

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, Admin Asst

Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 2025

Our mission:

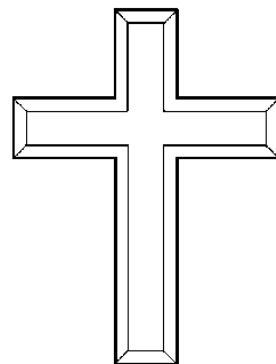
*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,
honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.*

Welcome. Today's psalm puts it well: "Great are the works of the LORD!" (Ps 111:2) God's power and mercy are displayed clearly in the lives of Ruth and the Samaritan leper, both of whom are delivered from desperate circumstances and brought into the healing presence of their Redeemer. As we meditate on these redemption stories, let's think about how the LORD has proven faithful in our lives. Remembering Jesus and his resurrection victory over sin and death, we endure all things, trusting that in the end "we will also reign with him." (2 Tim.2:12)

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 “Was frag ich nach der Welt” – J. G. Walther

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 reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C 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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

KYRIE *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

Pastor: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: 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: *Assistent:*

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.

Almighty God,

You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles.
Grant us always to recognize Your goodness,
give thanks for Your compassion,
and praise Your holy name;
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: Ruth 1:1-19a (see back)

PSALM 111



¹ Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,* in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

² Great are the works | of the LORD,* studied by all who de- | light in them.

³ Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,* and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

⁴ He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;* the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

⁶ He has shown his people the power | of his works,* in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

⁷ The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;* all his precepts are | trustworthy;

⁸ they are established forever and | ever,* to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.

⁹ He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.* Holy and awesome | is his name!

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.* His praise 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.**

ALLELUIA VERSE:



HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17th chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 17:11-19

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 895 Now Thank We All Our God

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

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

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

For comfort:

The Bond family	death of Dave	Miller
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For those with health concerns:

Don Hammond	Sandy Hammond	Sue Lauricella	Greg	Sid
Ursula Chirico	Bill Akers	Lolly Hoagland	Noah	Susan
Fran Byrzkinsky	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	Eric Teschke	Zane	JoAnne
Linda Wright	Pat Dietz	Carla Behnfeldt	Anna	Joanne
Kay Compton	Mary Cobriere	Dan Behnfeldt	Irene	Noah
Monica Benesch	John Bonasera	Kristin	Brennan	Beverly

For those with cancer:

Rich Knechel	Karen Shevchuk	Gerry Campbell	Howard Zahn	Trudy
Carol Tezla	Steve Saumsiegle	Brad Hoppe	Jenny Dillinger	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	Carol Storr	Dana	Lynn J.
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
Wars in Europe and Middle East
Family of Olga Nichols living in Ukraine

For provision of jobs
For peace, forgiveness, and guidance
For health, safety, and provision

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For staff and families

for '25-'26 school year

Birthdays:

Jenny Barrett October 12

Carol Farley October 17

Allison Fog October 18

Anniversaries:

Steve and Zen deDufour October 12

Greg and Kim Robinson October 13

GATHERING OF THE OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

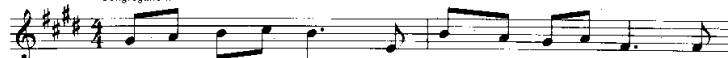
Instrumental Offertory

“Schmucke dich, o liebe seele.” – J. G. Walther

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.

To refrain

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.

Sharing of the Peace

(Please greet one another, saying: “The peace of the Lord be with you”, responding “And also with you.”)

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God*

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*

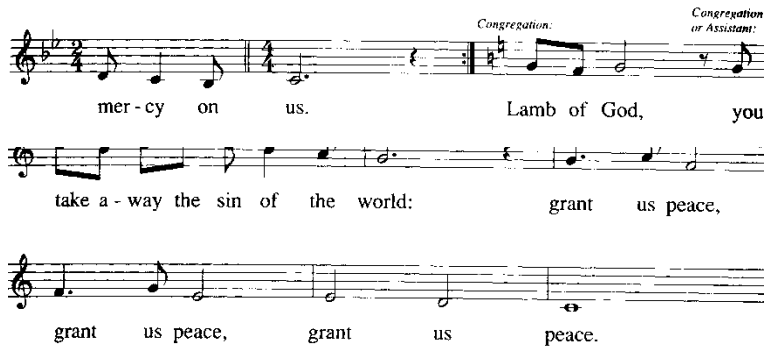


Lamb of God, you take a – way the sin of the
you are the bread of life for us
you are the way of jus – tice and

Congregation:



