



St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hopewell Township, N.J.

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

Chris Fusco, Music Director

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Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

Our mission:

*to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ,
honor God, serve others*

Welcome. Can you remember the last time you were awestruck by the power of nature? Whether it's huge waves crashing on the shore or the thunder crack and whipping wind of a severe thunderstorm, nature does have a way of putting us in our place. Such moments can remind us of the One who brought these primal elements into existence and still rules over them with supreme authority. Peter was headed to the bottom of the sea when Jesus reached out his hand and saved him. "In my distress I called upon the LORD...and my cry reached his ears." (Ps.18:6)

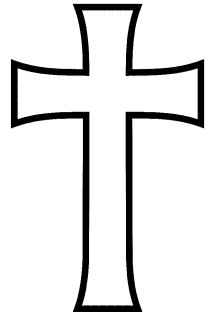
Welcome guests! We are delighted you are with us for worship this morning. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Dunbar pastor, and fill out a green visitor card (in the pewback). The order of service is printed in this bulletin starting on page 2. A cryroom is available at the back left of the sanctuary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

LSB page 184

The Preparation



Prelude

Words of Welcome

Invocation, Confession and Absolution page 184

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: 715 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

Kyrie page 186 *(sung)*

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Hymn of Praise: Gloria in Excelsis page 187 *(sung)*

P: Glory be to God on high:

C: and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Service of the Word

Prayer of the Day page 189

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit. *(sung)*

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God,

preserve us from all harm and danger

that we, being ready in both body and soul,

may cheerfully accomplish what You want done;

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: Job 38:4-18 (see back cover)

Psalm 18:1-6



¹ I | love you,*

O | LORD, my strength.

² The LORD is my rock and my fortress
and my de- | liverer,*

my God, my rock, in whom I take
refuge, my shield, and the horn of my
salvation, my | stronghold.

³ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy | to
be praised,*

and I am saved from my | enemies.

⁴ The cords of death en- | compassed me;*
the torrents of destruction as- | sailed
me;

⁵ the cords of Sheol en- | tangled me;*
the snares of death con- | fronted me.

⁶ In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I | cried for help.*

From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him | reached his ears.

**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 10:5-17 (see back cover)

Triple Alleluia page 190 (*sung before and after the Verse of the Day*)

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Verse of the Day (Cantor): But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; / it is I. *
Do not / be afraid."* (Matthew 14:27)

Gospel Reading:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord. (sung)

Matthew 14:22-33 (see back cover)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ. (sung)

Apostles' Creed (page 191 or the inside back cover of the hymnal)

Hymn of the Day: 717 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Sermon

Prayers Response after each petition P: Lord in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

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

For those in need of comfort:

The Miller family	death of Joyce	Teschke
The family of Marian	death of Marian	Teschke

For those with health concerns:

Carol Farley	Pastor Ben Mallepalle	Emma Finan	Barbara Nixon	Jan
Rich Mount	Olivia Moorhead	Bill Hotaling	Robert Mason	Doug
Susan Miller	John O'Neill	Norma Runkle	Doug Schorpp	Claire
Mark McCracken	Sue Bridenbough	Jeff Corelli	Liz Schorpp	Beverly
Lucy Borden	Lorraine Van Hise	Pat Dietz	Betty Bush	Sid
Judy Dito	John Tarlo	Asta Lynch	Valentina Teschke	Brennan
Pete Seronew	Rick Wright	Frank Lynch	Zane	Penny
Diane Pullen	Kay Compton	Harry Naylor	Grant	Dawn R.
Jane Schroeder	Alli Watson	Marge Keen	Noah	Carlie
Neuza Smukler	Eric Teschke	Mark McCracken	Rose	Susan

For those with cancer:

