

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Chris Fusco, Music Director

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Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

Our mission:

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

Welcome! What causes one person to doubt and another to believe? Often, this is a great mystery to us. Jesus once said, "The wind blows where it wills...So it is with everyone born of the Spirit" (John 3:8). Fear of persecution kept the disciples from believing, until Jesus appeared and brought his divine peace into the room. Thomas would not believe in Jesus' resurrection until he could see and touch the scars for himself. Yet again, Jesus appeared and brought Thomas to faith. Our Lord pursues the doubters of His Word still today in all manner of ways. And that includes using you and your faith as an example and inspiration for others to follow.

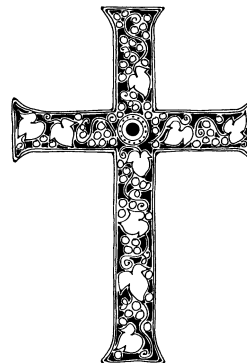
Welcome guests! We are delighted you are with us for worship this morning. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Jon and fill out a green visitor card (in the pewback). The order of service is printed in this bulletin starting on page 2. A cryroom is available at the back left of the sanctuary for families 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.

Divine Service, Setting One

LSB page 151

The Preparation



Prelude

Words of Welcome

Invocation, Confession and Absolution (page 151)

Opening Hymn: 467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (st. 1-3)

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 Gloria in Excelsis (page 154)

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

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

Almighty God,

grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection,
may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation

that Jesus is Lord and God;

through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



First Reading: Acts 5:29-42

Psalm 148



¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from
the heavens; *
praise him in the heights!

² Praise him, all his angels; *
praise him, all his hosts!

³ Praise him, sun and moon, *
praise him, all you shining stars!

⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens!

⁵ Let them praise the name of the
LORD! *
For he commanded and they were
created.

⁶ And he established them forever
and ever; *
he gave a decree, and it shall
not pass away.

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, *
you great sea creatures and all deeps,

⁸ fire and hail, snow and mist, *
stormy wind fulfill- ing his word!

⁹ Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰ Beasts and all livestock, *
creeping things and flying birds!

¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹² Young men and maidens to- gether, *
old men and children!

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is ex- alted; *
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his saints, *
for the people of Israel who are near
to him. Praise the LORD!

**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 Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Alleluia Verse page 156

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Verse of the Day (Cantor):

We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never / die again;
death no longer has dominion / over Him.*

Blessed are those who/ have not seen
and yet / have believed. (Rom. 6:9; John 20:29b)*

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

John 20:19-31

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed (found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day: 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King (st. 1, 4-9)

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.)

Those in need of comfort:

Haenisch family
Carlson family
Correll/Shافر families

comfort at the death of Siggy
comfort at the death of Nicole
comfort at the death of David

Dunbar
Statts
Staats



SO THAT YOU MAY
COME TO BELIEVE
THAT JESUS IS THE
M·E·S·S·I·A·H
J O H N 2 1 : 3 1

For those with health concerns:

Katherine Ecclesten	Eric Teschke	Bill Hotaling	Mara	Doug
Susan Miller	John O'Neill	Norma Runkle	Penny	Claire
Don Hammond	Sue Bridenbough	Jeff Corelli	Zane	Beverly
Sandy Hammond	Lorraine Van Hise	Pat Dietz	Grant	Sid
Judy Dito	John Tarlo	Asta Lynch	Noah	Jan
Pete Seronew	Rick Wright	Frank Lynch	Rose	Carlie
Diane Pullen	Kay Compton	Tony Shiron	Susan	Brennan
Jane Schroeder	Alli Watson	Marge Keen		

For those with cancer:

Isla Brummel	Robert Miller	Gerry Campbell	Howard Zahn	Trudy
Carol Tezla	Steve Saumsiegle	Joe Campbell	Rich Knechel	Lance
Kim McCollough	Nancy Gilliand	Aunt Jean	Chris Legere	Joe
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling	Kaleigh Moore	Sally Ashmen	Dora	Jerry
Rich deDufour	Logan Mattessich	Frank Cignus	Mary Anne	Frank
Aaron Kline	Brad Hoppe	Judy Bacorn	Lynn J.	Lynn
Joan Rawls	Arlene Bodholt	Carol Storr	Dana	
Jane Forder	Terry Dunbar	Keith Watson	Jason	
Elvis Rowsey	Debra Mueller	Dave Elison	Doris	

