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, Admin Asst
Jennifer Garrow, Nursery School Director

Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 22, 2026

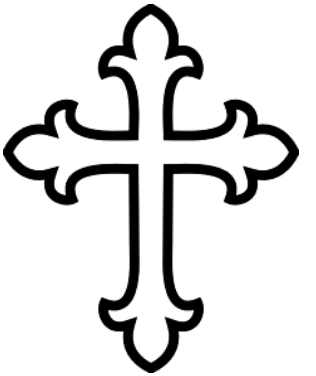
Our mission:
to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ, honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.

Welcome. "Each of you must bring a gift **in proportion** to the way the LORD your God has blessed you." (Deut. 16:17) Today is the third Sunday in a 3-week series focusing on Biblical stewardship. The third principle behind our offerings concerns how we decide on an amount to give. The LORD tells us that it isn't the amount itself that's important! What is important is that we give a generous percentage that accurately reflects what the LORD has enabled us to produce by our work and investments. A poor widow could only afford to give the Church one penny. Yet Jesus praised her generosity (Mk. 12:44)! It's often said, "You can't out-give God". How true! His generosity shown to us through His Son Jesus knows no bounds!

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

WORDS OF WELCOME

INVOCATION

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



BAPTISM **Troy Joseph Lauricella** (p. 268)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH BLESSING AND SENDING

BAPTISMAL HYMN 593 See This Wonder in the Making (sing "him" where indicated)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray.
Almighty God, heavenly Father,
You have called us to be Your children
and heirs of your gracious promises in Christ Jesus.
Grant us Your Holy Spirit
that we may forsake all covetous desires
and the inordinate love of riches.
Deliver us from the pursuit of passing things
that we may seek the kingdom of Your Son
and trust in His righteousness
and so find blessedness and peace;
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen**



OLD TESTAMENT READING: Deuteronomy 16:16-17

16 Three times a year all your men must appear before the LORD your God at the place he will choose:
at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one
should appear before the LORD empty-handed: 17 Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the
way the LORD your God has blessed you.

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40



33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of
your | statutes;*
and I will keep it | to the end.

34 Give me understanding, that I may | keep
your law*
and observe it with my | whole heart.

35 Lead me in the path of your
com- | mandments,*
for I de- | light in it.

36 Incline my heart to your
testi- | monies,*
and not to | selfish gain!

37 Turn my eyes from looking
at | worthless things;*
and give me life | in your ways.

38 Confirm to your servant
your | promise,*
that you | may be feared.

39 Turn away the reproach | that I dread,*
for your just de- | crees are good.

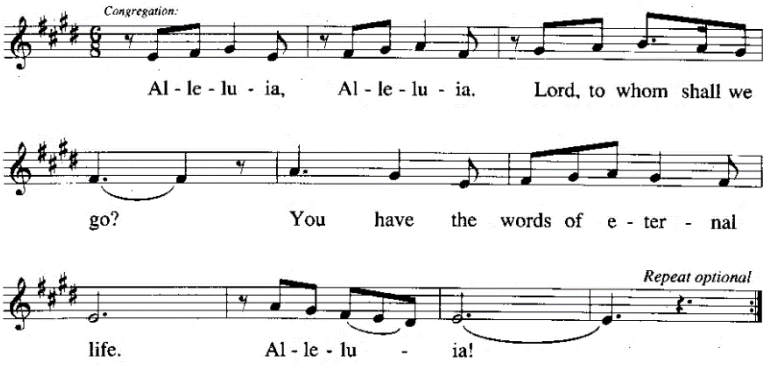
40 Behold, I long for your | precepts;*
in your righteousness | give me life!

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: 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the
Macedonian churches. 2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their
extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they
were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us
for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. 5 And they exceeded our
expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to
us. 6 So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion
this act of grace on your part. 7 But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in
knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also
excel in this grace of giving.

ALLELUIA VERSE:



HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12th chapter.

