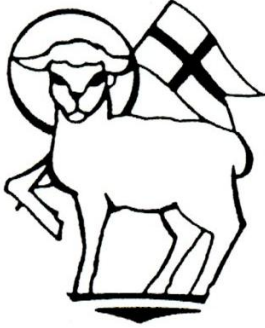


St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church



Hopewell Township, N.J.
(609) 466-0939 web site: stpeternj.org
pastor@stpeternj.org secretary@stpeternj.org
Rev. Jon Dunbar, Pastor (402) 641-4813
Chris Fusco, Music Director
Amy Van Hise, Admin Asst
Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

Our mission:

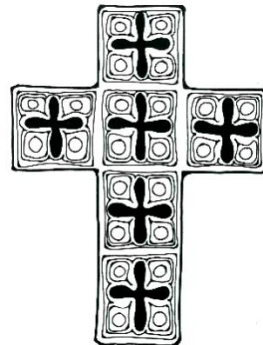
*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,
honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.*

Welcome. Today we remember yet another Easter Sunday appearance of Jesus to his disciples - this time on the road to Emmaus. And how does Jesus identify himself? Here it is by his opening of the Scriptures to them so they can see and understand how recent events all happened according to God's plan. Jesus does the same for us today. He sends his Spirit to open our hearts and ears as we hear and read God's Word in our worship.

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.
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 807 When Morning Gilds the Skies (st. 1-3)

KYRIE Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47

Pastor: In peace, in peace,

Musical score for the Kyrie. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Assistant:' and the second and third are labeled 'Congregation:'. The lyrics are: '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)

Musical score for the Refrain. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Assistant:' and the second is labeled 'Congregation:'. The lyrics are: 'Help, save and de - fend us, O God. 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,

through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world.

Grant to Your faithful people,

rescued from the peril of everlasting death,

perpetual gladness and eternal joys;

through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

C

Amen



FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41 (see back)

PSALM 116:1-14 (spoken responsively)

P: I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**C: Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as
I live.**

P: The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.

**C: Then I called on the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

P: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
our God is merciful.

**C: The LORD preserves the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.**

P: Return, O my soul, to your rest;
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

**C: For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling;**

P: I will walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.

**C: I believed, even when I spoke:
“I am greatly afflicted”;**

P: I said in my alarm,
“All mankind are liars.”

**C: What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?**

P: I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,

**C: I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.**

**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 Peter 1:17-25

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 24th chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Luke 24:13-35

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**



NICENE CREED (Inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY 466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia (st 1-3)

SERMON

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

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.)

Those in need of comfort:

Haenisch family	comfort at the death of Siggy	Dunbar
Carlson family	comfort at the death of Nicole	Statts
Correll/Shafer families	comfort at the death of David	Staats

For those with health concerns:

Katherine Ecclesten	Eric Teschke	Bill Hotaling	Irene Kropp	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	Mara	

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 Gilliland	Aunt Jean	Chris Legere	Joe
Andrea (Andy) Hotaling	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	Michael
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:

Government leaders in Middle East conflict	For discernment, wisdom, and clarity
Armed forces, especially those deployed	Safety and protection as they carry out their duties
Government officials and people of our nation	For peace, unity, safety, and wisdom
Conflicts throughout the world	For wisdom, guidance, peace, and forgiveness
Persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ	For protection, strength, comfort, spread of Gospel
Those in need of employment	For provision of jobs
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:

Grant Gallagher	April 20	Fred Grube	April 23	Noah Wilhelm	April 23
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Anniversaries:

Jason and Jenna Bloom	April 19	Doug and Kathy Hill	April 19
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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.

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

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

grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 474 Alleluia! Jesus is Risen (st. 1-3)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE





Announcements – Week of April 19, 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 Kevin Lauricella (Communion Assistant and Reader), Nicholas Wilhelm (acolyte), Dave deDufour and Jim Steimle (Ushers), Judy Grube and Lesley deDufour (Communion and coffee set-up and clean-up), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming)

Today's service will be live streamed at this link https://youtube.com/live/ILlJww_aZFw
If you miss the service live, watch it on YouTube! The services are also posted to the church's website.

Sunday 8:15 Bible Study This week we continue our study of James by looking at James 1:16-27. We'll discuss the importance of not merely hearing God's Word but doing what it says. Another topic of this section is James' understanding of what it means (and doesn't mean) to be religious. Come join our discussion!

NO Discussion Group today due to another obligation Pastor has following the service. Join us next week!

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study. Our study of 1 Corinthians will resume this Wednesday, April 22nd at 7:30pm.

Today we welcome two families into membership at St. Peter! Take a moment to introduce yourself to Sam and Wendy DiGaetano, and Keith and Quinn Hofmann, with their sons Ben and Sam. We look forward to having these families here as part of the St. Peter family, and pray many blessings on them as part of this congregation.

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

Weekly Schedule:

TODAY (4/19)	8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship
TUESDAY (4/21)	6:00a Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's
WEDNESDAY (4/22)	7:30p Zoom Bible Study (1 Corinthians)
THURSDAY (4/23)	4:30p Confirmation
SUNDAY (4/26)	8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11:00a Discussion Group; 6:30p IMPACT Youth Group @ St. Paul, Flemington

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: 60 / 4 online Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$6652
Easter flowers: \$16

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 Connie Hofer
in honor of the anniversary of Jason and Jenna Bloom.**

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
NJ District LCMS
LCMS World Relief and Human Care
The "Lutheran Hour" Broadcast

lcms.org
njdistrict.org
lcms.org/ca/worldrelief
lhm.org



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36–41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

^{36a}Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Epistle: 1 Peter 1:17–25

¹⁷If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, ²¹who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴for

"All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,
and the flower falls,

²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains
forever."

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:13–35

¹³That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles

from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²²Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." ²⁵And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ³³And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.