



# St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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Rev. Jon Dunbar, Pastor (402) 641-4813

Chris Fusco, Music Director

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Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

## Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*September 28, 2025*

### **Our mission:**

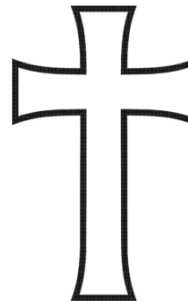
*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,  
honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.*

**Welcome.** Contentment is one of God's most precious gifts. This morning's readings offer us both warnings and positive admonitions about our relationship to wealth. The prophet Amos announces "woe to those who are at ease in Zion", and find comfort in material security but forsake the LORD (Amos 6). Jesus' story of the poor man Lazarus and the rich man who ignored him shows us the eternal dangers that lie in trusting in money to save us (Luke 16). Paul urges the wealthy "not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches," but "to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share" (1 Tim. 6). In Christ, we find the contentment that only eternal security can give!

**Welcome guests!** We are delighted you are with us for worship this morning. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Jon and fill out a green visitor card (in the pewback). 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.

## PREPARATION



### PRELUDE

### 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**    537    Beautiful Savior

**KYRIE**     *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

Pastor: In peace, in peace,

Assistant:

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

Congregation:

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

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.

## 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**  
**C**  
**P**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God,

You are the strength of all who trust in You,  
and without Your aid we can do no good thing.

Grant us the help of Your grace  
that we may please You in both will and deed;  
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:** Amos 6:1-7 (see back)

**PSALM 146** (read responsively by verse)

P: Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P: Put not your trust in princes,  
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

**C: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;  
on that very day his plans perish.**

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD his God,

**C: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,  
who keeps faith forever;**

P: who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets the prisoners free;

**C: the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.  
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

P: The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**C: The LORD will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

**All: 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**

**EPISTLE:** 1 Timothy 3:1-13

**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 16th chapter.  
**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Luke 16:19-31*

**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 MESSAGE

**HYMN OF THE DAY** 793 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

## SERMON

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

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

### *For comfort:*

The Fry family	death of Jane	Teschke
The Van Beuzekom family	death of Hank	Dunbar
The Kirk family	death of Charlie	Lauricella

### *For those with health concerns:*

Don Hammond	Sandy Hammond	Carla Behnfeldt	Greg	Sid
Ursula Chirico	Bill Akers	Lolly Hoagland	Noah	Susan
Fran Byrzkinsy	Pete Serone	John Tarlo	Grant	Chris
Tom Dorsett	John O'Neil	Phil Unetic	Adel	Rose
Wendy Beckerman	Marge Keen	Catie Lauricella	Claire	Jan
George DiCostanzo	Tony Shiron	Rick Wright	Barbara	Mary
Katherine Eccleston	Kay Compton	Joanne	Zane	JoAnne
Linda Wright	Pat Dietz	Noah	Anna	
Kay Compton	Mary Cobriere	Beverly	Irene	
Monica Benesch	John Bonasera	Kristin	Brennan	

### *For those with cancer:*

Rich Knechel	Karen Shevchuk	Gerry Campbell	Howard Zahn	Trudy
Carol Tezla	Steve Saumsiegle	Brad Hoppe	Carol Storr	Lance



Kim McCollough	Nancy Gilliland	Aunt Jean	Mary Anne	Joe
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling	Kaleigh Moore	Sally Ashmen	Dora	Jerry
Rich deDufour	Logan Mattessich	Frank Cignus	Doris	Lynn
Aaron Kline	Frumi C	Judy Bacorn	Barbara	Dawn
Joan Rawls	Rosalie Reinbacher	Dave Bond	Dana	
Tom Sullivan	Terry Dunbar	Keith Watson	Jason	

***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 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/flooding	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

***For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:***

For staff and families

for '25-'26 school year

**Birthdays:**

David deDufour	September 26	Norm Klesat	October 2	Matthew Heebner	October 4
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**Anniversaries:**

David and Lesley deDufour	September 28	Bob and Amy Van Hise	October 1
Richard and Emily Thieme	October 2		

**GATHERING OF THE OFFERING AND OFFERTORY**

**Instrumental Offertory**

**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



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

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** And also with you.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...  
**C** Amen.

### SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy (LSB p. 208)*

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9–13*

### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

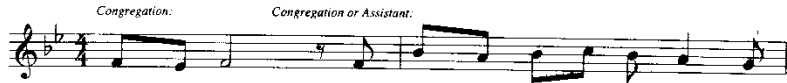
### PAX DOMINI *The Peace of the Lord*

*John 20:19*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** And also with you.

## AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God*

*Congregation:* *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the  
you are the bread of life for us  
you are the way of jus - tice and

*Congregation:*




world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
all:  
peace:

*Congregation:* *Congregation or Assistant:*



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** 636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN** 549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (st. 1-3)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!



## **Announcements – Week of September 28, 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: Tyson Wilhelm (Communion Assistant), Nicholas Wilhelm (Acolyte), Amy Van Hise (Reader), Dave deDufour and Fred Grube (Ushers), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming), Judy Grube and Lesley deDufour (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/QX0qm2Eu6X8> If you miss the service live, watch it whenever you like! The services are also posted to the church's website.

**Sunday Bible Study: Jonah - God's Reluctant Prophet.** Today we continue the study of the book of Jonah. You probably know the prophet best from Sunday School as the man who tried to run away from God and got swallowed by a big fish! We'll dig deeper into the text and talk about God's mercy toward non-believers, the power of His Word to change hearts, and how Jonah's life bears a typological resemblance to Christ.