For those serving in the armed forces and their families:

LJ Lupinacci	Carrick Porter	Emily Arndt	Jake Grube	Jim Buckman
Daniel Gewecke	James Bannon	Harper Usiskin	Mike Bahney	Christopher Ryan Callahan

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
Armed forces, especially those deployed	Safety and protection as they carry out their duties
Those in need of employment	For provision of jobs
Conflicts throughout the world	For wisdom, guidance, peace, and forgiveness
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:

John Maguire April 16 Liam McAllister April 18

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Instrumental Offertory

Congregational Offertory: 789 Praise and Thanksgiving

Praise and thanksgiving, Father we offer

For all the living, created good:

Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,

Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

The Service of the Sacrament

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 singing:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father who art in heaven...

P: The Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ ... This do, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of Me.

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

C: Amen.

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.”)

Agnus Dei

C: 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 Hymns: 638 Eat This Bread

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction

P: And now, may the God of peace, who brought back again from the dead our Lord Jesus, equip you with all you need for doing His will. May He produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, all that is pleasing to Him. To Him be glory forever and ever.

C: Amen.

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

Postlude



Announcements – Week of April 12, 2026
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 Stephen deDufour (Communion Assistant and Reader), Sadie Bloom (acolyte), Tyson and Nathan Wilhelm (Ushers), Hope Dunbar and Cheryl Gewecke (Communion and coffee set-up and clean-up), Tyson Wilhelm (Live-streaming)

Today's service will be live streamed at this link <https://youtube.com/live/mwTdhUoN7jM>
If you miss the service live, watch it on YouTube! The services are also posted to the [church's website](#).

NEW Sunday 8:15 Bible Study This Sunday we will begin a study of the epistle of James. This brief New Testament letter offers us much practical guidance for living a Christian life. It helps us understand the proper relationship between faith and good works - both of which are necessary components of a Christian life. Our first reading will be **James 1:1-15**. All are welcome!

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study Our evening classes are on break; our study of 1 Corinthians will resume on Wednesday, April 22nd at 7:30pm.

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

Weekly Schedule:

TODAY (4/12) 8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11:00a Discussion Group
MONDAY-WEDNESDAY - Pastor Dunbar out of town conference
THURSDAY (4/16) 9:30-1pm Circuit Pastors Meeting; 4:30p Confirmation
SATURDAY (4/18) 4-7pm "She Leads" Youth Event @ St. Paul, Flemington
SUNDAY (4/19) 8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11:00a Discussion Group

Spring Clean-up Day - Saturday April 11th 8:30am till Noon. Bring your shovels, rakes, clippers, gloves, wheelbarrows and cleaning supplies to help spruce up the property. We will be working inside and outside the building. If you can't make it on Saturday, a task list will be posted on the bulletin board for anyone who wants to work during the week.

Calling all golfers! LCMS NJ District presents its 20th Annual Mission Classic Golf Outing, taking place on Thursday, May 7. It will benefit the NJ District Outreach Missions, for which nearly \$250,000 has been raised since the Missions Classic began. There are many opportunities to participate or sponsor - see the brochure on the narthex table for details. Come for a fun day! Registration can be mailed in, with payment due by the day of the event.

Seminary Workshop at St. Peter. Coming up this summer, we are excited to welcome Rev. Dr. Joel Elowsky from the St. Louis Seminary. Dr. Elowsky, a Professor of Historical Theology, will lead a 3-day workshop on June 1-3, on the topic of *The Apostolic Fathers*. This event is intended for pastors, other church workers, and interested lay people. Register at csl.edu/resources/continuing-education/workshop-series/. Cost is \$160. See our bulletin board for more info, or talk to Pastor Dunbar.

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.

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.

Service and Other

Faithfulness Report: Attendance: 8:00 am 68 / 5 online (combined Holy Week offering)
10:30 am 73 Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$12,526
Debt relief: \$25 Operation Christmas Child: \$30 Easter flowers: \$116

Food Pantry. We support the Lambertville Food Pantry with donations of food and other needs. **April's** collection is **Pasta** – any variety of pasta, sauce, mac and cheese, etc. You can sign up on the bulletin board to deliver items by month as well. Any questions, please see Leslie Klesat.

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 OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Epistle: 1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you

have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Holy Gospel: John 20:19–31

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.