

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

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026

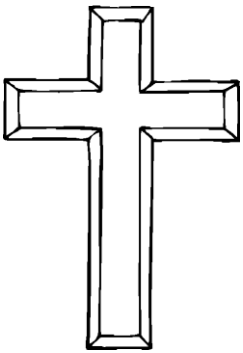
Our mission:
to spread the Word of Salvation through Christ, honor God, serve others, and grow in faith.

Welcome. "God loves a **cheerful** giver." (2 Cor. 9:7) Today is the first Sunday in a 3-week series focusing on Biblical stewardship. The first principle behind our offerings concerns not the most common questions of *how often* or *how much*, but rather - *in what spirit*? While our focus is often on outward action, we know that God looks into our hearts (1 Sam. 16:7). Motivation matters deeply to Him. Jesus reminds us that our hearts will follow whatever we consider to be our treasure (Mt. 6:21). And then he points us to our heavenly home and the true riches of his eternal grace and mercy, that will never run out. That is the good news that inspires our cheerful generosity!

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.**

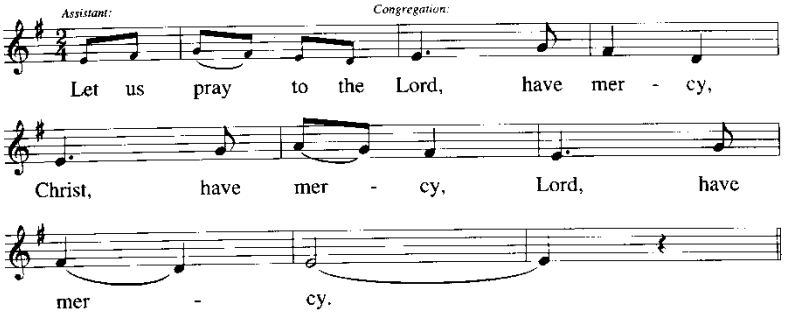
CHILDREN'S CHURCH BLESSING AND SENDING

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN 560 Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed

KYRIE *Lord, Have Mercy* *Mark 10:47*

Pastor: In peace, in peace,



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)

Pastor:

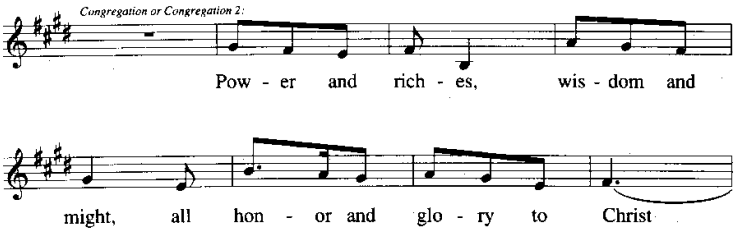
Cong:



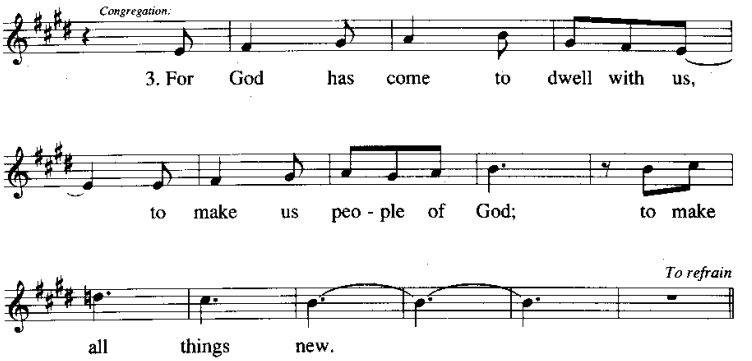
NOW THE FEAST



Verse 2



Verse 3



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places
into one holy communion,
the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living
that, together with them,
we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared
for those who love you;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Malachi 3:6-10

6 "I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. 7 Ever since the time of your
ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,"
says the LORD Almighty.

"But you ask, 'How are we to return?'

8 "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

"But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'

"In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. 10 Bring the
whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty,
"and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be
room enough to store it.

PSALM: Psalm 147:1-12



1 Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing
praises | to our God; *
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise
is | fitting.

2 The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem; *
he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.

3 He heals the broken- | hearted *
and binds | up their wounds.

4 He determines the number | of the
stars; *
he gives to all of | them their names.

5 Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in
power; *
his understanding is beyond | measure.

6 The LORD lifts up the | humble; *
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

7 Sing to the LORD with thanks- | giving; *
make melody to our God | on the lyre!

8 He covers the heavens with clouds; he
prepares rain | for the earth; *
he makes grass grow | on the hills.

9 He gives to the | beasts their food, *
and to the young ravens | that cry.

10 His delight is not in the strength | of the
horse, *
nor his pleasure in the legs | of a man,

11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those
who | fear him, *
in those who hope in his | steadfast
love.