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



DISTRIBUTION HYMN 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

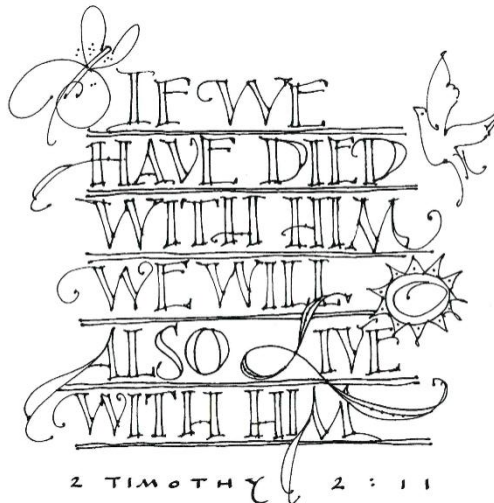
ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE "Jesu, meine Freude" – J. S. Bach





Announcements – Week of October 12, 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 reading), Andy Wright (Acolyte), Scott Garrow and Bob Maguire (Ushers), Jesse Dunbar (Live-streaming), Lillian Maguire and Amy Van Hise (Communion and coffee set-up and clean-up).

Today's service will be live streamed on You Tube. If you miss the service live, watch it whenever you like!

<https://youtube.com/live/qF3364LChKg> The services are also posted to the [church's website](#).

NEW Sunday Bible Study: Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. This morning we begin a new study on the best sermon ever preached! Covering chapters 5-7 of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus' Sermon on the Mount lays a foundation for what it means to be his disciples. We'll discuss the two major themes of the sermon, blessing and calling, and how these help sustain and shape our lives as Christians seeking to live faithfully today. Topics that Jesus addresses here include witnessing, the application of God's laws, prayer, fasting, and much more.

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 are discussing 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

NOAH October event is Friday, October 17. We will meet at the AMWELL DINER at noon for lunch, then a short drive south to PINE CREEK MINI GOLF for a championship round of 18 (or less). The FALL colors should be wonderful. Join us! Respond to this e-mail or sign-up on the bulletin board at church.

Evening of Mercy and Meditation on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 7 PM. Join us for this time of devotion, contemplation, song, and healing prayer, through interactive worship. Don't miss what can be a rare opportunity for peace and renewal. Invite a friend!

Funeral service for Larry Gering will be held at St. Peter on Friday, October 24 at 10:30am, followed by burial at Harbourton Cemetery. Larry is the son of Joan Gering. He passed away in 2024 at his home in Belfast, Maine. All are welcome to attend

Special Reformation Service. All are welcome to attend a special Reformation Commemoration Service on **Sunday, October 26 at 4:00pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church** in Lawrenceville. We are seeking singers for a choir piece in the service. Please talk to Pastor Jon if interested. Following the service there will be a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to share. An offering will be collected to fund baby care packages distributed by the local ChoiceOne pregnancy resource center.

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 Principal Second Violin for the Colorado Symphony and a Doctoral Candidate at Yale. She also tours the country with a variety of ensembles. Kate will be accompanied by Dakota Cotugno on the cello, and our very own Allison Fog on the piano! 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!

Ladies' Fall Tea. You are cordially invited to attend our Ladies' Fall Tea, November 1st, 2025 at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for a morning of devotion, songs, refreshments, and special musical program presented by Justin Nawn and Bronwyn Bird from The Birdhouse Center for the Arts in Lambertville. All ladies and young ladies of our congregation as well as guests are invited to attend. Please RSVP by calling 609-466-0939 or signing up in the Narthex. Attire is tea party dress.

Pennington Presbyterian is excited to host a Science and Faith event on Sunday, Nov. 2 from 3:30-5. It will feature Rev. Miriam Diephous McMillan, a Presbyterian Pastor and Chaplain at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital, and author of "Sacred Balance: How Ancient Practices Can Restore Modern Minds." The topic will be "Faith, the Brain, and Mental Well-Being." The event, held at Pennington Presbyterian, is free. It will also be live-streamed at pennpres.org/scienceandfaith

Weekly Schedule:

TUESDAY (10/14)	6:00a Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's Cafe
WEDNESDAY (10/15)	NO Confirmation or Zoom Bible Study; (NJ District Board Meeting)
THURSDAY (10/16)	9:45/11:15a Nursery School Chapel services
FRIDAY (10/17)	12:00p NOAH Seniors Lunch @ Amwell Diner/Mini-Golf at Pine Creek
SUNDAY (10/19)	8:15a Adult Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11a Discussion Group

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 10/5: 59/ 5 online	Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$ 6220		
Flowers: \$25	Memorial gift: \$100	Debt relief: \$50	HVAC donation: \$3360

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 Steve and Zen's 40th anniversary.**

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> . 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
NJ District LCMS njdistrict.org
LCMS World Relief and Human Care lcms.org/ca/worldrelief
The "Lutheran Hour" Broadcast lhm.org

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Ruth 1:1–19a

¹In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, ⁵and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. ¹⁰And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." ¹¹But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹²Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, ¹³would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me." ¹⁴Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to

me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." ¹⁸And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

¹⁹So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

Epistle: 2 Timothy 2:1–13

¹You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ²and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is trustworthy, for:

- If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
 - ¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;
 - if we deny him, he also will deny us;
 - ¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
- for he cannot deny himself.

Holy Gospel: Luke 17:11–19

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."