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

Mark 12:41-44

41 Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting
their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. 42 But a poor
widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.
43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into
the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty,
put in everything—all she had to live on."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY 787 The Temple Rang with Golden Coins

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P …Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

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

For comfort:

The Chirico family death of Ursula Teschke

For those with health concerns:

Andy Farley	Shirley Yost	Sadie Bloom	Rev Ben Mallepalle	Jan
Carol Farley	Nathan Wilhelm	Bill Hotaling	Patricia Farley	Doug
Susan Miller	Henrietta Renzi	Norma Runkle	Olivia Moorhead	Claire
Mark McCracken	Barbara Nixon	Jeff Corelli	George Brooks	Beverly
Lucy Borden	Lorraine Van Hise	Pat Dietz	John O'Neill	Dawn R.
Judy Dito	Harry Naylor	Asta Lynch	Susan	Brennan
Pete Seronew	Betty Bush	Frank Lynch	Zane	Sid
Diane Pullen	Kay Compton	Liz Schorpp	Grant	Jeanine
Jane Schroeder	Alli Watson	Doug Schorpp	Noah	Penny
Robert Mason	Kim Robinson	Rich Mount	Nancy	Carlie
Emma Finan	Neuza Smukler	Eric Teschke	Tim	

For those with cancer:

Bob Maguire	Abby Schreil	Gerry Campbell	Herb Johns	Mary Anne
Howard Zahn	Steve Saumsiegle	Joe Campbell	Rich Knechel	Lance
Arlene Z.	Nancy Gilliand	Aunt Jean	Dave Elison	Joe
Andrea(Andy) Hoteling	Kaleigh Moore	Paula Hawk	Debra Mueller	Jerry
Rich deDufour	Logan Mattessich	Frank Cignus	Sally Ashmen	Frank
Aaron Kline	Brad Hoppe	Judy Bacorn	Mary Ann Stein	Lynn
Joan Rawls	Arlene Bodholt	Carol Storr	Michael B.	Dana
John Farley	Terry Dunbar	Keith Watson	Lynn J.	Trudy
Elvis Rowsey	Richard Lum	Robert Miller	Doris	Jason
Chris Legere	Barry Higgins	Jan Moreau	Dora	

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:

Seeing Eye program — For dogs' successful training and placement

Victims of flooding and weather disasters — For safety and provision

For St. Peter Lutheran Nursery School:

For staff and families — For the strong start of school year

Birthdays:

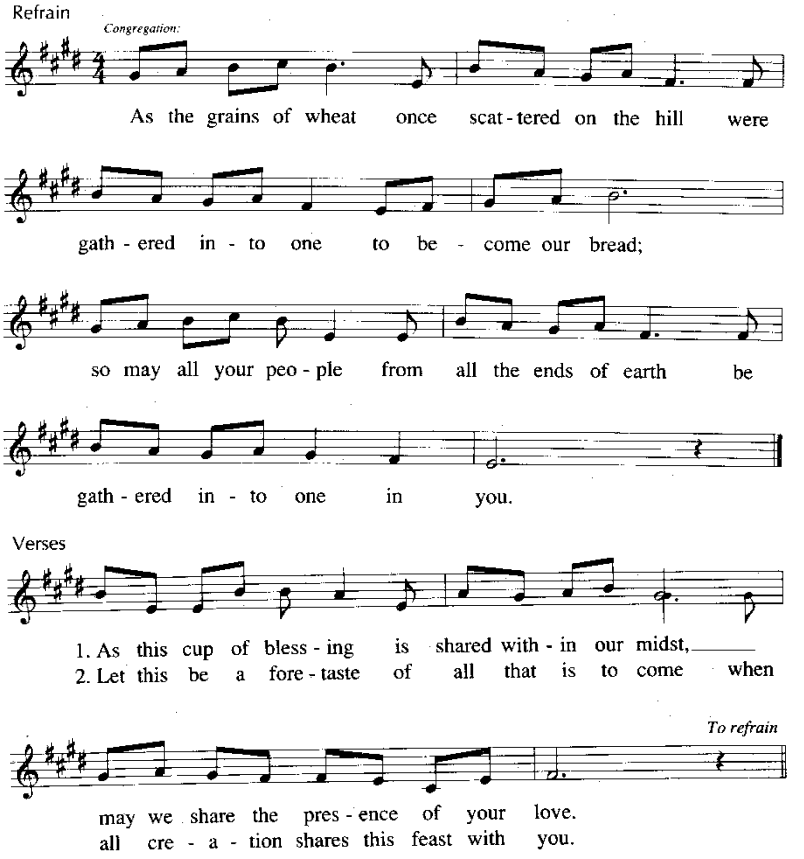
Kristen Lorenzi	Nov 23	Joe Scheblein	Nov 24
Lesley deDufour	Nov 25	Sandy Hammond	Nov 26

