

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J. (609) 466-0939

(609) 466-0939 www.stpeternj.org

pastor@stpeternj.org secretary@stpeternj.org

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

Chris Fusco, Music Director

Amy Van Hise, Office Administrator

Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director



The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 5, 2026

Our mission:

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

Welcome! "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" Today, Christians all around the world are gathering to celebrate our Lord's resurrection from the dead. The darkness and gloom of Good Friday have given way to a new and glorious Easter morning, and all creation rejoices! Because the grave could not contain Jesus, neither will it be able to keep hold of us. Our sins have been forgiven. We have been set free. Alleluia!

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.

God's Easter People . . . Gather

Prelude: “Christ lag in Todesbanden” – H. Scheidemann

(We rise and face the processional cross. Our attention always follows the processional cross whether during the Procession, the Gospel, or the Recession at the end of the service.)

Easter Announcement

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

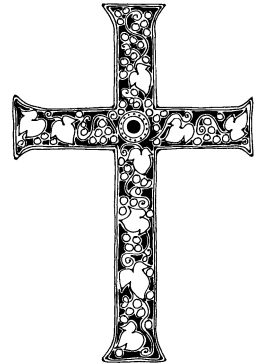
C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

C: **This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

L: Why are you looking among the dead for the One who is alive? He is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



Processional Hymn: 457 Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Easter Dialog (adapted from Revelation 1:4-6, 7:9-12)

L: Grace and peace to you from Him who is, who was, and who is to come, from our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

C: **To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, and has made us a kingdom and priests to serve God the Father - to Him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen!**

L: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: The uncountable multitude of nations and peoples stand before the Lamb upon His throne and cry out with a loud voice:

C: **Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!**

L: And all the angels around the throne worship Him saying:

C: **Blessing and honor, glory and thanksgiving, power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.**

L: And all the creatures of the earth shout:

C: **Amen!**

L: And all the saints and angels shout:

C: **Amen!**

L: And the people of the Lamb shout:

C: **Amen and Amen!**



Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12-13, 19:5-9

C: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

God's Easter People . . . Remember

Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

Almighty God the Father,
through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,
You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us.
Grant that we,

who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection,
may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Choral Offering: "Worthy is the Lamb"

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Gradual: *(Cantor) Christ has risen / from the dead.**

*God the Father has crowned Him with glory and / honor,
He has given Him dominion over the works / of His hands;*
He has put all things un- / der His feet.*

Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:1-4



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): Christ Jesus a- / bolished death
And brought life and immortality to light through the / gospel.
(2 Timothy 1:10b)*

**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. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

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

Matthew 28:1-10

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)

Hymn of the Day: 478 The Day of Resurrection

Sermon

Hymn: 480 He's Risen, He's Risen (st. 1, 4-5)

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 who are homebound in our congregation:

Clair Haenisch	Margaret and Michele Manura,
Mary Beck	George Pfeiffer
Janice Nuneviller	Christine Weiland

Those in need of comfort:

Haenisch family	comfort at the death of Siggy	Dunbar
Carlson family	comfort at the death of Nicole	Statts
Correll/Shافر families	comfort at the death of David	Staats
Beckerman family	comfort at the death of Wendy	Dunbar
Reinbacher family	comfort at the death of Pastor Otto	Klesat



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 Gilliland	Aunt Jean	Chris Legere	Joe
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling	Kaleigh Moore	Sally Ashmen	Arlene Bodholt	Jerry
Rich deDufour	Logan Mattessich	Frank Cignus	Mary Anne	Frank
Aaron Kline	Brad Hoppe	Judy Bacorn	Lynn J.	Lynn
Joan Rawls	Rosalie Reinbacher	Carol Storr	Dana	Dora
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:

David Yost April 6 Kim Robinson April 7 George Pfeiffer April 11

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Offertory: "Christ lag in Todesbanden" – W. Zachau

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.**

God's Easter People . . . Feast at the Table of the Lord

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: 461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives
490 Jesus Lives, the Victory's Won

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.

Recessional Hymn: 477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

Postlude: "Christ lag in Todesbanden" – J. S. Bach





Announcements – Week of April 5, 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 Behnfeldt/Tyson Wilhelm (Communion Assistant), Stephen Behnfeldt/Cheryl Gewecke (Reader), Juliet Behnfeldt/Nicholas Wilhelm (acolyte), Mark and Liam McAllister/Bob Maguire and Scott Garrow (Ushers), Lillian Maguire, Leslie Klesat, and Jeanne Hoppe (Communion and coffee set-up), Mark McAllister (Live-streaming 8:00 am)

Today's service will be live streamed at 8:00 am at this link <https://youtube.com/live/RNR1i2RfBm4>
If you miss the service live, watch it on YouTube! The services are also posted to the [church's website](#).

NO Sunday Bible Study or Discussion Group There will be no Bible study or Discussion Group this Sunday due to our Easter worship schedule. Join us next week!

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 (4/5) 8:00 & 10:30a Easter Services; 9:00a Easter Breakfast;
10:00a Easter Egg Hunt
MONDAY-SATURDAY - Spring Clean-Up Week
TUESDAY (4/7) 6:00a Men's Breakfast @ Orlando's
WEDNESDAY (4/8) 6:00p NJ District Board Meeting
THURSDAY (4/9) 5:45p Elders Meeting
SUNDAY (4/12) 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.

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: 77 / 4 online (combined offering both services)
Gen Fund (plate and elec): \$3278

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 |



HE IS
RISEN.
HE IS
RISEN
INDEED
ALLELUIA

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

First Reading: Acts 10:34–43

³⁴Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Epistle: Colossians 3:1–4

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is,

seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:1–10

¹Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” ⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”