \$25

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 this week in honor of Audrey deDufour's birthday.

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

St. Peter's is warmly invited to Joey's Graduation Open House

Friday, June 20th 5pm-9pm at the parsonage.

Come congratulate the graduate!



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 1:12–26

¹²Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶"Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ¹⁸(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰"For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

"May his camp become desolate,
and let there be no one to dwell in it";

and

"Let another take his office."

²¹"So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Epistle: Revelation 22:1–6, 12–20

¹Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him.

⁴They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

⁶And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place." . . .

¹²"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. ¹⁵Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

¹⁸I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

²⁰He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Holy Gospel: John 17:20–26

²⁰[Jesus said:] "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."