Anniversaries:

Norm and Leslie Klesat Nov 26

GATHERING OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY



PREFACE

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…
C **Amen.**

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy* *(LSB p. 208)* *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;**
Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

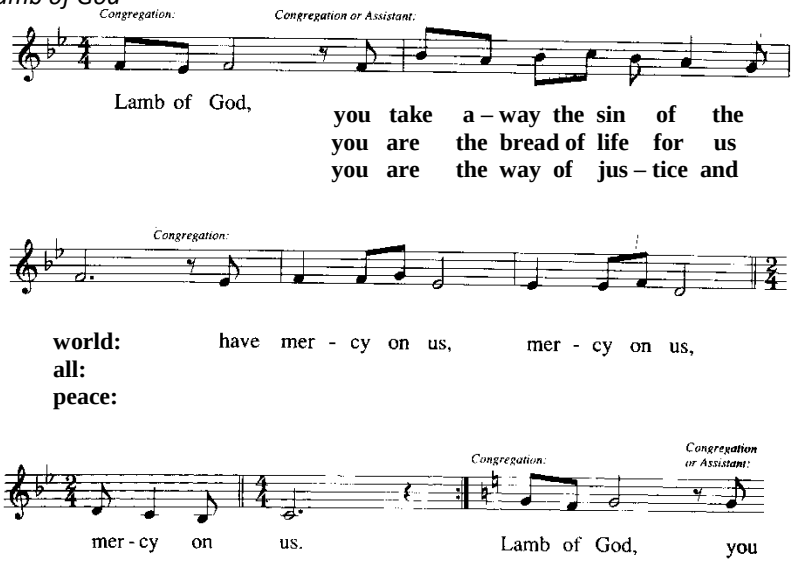
THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

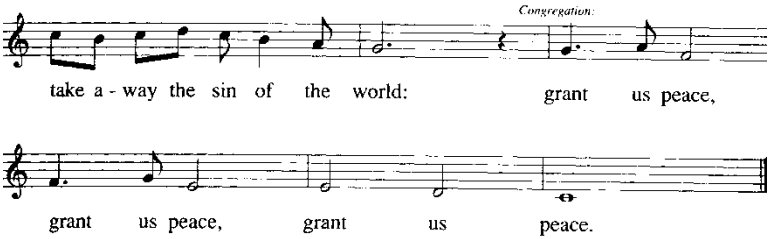
PAX DOMINI *The Peace of the Lord* *John 20:19*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

Sharing of the Peace
(Please greet one another, saying: "The peace of the Lord be with you," responding "And also with you.")

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God*





DISTRIBUTION HYMN 761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 525 Crown Him with Many Crowns (st. 1, 4-5)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the LORD!
C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



Announcements – Week of November 22, 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), Emma Cresap (Acolyte), Jim Steimle and David deDufour (Ushers), Lesley deDufour (Live-streaming), Hope Dunbar and Cheryl Gewecke (Communion and coffee set up and clean up).

Today's service will be live-streamed at this link: https://youtu.be/4LdxLtSFRL0 If you miss the service live, watch it on YouTube! The services are also posted to the church's website.