John Farley	Hilda Summers	Gerry Campbell	Howard Zahn	Mary Anne
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	Rita Piratsky	Jerry
Rich deDufour	Logan Mattessich	Frank Cignus	Barbara Holzhauer	Frank
Aaron Kline	Brad Hoppe	Judy Bacorn	Trudy	Lynn
Joan Rawls	Arlene Bodholt	Carol Storr	Dana	Dora
Jane Forder	Terry Dunbar	Keith Watson	Jason	Lynn J.
Elvis Rowsey	Debra Mueller	Dave Elison	Doris	Michael B.
Robert Miller				

For those serving in the armed forces and their families:

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

Armed forces, especially those deployed
Those with employment and career needs
Conflicts, disasters, and disease throughout the world
Family of Olga Nichols living in Ukraine
Seeing Eye program

Safety and protection as they carry out their duties
For provision of wisdom and jobs
For wisdom, healing, peace, safety, and forgiveness
For health, safety, and provision
For dogs' successful training and placement

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For staff and families

For rest and productivity in preparation for fall

Birthdays:

Shirley Yost	Aug 9	Michael Kianka	Aug 11	Mark Lange	Aug 11
Nathan Wilhelm	Aug 11	Clair Haenisch	Aug 15		

Anniversaries:

Pastor Jon & Hope Dunbar	Aug 12	Brad & Jeanne Hoppe	Aug 14
Julius & Gigi Mallepalle	Aug 14		

Gathering of the Offering and Offertory

Instrumental Offertory

Congregational Offertory: Create In Me page 192 -193 *(sung)*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free Spirit. Amen.**

The Service of the Sacrament

Order of Holy Communion page 194

P: The Lord be with you.	C: And with thy spirit. <i>(sung)</i>
P: Lift up your hearts.	C: We lift them up unto the Lord. <i>(sung)</i>
P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God	C: It is meet and right so to do. <i>(sung)</i>
P: It is truly meet, right and salutary....evermore praising You and saying:	
C: <i>(sung)</i> Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.	
C: <i>(spoken)</i> Our Father who art in heaven...	

Words of Institution (Consecration)

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: Amen. (sung)**

Sharing of the Peace (please greet one another with the words: “The peace of the Lord be with you.”,
responding “And also with you.”)

Agnus Dei page 198 *(sung)*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymn: 752 Be Still, My Soul

Post Communion Canticle: Nunc Dimittis page 199 *(sung)*

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving page 200

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for He is good, **C: and His mercy endureth forever. (sung)**

P: (Prayer of Thanksgiving) **C: Amen.**

Salutation and Benedicamus page 201

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And with thy spirit. (sung)**

P: Bless we the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God. (sung)**

Benediction page 202

P: The Lord bless you... **C: Amen, amen, amen. (sung)**

Closing Hymn: 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

Announcements

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

M A T T H E W 1 4 : 2 7



TAKE HEART: IT IS I



Announcements – Week of August 16, 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 Joe Scheblein (Communion Assistant), (Reader), Sadie Bloom (acolyte), Jesse Dunbar and Joe Gallagher (Ushers), Jesse Dunbar (Live-streaming), Judy Grube and Bonnie Jean Gallagher (Communion and coffee set-up and clean-up).

Today's service will be live streamed at this link: <https://youtu.be/Uh3RrT1PJfM> 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 and Wednesday Zoom Bible Study- These bible studies are now on break for the summer. We'll resume in September.

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

Weekly Schedule:

TODAY (8/16)	9:30a Worship; 11a Discussion Group
SUNDAY (8/23)	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.

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.

****Attention Lutheran Witness subscribers, and those who might want to try it out:**

It is time to renew, or initiate a subscription for, the Lutheran Witness, "the official flagship periodical of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). Published 11 times a year, it provides news, feature articles, and commentary intended to help readers interpret contemporary life and culture from a traditional confessional Lutheran perspective. **Regular Features** include synod updates, Q&A sections, theological columns, and deep dives into Christian ethics and practice." There are several copies on the table in the narthex if you'd like to look it over.