**A Study of The Epistle of 1 John - Wednesdays via ZOOM.** Join us on Wednesdays at 7:30pm as we read together 1 John. We'll discuss its main themes which include the perennial newness of Christ's "old" command to love one another, the source of a Christian's assurance of salvation, and the distinction between genuine and spurious faith. Ask Pastor Jon to add you to his email list to receive the Zoom link if you'd like to join in.

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

**Classical Violin Concert.** This October, St. Peter will be hosting an evening of classical violin music, led by violinist (and granddaughter of the Grube's), Kate Arndt! She is the Assistant Concertmaster for the Colorado Symphony and a Doctoral Candidate at Yale. She also tours the country with a variety of ensembles. Accompanying Kate on the piano will be our very own Allison Fog! Kate's performance at St. Peter will be on **Thursday, October 30th at 7pm**. It is open to the public and free admission. Mark your calendars and tell your friends about this unique opportunity to hear a world class musician!

**IMPACT High School Youth Group** starts up again this fall, beginning today from 6:30-8:30pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Flemington. This group meets twice monthly and brings together high school youth from area churches. It is entirely youth-led and includes food, games, devotions and time to hang out and build Christian friendships. Talk to Juliet Behnfeldt or Pastor Jon if you'd like to learn more or are interested in carpooling.

**Seeking a Delegate to 2026 Synodical Convention.** Next summer the LC-MS will be holding its triennial convention, to be held **July 18-23 in Phoenix, AZ**. St. Peter's has the opportunity to nominate a layperson from our membership who would *potentially* serve as a delegate representing NJ circuits 5 & 6. If elected by the circuits, this delegate would be responsible to attend the convention and report back on its proceedings. All expenses for the trip are covered by the NJ District. Please visit with Pastor Jon if interested.

### **Weekly Schedule:**

WEDNESDAY (10/1)      4:30p Confirmation Class; 7:30p Zoom Bible Study  
THURSDAY (10/2)      9:45/11:15a Nursery School Chapels  
SUNDAY (10/5)          8:15a Adult Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11a Discussion Group;  
2:30p Circuit Forum

**You are invited to a free architectural walking tour of the Princeton University campus,** led by University Architect Emeritus Jon Hlafter, member of the Lutheran Church of the Messiah in Princeton: **Sunday, Oct. 12, at 1:30pm.** Meet at the FitzRandolph Gate at the intersection of Nassau & Witherspoon Streets in Princeton. Parking is available in the nearby Spring Street parking garage behind the Princeton Public Library building. There is a limit of ~20 participants -- to register, email the name of each participant to Messiah's pastor, Martin Erhardt, at LCMprinceton@gmail.com . Please include one cell phone number per household. If you need to cancel, email Pastor Erhardt by 8:30am on Oct. 12 (no-shows will be on his Naughty List.) The tour will end at approximately 3:30pm.

**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. October's theme is ***Pasta:*** spaghetti, elbows, ziti, penne, linguini, i.e. noodles of any shape, as well as pasta sauce

### **Faithfulness Report:**

Attendance 9/21: 58/ 7 online                      Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$ 3118  
Debt relief: \$50                                      Memorial gift: \$100

**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 by Audrey deDufour in honor of  
Dave and Lesley deDufour's anniversary.**

**Website and Facebook.** Come online to check us out! Our website is at [www.stpeternj.org](http://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> . Don't miss the **St. Peter YouTube Channel**, which is linked to our church website, or go to YouTube and search "Saint Peter Lutheran Church".

### **Important web links:**

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod    [lcms.org](http://lcms.org)  
NJ District LCMS            [njdistrict.org](http://njdistrict.org)  
LCMS World Relief and Human Care    [lcms.org/ca/worldrelief](http://lcms.org/ca/worldrelief)  
The "Lutheran Hour" Broadcast    [lhm.org](http://lhm.org)

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Old Testament Reading:

#### Amos 6:1–7

- <sup>1</sup> “Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,  
and to those who feel secure on the  
mountain of Samaria,  
the notable men of the first of the  
nations,  
to whom the house of Israel comes!  
<sup>2</sup> Pass over to Calneh, and see,  
and from there go to Hamath the  
great;  
then go down to Gath of the  
Philistines.  
Are you better than these kingdoms?  
Or is their territory greater than your  
territory,  
<sup>3</sup> O you who put far away the day of  
disaster  
and bring near the seat of violence?  
<sup>4</sup> “Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory  
and stretch themselves out on their  
couches,  
and eat lambs from the flock  
and calves from the midst of the stall,  
<sup>5</sup> who sing idle songs to the sound of the  
harp  
and like David invent for themselves  
instruments of music,  
<sup>6</sup> who drink wine in bowls  
and anoint themselves with the finest  
oils,  
but are not grieved over the ruin of  
Joseph!  
<sup>7</sup> Therefore they shall now be the first of  
those who go into exile,  
and the revelry of those who stretch  
themselves out shall pass away.”

### Epistle: 1 Timothy 3:1–13

<sup>1</sup>The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup>Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup>not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. <sup>4</sup>He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, <sup>5</sup>for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? <sup>6</sup>He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. <sup>7</sup>Moreover, he must be well thought

of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

<sup>8</sup>Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. <sup>9</sup>They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup>And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. <sup>11</sup>Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup>Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. <sup>13</sup>For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

### Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19–31

<sup>19</sup>[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, <sup>23</sup>and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. <sup>24</sup>And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. <sup>26</sup>And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ <sup>27</sup>And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ <sup>29</sup>But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ <sup>30</sup>And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ <sup>31</sup>He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”