Wednesday evening ZOOM bible study is on break during the holiday season! Join us on Wednesdays for the Thanksgiving Eve and Advent services through Christmas – look for the live-streaming links too!

Sunday Bible Study: Desert Spirituality. This Sunday at 8:15am we'll finish our 10-part series on Desert Spirituality as we talk about replacing sloth with stability and perseverance. We'll talk about how sloth isn't simply *doing nothing*, but rather doing anything other than what we're supposed to be doing. We'll discuss the insights of Evagrius who called sloth "the noontime devil" and a voice of dissatisfaction, distraction, and discouragement. And we'll learn how the Holy Spirit helps us to greater attention to our relationship with God. Come and be a part of this important discussion!

Join us for Children's Church at St. Peter! Children ages 2 through 5th grade (and any parents who desire) are invited to participate in our Children's Church service! During the regular service you will be invited forward for a blessing and sending to the fellowship hall. **Today we will focus on the theme of giving thanks, using the story of Jesus and the 10 lepers as we praise, pray and learn from God's Word**. You will return to your families in the regular service for the celebration of Holy Communion. Don't miss it!

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

Weekly Schedule:

TODAY (11/22)	8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship w/Baptism; 11a Baptism Reception
TUESDAY (11/24)	4:45p Confirmation Class
WEDNESDAY (11/25)	7:30p Thanksgiving Eve service
SUNDAY (11/29)	8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship w/Baptism; 11a Discussion Group

Thanksgiving Eve: Join us for a special service of praise and thanksgiving at 7:30 pm on Wednesday. If you can't make it in person, here's the live-streaming link: https://youtu.be/pGLSId01D44

Midweek Advent Services in December. Advent is a season that prepares us to celebrate Christmas. St. Peter will be holding evening Advent services on Wednesdays at 7:30pm -- Dec. 2, 9, and 16. The theme of these services will be "The Gospel According to Isaiah," focusing on God's announcement of the Messiah through this Old Testament prophet.

Christmas Church Decorating and Sing-a-long. All are invited to an afternoon of Christmas decorating and Christmas Jam sing-a-long on Sunday, December 6 from 2-4pm. After we've decked the halls of the church, we'll treat ourselves to a hot drink and snacks as Hope leads us in singing our favorite Christmas tunes. Many hands will make light work! Bring your voice, bring an instrument, or just bring yourself - as we prepare ourselves and our beautiful sanctuary to celebrate our Savior's birth.

Gering Gift Plan Presentation. Thanks to all who were able to attend last Sunday's presentation. If you couldn't be there you can receive access to a recording of the meeting and/or a copy of the slide presentation - just contact the church office at (609)466-0939 or secretary@stpeternj.org.

Would you consider offering a helping hand? Our congregation has the chance to offer support to the Schreil family as they face their daughter Abby's cancer diagnosis. Abby is a Hunterdon Central student and member of St. Paul in Flemington and the IMPACT youth group. As their family faces this challenge, we can help by donating gift cards, meals, and even monetarily through the Meal Train website at https://mealtrain.com/kvdk42 Thanks for your help and care for them!

Service and Other

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 of Lesley deDufour's birthday.

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.

Faithfulness Report: Nov 15: Attendance: 70 / 5 online Gen Fund (plate and electronic): $3229
Debt relief: $25 Flowers: $25 Week*ly giving needed for budget: $6890*

Food Pantry. We support the Lambertville Food Pantry with donations of food and other needs. **November**'s collection is **Personal Products** – bar soap, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, liquid hand soap, dish detergent, sanitary products, etc. You can sign up on the bulletin board to deliver items by month as well. Any questions, please see Leslie Klesat.

Important web links:

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod lcms.org
NJ District LCMS njdistrict.org
The "Lutheran Hour" Broadcast lhm.org
LCMS World Relief and Human Care lcms.org/ca/worldrelief