

ST. PETER'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Holy Communion
Second Sunday After Easter
Sunday, April 27, 2025
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Building a community of faith by God's grace

Welcome to St. Peter's, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are glad you're here! Please fill out the worship record sheet in the black book located at the end of the pew.

Materials for worship are found in this bulletin or in the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* book. Page numbers, such as "p.172," refer to the small page numbers in the front of the book. "No." refers to hymn numbers in the latter part of the book. **Please see the ushers for large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices.**

Offerings are collected by passing the plates during worship, and immediately transported to the drop box safe. You can also give electronically at www.stpeterslutheran.org/give.

Communion is celebrated at 8:00 a.m. on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, at 10:30 a.m. services on 2nd and 4th Sundays, and both services on 5th and festival Sundays. Holy Communion is also celebrated on all Sundays in the Easter season. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Believing in the real presence of Christ, St. Peter's practices eucharistic hospitality, meaning all baptized persons, regardless of age, are welcome to commune here. **Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.**

10 Delp Road, Lancaster, PA | 717.569.9211

www.stpeterslutheran.org

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

+ GATHERING +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Postlude

Gospel Medley (arr. Adams)

Gary Troxell, clarinet

Musical Meditation

Variations Eternelles (Barker)

Welcome/Announcements

Please stand.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Holy God,

C: we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one. We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one. We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Blessing and Honor (AMERICAN HYMN), No. 854

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Canticle

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! (EARTH AND ALL STARS), No. 377

stanzas 1 and 2

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray together.

C: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please sit.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Jeff Pretz

+ WORD +

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Acts 5:27-32

L: A reading from Acts.

L: ²⁷When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:14-29

Sung by the whole verse between the worship leader and the **congregation**.



14 The LORD is my strength | and my song,
and has become | my salvation.

¹⁵ Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:

“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!

16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

17 I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

**¹⁹ Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**

²⁰ “This is the gate | of the LORD;
here the righ- | teous may enter.”

**²¹ I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

²⁵ Hosanna! | O LORD, save us!

We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the LORD;
we bless you from the house | of the LORD.

27 The LORD is God and has given us light.

Form a procession with branches up to the corners | of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you.

**²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;
God's mercy en- | dures forever.**

Second Reading:

Revelation 1:4-8

L: A reading from Revelation.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

P: The holy gospel according to St. John the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut,

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

Sermon

Pastor Jeff Pretz

Please stand.

Hymn of the Day

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! (MORGENLIED), No. 382

Apostles' Creed

P: Let us profess our faith together.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each petition closes with:

P: God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please remain in place to share the peace.

Please sit.

+ THANKSGIVING+

We give thanks for the saving word and all the gifts of God.

Offering

Offertory

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Dramatica (Barker) Gary Troxell
O Jesus, I Have Promised (arr. Keesecker)
Herald Choir

Please stand.

Offerings can be made online by going to stpeterslutheran.org/give. Members, include your envelope number as your member ID.

Visitors, no need for a member ID. Please use this time to contemplate how you will give of yourself this week in service to your community. Please fill out the worship record sheet in the black book located at the end of the pew.

Setting the Table



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

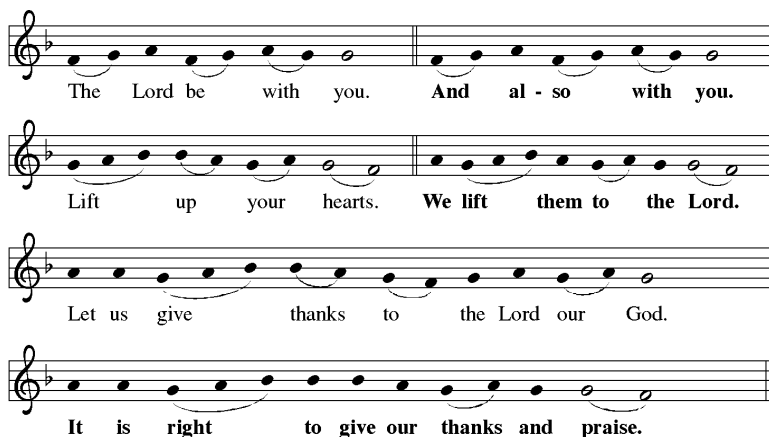
P: Let us pray together.