The cost is \$25 for a 2026-27 subscription, which will begin with the November issue. Please put your payment in a labeled envelope in the offering basket, or you can put it on Amy's desk. Payment is due by September 15.

Service and Other

Faithfulness Report: 8/9: Attendance: 60 / 10 Gen Fund (plate and electronic): \$ 6475
Missions: \$25
Weekly giving needed for budget: \$6890

Food Pantry. We support the Lambertville Food Pantry with donations of food and other needs. August's collection is **Fruits and juices, condiments, and lunch bag stuff** – canned and individual serve fruits, juice bottles or cans, mayo, mustard, ketchup, canned tuna, treats for a lunch bag, etc. You can sign up on the bulletin board to deliver items by month as well. Any questions, please see Leslie Klesat.

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> .

St. Peter YouTube Channel. Increase St. Peter's online visibility by liking and subscribing to our YouTube channel (where we live-stream and record our worship services and Wednesday Zoom bible studies. It 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

You're invited to a Baby Care Package Assembly Event to benefit ChoiceOne Pregnancy Resource Centers!



When: Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026, 10am - 12:30pm (lunch provided)

Where: The Lutheran Church of the Messiah, 407 Nassau St, Princeton, NJ 08540
(park on Cedar Lane)

Who: **You** and many others. Bring family and friends -- people of all ages can help assemble the care packages, which will be donated to ChoiceOne.

What a great opportunity to join other NJ Lutherans in supporting new parents and their babies!
The care package supplies will be purchased ahead of time, so no need to bring any with you.

***However, if anyone would like to contribute supplies to benefit the families served by ChoiceOne, unopened packages of diapers (any size) or infant wipes are always welcome. For information on obtaining volume discounts on diaper purchases, contact Messiah's project coordinator, Debbie Baer.

This project is funded by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church LWML (Somerset NJ), The Lutheran Church of the Messiah, the 2025 Partners in Mission Reformation service offering, and a generous matching grant from LCMS Life Ministry.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Job 38:4–18

⁴ [The LORD said to Job:]

“Where were you when I laid the
foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵ Who determined its measurements—
surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶ On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone,

⁷ when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for
joy?

⁸ “Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,

⁹ when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰ and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,

¹¹ and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no
farther,
and here shall your proud waves be
stayed?”

¹² “Have you commanded the morning since
your days began,

and caused the dawn to know its place,
¹³ that it might take hold of the skirts of the
earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?

¹⁴ It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a
garment.

¹⁵ From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.

¹⁶ “Have you entered into the springs of the
sea,

or walked in the recesses of the deep?

¹⁷ Have the gates of death been revealed to
you,

or have you seen the gates of deep
darkness?

¹⁸ Have you comprehended the expanse of
the earth?

Declare, if you know all this.”

Epistle: Romans 10:5–17

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that
is based on the law, that the person who does
the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But
the righteousness based on faith says, “Do
not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into
heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or
“‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is,
to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what
does it say? “The word is near you, in your

mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word
of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you
confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord
and believe in your heart that God raised
him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For
with the heart one believes and is justified,
and with the mouth one confesses and is
saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who
believes in him will not be put to shame.”
¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and
Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestow-
ing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For
“everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
will be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom
they have not believed? And how are they
to believe in him of whom they have never
heard? And how are they to hear without
someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to
preach unless they are sent? As it is written,
“How beautiful are the feet of those who
preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not
all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord,
who has believed what he has heard from
us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hear-
ing through the word of Christ.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22–33

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get
into the boat and go before him to the other
side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And
after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up
on the mountain by himself to pray. When
evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the
boat by this time was a long way from the
land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was
against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of
the night he came to them, walking on the
sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking
on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It
is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But
immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying,
“Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

²⁸And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is
you, command me to come to you on the
water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out
of the boat and walked on the water and came
to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was
afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out,
“Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached
out his hand and took hold of him, saying
to him, “O you of little faith, why did you
doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat,
the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat wor-
shiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son
of God.”