12 Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem! *
Praise your God, O | Zion!

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 9:6-8

6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also
reap generously. 7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or
under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all
things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

ALLELUIA VERSE:



HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6th chapter.

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

Matthew 6:19-21

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

APOSTLES' CREED (Inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

HYMN OF THE DAY 788 Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness

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 Flemming family	death of John	Teschke
The Quaglietta family	death of Vito	Garrow

For those with health concerns:

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

For those with cancer:

Bob Maguire	Jan Moreau	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	Sally Ashmen	Debra Mueller	Jerry
Rich deDufour	Logan Mattessich	Frank Cignus	Mary Ann Stein	Frank
Aaron Kline	Brad Hoppe	Judy Bacorn	Michael B.	Lynn
Joan Rawls	Arlene Bodholt	Carol Storr	Lynn J.	Dana
John Farley	Terry Dunbar	Keith Watson	Doris	Trudy
Elvis Rowsey	Richard Lum	Robert Miller	Dora	Jason
Chris Legere	Barry Higgins			

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:

John Cudmore Nov 11 — Chris Lorenzi Nov 14

Anniversaries:

John and Susan Miller Nov 9

GATHERING OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY — Special music, sung by Hope Dunbar

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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*

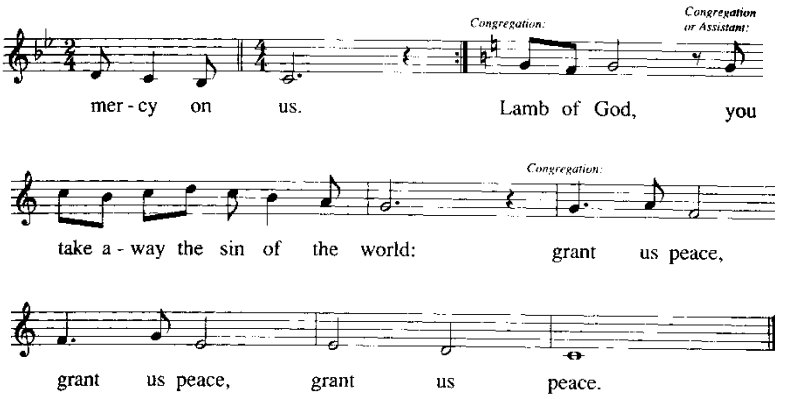
PAX DOMINI *The Peace of the Lord* *John 20:19*

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 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE





Announcements – Week of November 8, 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: Norm Klesat (Communion Assistant and Reader), Nicholas Wilhelm (Acolyte), Tyson and Nathan Wilhelm (Ushers), Tyson Wilhelm (Live-streaming), Leslie Klesat and Jeanne Hoppe (Communion and coffee set up and clean up).

Today's service will be live-streamed at this link: https://youtu.be/4_r2me9Ql2M If you miss the service live, watch it on YouTube! The services are also posted to the church's website.

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study on 1 Corinthians. Our passage for study this week will be 1 Corinthians 15:35-58. Paul addresses questions about what our resurrection bodies will be like. While there are many mysteries about this that won't be revealed until Jesus returns, Paul assures us that our new bodies will be fundamentally different from our current bodies, both in quality and in glory. What does Paul's teaching here add to our expectations for the life to come? Join our discussion!

Sunday Bible Study: Desert Spirituality. This Sunday at 8:15am we'll continue our 10-part series on Desert Spirituality as we talk about replacing fear with courage. We'll learn about the life of Dorotheus. And we'll talk about our common need for control, and how Christ invites us to believe that we are safe within his kingdom.

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 how we trust God in all things using the story of God's call of Abraham 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 (11/8)	8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship; 11a Discussion Group; 6-8p IMPACT Youth Group at St. Paul, Flemington
WEDNESDAY (11/11)	4:45p Confirmation Class; 7:30 Zoom Bible Study
THURSDAY (11/12)	9:40/11:40 Nursery School chapels; 5:30p Elders meeting
SATURDAY (11/14)	7:30a Men's Breakfast
SUNDAY (11/15)	8:15a Bible Study; 9:30a Worship w/Baptism; **11a Gering Gift Plan Presentation**

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!

Heads up, men! Second Saturday Men's Breakfast is coming up on November 14 at 7:30 am! (Church calendar says Nov 21, but it really will be on the 14th after all.) Join us for breakfast, devotion, and fellowship in the big room downstairs. Bring yourself, bring a friend, see you there!

Gering Gift Plan Presentation. On **Sunday, November 15** after the worship service, members of the Planning Council will be presenting a plan to the congregation for how the Gering Bequest money will be used. This is the culmination of months of prayerful discussion and gathering input from the congregation. All are encouraged to stay for this important meeting!

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.

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 1: Attendance: 58 / 9 online Gen Fund (plate and electronic): $3495

Weekly 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