



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

Reformation (observed)

October 26, 2025

Our mission:

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

Welcome. The rallying cry of the Reformation includes five "solas" (meaning "alone" in Latin). Grace Alone - Our human nature is so corrupted by sin that nothing but God's undeserved favor can save us. Faith Alone - Our good works, important as they are, contribute nothing to our salvation. Christ Alone - Jesus Christ, by his perfect life, innocent death, and glorious resurrection, is our only Savior from sin and death. Scripture Alone - God's inspired Word is the only perfect source of truth. Glory to God Alone - God alone gets all the glory for our salvation. These are the truths we celebrate today!

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 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: 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: “Ein Feste Burg” – G. Bohm

Words of Welcome

Invocation, Confession and Absolution (page 151)

Entrance Hymn: 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

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 page 154 Gloria in Excelsis

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Service of the Word

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord,
pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.
Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth,
protect and deliver us in times of temptation,
defend us against all enemies,
and grant to Your Church Your saving peace;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



First Reading: Revelation 14:6-7 (see back cover)

Psalm: Psalm 46



¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength,*
a very present help in | trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear though
the | earth gives way,*
though the mountains be moved into

³ though its waters | roar and foam,*
though the mountains tremble at
its | swelling.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make
glad the cit- | y of God,*
the holy habitation of the | Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of her;
she shall | not be moved;*
God will help her when | morning
dawns.

⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms | totter;*
he utters his voice, the | earth melts.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is | with us;*
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

⁸ Come, behold the works | of the LORD,*
how he has brought desolations | on
the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end | of the
earth;*
he breaks the bow and shatters the
spear; he burns the chariots | with fire.

¹⁰ "Be still, and know that | I am God.*
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted | in the earth!"

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is | with us;*
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

**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 Reading: Romans 3:19-28 (see back cover)

Alleluia Verse (page 156) (*sung before and after the Verse of the Day*)

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

*Verse of the Day (Cantor): Fear not, / little flock, **

For it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the / kingdom. (Luke 12:32)

Gospel Reading:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

John 8:31-36 (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

Sermon

Presentation of Bibles

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:

The Van Sant family

death of Nate

Van Hise

For those with health concerns:

Clara McMahon

Andy Farley

Bob Aneskievich

Grant

Don Hammond

Carla Behnfeldt

Jan

Noah

Sue Lauricella

Dan Behnfeldt

Brennan

Zane

Shirley Yost

John Tarlo

Susan

Jenny Dillinger

Rick Wright

Beverly

Catie Lauricella

Kay Compton

Claire

Pete Serone

John O'Neil

Sid

Pat Dietz

Eric Teschke

Rose



For those with cancer:

Rich Knechel	Jenny Dillinger	Gerry Campbell	Howard Zahn	Trudy
Carol Tezla	Steve Saumsiegle	Brad Hoppe	Dawn	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	Lynn J.	
Joan Rawls	Rosalie Reinbacher	Carol Storr	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 St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For staff and families

for '25-'26 school year

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

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For staff and families

for '25-'26 school year

Birthdays:

Michael Hicks	October 26	Kairi Martinez	October 26
Maryellen (Heebner) Bailey	October 27	Vincenza deDufour	October 28

The Service of the Sacrament

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory: 785 We Praise You, O God (st 1&3)

**We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You; We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

**With voices united our praises we offer And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us. To You, our great Redeemer,
forever be praise!**

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... 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: 673 Jerusalem, My Happy Home

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: 644 The Church's One Foundation

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: “Ein feste Burg” – J. G. Walther





Announcements – Week of October 26, 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: Joe Scheblein (Communion Assistant), Jenn Garrow (Reader), Andy Wright (Acolyte), Bob Maguire and Jesse Dunbar (Ushers), Amy Van Hise (Live-streaming), Shirley Yost and Amy Van Hise (Communion and coffee set-up and clean-up).

Today's service will be live streamed on You Tube at this link: <https://youtube.com/live/WIS8-W2pomk>. If you miss the service live, watch it whenever you like! The services are also posted to the church's website.

Sunday Bible Study: Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. This morning we continue our 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

Fall Cleanup this week – Our annual cleanup began on Saturday. If you couldn't make it, feel free to work on a task during the week. There is a list of tasks posted on the bulletin board including both inside and outside tasks. If you have any questions contact Jim Yost 609 480 1669.

Special Reformation Service. All are welcome to attend a special Reformation Commemoration Service **today, October 26 at 4:00pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church** in Lawrenceville. 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 **Thursday, October 30 at 7PM** 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! The performance 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 speaker and author Rev. Miriam Diephous McMillan, a Presbyterian Pastor and Chaplain at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital. 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

Special Veteran's Day Recognition. Veterans Day, November 11, is rapidly approaching. We will celebrate with our veterans on **Sunday, November 9.** This year we would like to make a special recognition of all the veterans in our congregation, recognizing each individual, or family with veterans, or active military. We do not want to miss anyone so we really need your help! Please use the bulletin insert to provide Amy with the: name, branch of service, relation, and any foreign war service. Thanks so much!

Weekly Schedule:

MONDAY (10/27)	5:30p Planning Council meeting
TUESDAY (10/28)	6a Men's Breakfast at Orlando's; 8:00-3:30p Fall Pastors Conference
WEDNESDAY (10/29)	4:30p Confirmation Class; 7:30p Zoom Bible Study
THURSDAY (10/30)	9:45/11:15a Nursery School Chapel services; 7:00p Classical Violin Concert
SUNDAY (11/2)	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

Faithfulness Report: Attendance 10/19: 45 / 7 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$ 3195
Loan angel: \$650

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 Chris Fusco's birthday by his wife Trish Scalese.

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".

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

REFORMATION DAY (OBSERVED)

First Reading:

Revelation 14:6–7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Epistle: Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that

is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Holy Gospel: John 8:31–36

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."