

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

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 2025

Our mission:

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

Welcome. The Lord finds those who did not seek Him or ask for Him. He spreads out His hands “to a rebellious people” (Is. 65:2) and calls them to dwell in peace upon His holy mountain (Is. 65:9). For wherever Jesus Christ enters in, Satan is cast out. Those who were enslaved and driven mad by the assaults and accusations of the devil are set free by the Word of Christ (Luke 8:27). For us, Jesus came in “the fullness of time” (Gal. 4:4) to fulfill the Law on our behalf and to redeem us from its every accusation. Therefore, having been justified by His grace through faith in His Gospel, “you are no longer a slave, but a son” (Gal. 4:7).

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 Four

LSB page 203

Prelude: “Lobe den Herren” – J.G. Walther

Words of Welcome

Invocation, Confession and Absolution (page 203)

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

Opening Hymn: 798 The God of Abraham Praise (st. 1-3)

Kyrie (page 204)

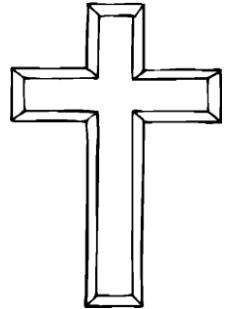
P: In peace let us pray to the Lord...

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

(The congregation sings this in response to each petition.)

Hymn of Praise To God on High Be Glory (page 204)

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth.
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav’nly King.



To You, O sole begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
 O Lamb of God, our Savior; You take our sins away.
 Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
 Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
 Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
 You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
 In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.



Prayer of the Day (page 205)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

O God,

You have prepared for those who love You
 such good things as surpass our understanding.

Cast out all sins and evil desires from us,
 and pour into our hearts Your Holy Spirit
 to guide us into all blessedness;

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: Isaiah 65:1-9 (see back cover)

Psalm 3



¹ O LORD, how many | are my foes! ^{*}
 Many are rising a- | gainst me;
² many are saying | of my soul, ^{*}
 there is no salvation for | him in God.

³ But you, O LORD, are a shield
 a- | bout me, ^{*}
 my glory, and the lifter | of my head.

⁴ I cried aloud | to the LORD, ^{*}
 and he answered me from his | holy
 hill.

⁵ I lay | down and slept, ^{*}
 I woke again, for the LORD
 sus- | tained me.

⁶ I will not be afraid of many thousands
 of | people ^{*}
 who have set themselves against
 me | all around.

⁷ Arise, O LORD! Save me, O my God!
 For you strike all my enemies | on the
 cheek; ^{*}
 you break the teeth of the | wicked.

⁸ Salvation belongs | to the LORD; ^{*}
 your blessing be on your | people!

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: Galatians 3:23-4:7 (see back cover)

Alleluia and Verse (page 205)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Luke 8:26-39

Acclamations (spoken): **Glory to you, O Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed (see the inside back cover of the hymnal)

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day: 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

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:

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

For those with cancer:

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



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:

Bryan Hill	June 23	Steven Reside	June 24
Bill Kianka	June 25	Haethyr Johnson	June 27

Anniversaries:

Rick and Sherri Wright	June 25	Lauren and Shane Sweigart	June 25
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Offering

Instrumental Offertory: "Interlude" – Anonymous (18th Century)

Order of Holy Communion (page 208)

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, O Lord our God... Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven...

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed...

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

C: Amen.

C: O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: 629 What Is This Bread

Nunc Dimittis

C: O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace;
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.



Post-Communion Collect p. 212

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen

Benedicamus and Benediction (page 212)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and...

C: Amen

Closing Hymn: 533 Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure (st. 1,4)

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Toccata in e minor" – J. Pachelbel





Announcements – Week of June 22, 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: Fred Grube (Communion Assistant and Reader), Liam McAllister (Acolyte), Joe Gallagher and Mark McAllister (Ushers), Mark McAllister (Live-streaming), Judy Grube and Leslie Klesat (Communion and coffee set-up and clean-up).

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

<https://youtube.com/live/uMMvbwkOzMU> 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 (6-22) we will continue our study of selections from the book of Romans. Our focus will be on **Romans 10:1-17**. Paul emphasizes in this passage how God wants all people to hear the Gospel of salvation through Jesus and put their trust in it. But he also says that believing requires hearing, which shows the great importance of evangelism preaching.

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study. This coming week (6-25) will be our final class before taking a break for the summer. We'll look at **1 Peter 5:1-14**. In this final chapter, Peter addresses church leaders and exhorts them to serve God's flock as under-shepherds of Christ. All Christians are to live their lives in humility, watchfulness, and resistance to the devil's schemes. Which promises of God are most effective in helping us combat anxiety? Join us!

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

Weekly Schedule:

MONDAY (6/23)	5:30p Planning Council meeting
TUESDAY (6/24)	6a Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's
WEDNESDAY (6/25)	7:30p Zoom Bible Study
SATURDAY (6/28)	AM Wedding @ St. Peter
SUNDAY (6/29)	8:15a Adult Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11a Reception for Chris Fusco

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! Next **Sunday, June 29** we will express our appreciation to him with a presentation after the service and cake reception following. Join us!

You are invited! Installation Service for Rev. Luke David Elowsky at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in East Brunswick, NJ will take place on Sun, June 29 at 3:00 pm.

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: (Not available at time of printing- will be published next week)

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 Steven Reside'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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 65:1–9

- 1 I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me;
I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me.
I said, "Here am I, here am I,"
to a nation that was not called by my name.
- 2 I spread out my hands all the day
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;
- 3 a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and making offerings on bricks;
- 4 who sit in tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat pig's flesh,
and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels;
- 5 who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."
These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all the day.
- 6 Behold, it is written before me:
"I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their bosom
- 7 both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together,
says the LORD;
because they made offerings on the mountains
and insulted me on the hills,
I will measure into their bosom
payment for their former deeds."
- 8 Thus says the LORD:
"As the new wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, 'Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,'
so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.
- 9 I will bring forth offspring from Jacob,
and from Judah possessors of my mountains;
my chosen shall possess it,
and my servants shall dwell there."

Epistle: Galatians 3:23–4:7

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if

you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

⁴¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Holy Gospel: Luke 8:26–39

²⁶Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. ³¹And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³²Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.