C: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

+ MEAL +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Great Thanksgiving



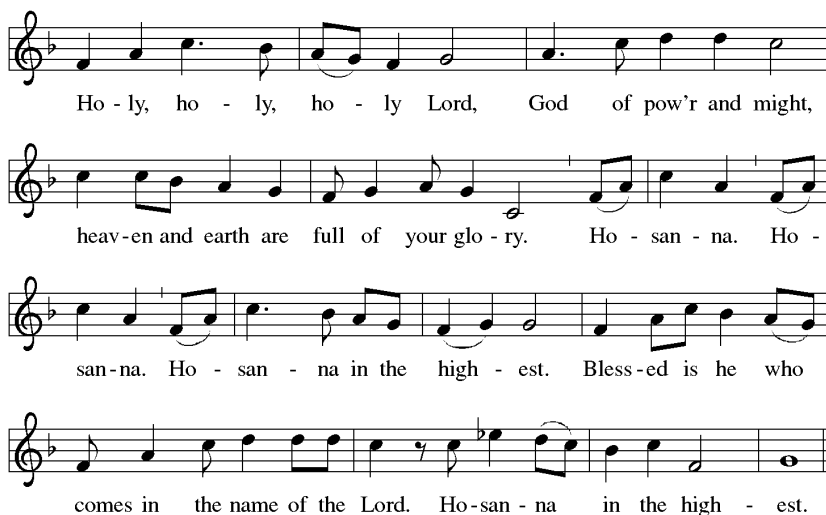
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

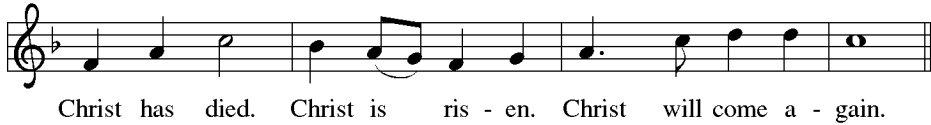
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”



Lord's Prayer

P: We pray together.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. All are welcome.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please sit.

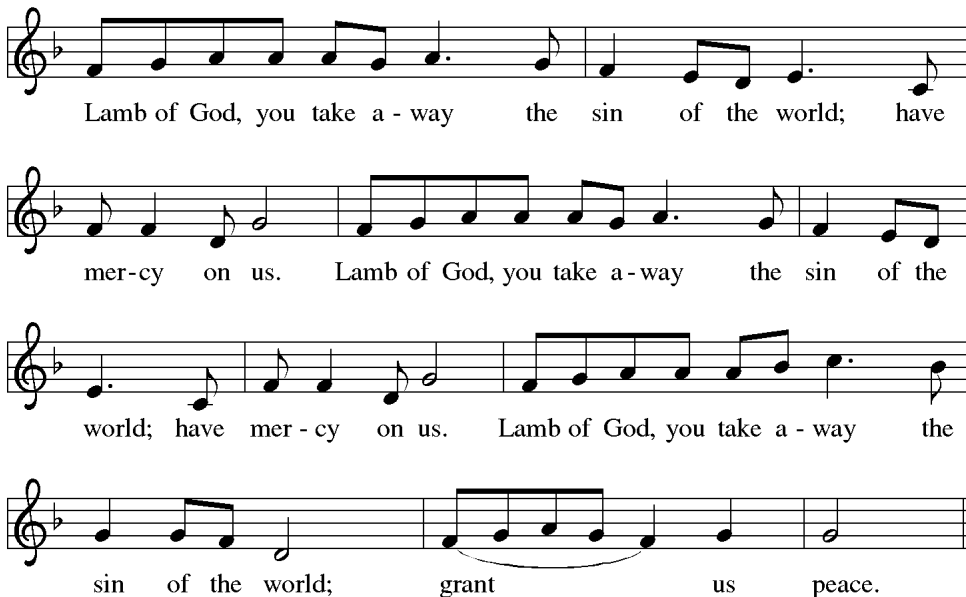
Communion

All are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers, take a cup from the trays, and proceed to the altar to receive bread and wine or a blessing. Please return to your seats via the outside aisles. If you desire to receive communion, but are not able to come forward, please alert the ushers.

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.

Music during communion as time allows.

Lamb of God



Communion Hymns

What Feast of Love (GREENSLEEVES), No. 487
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness (SCHMÜCKE DICH), No. 488

Please stand.

Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

How Great Thou Art (O STORE GUD), No. 856

Music insert in the hymnal rack- please return to rack when done.

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: We will. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

God of Grace (P. Manz)

Acknowledgements:

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AT 8:00 a.m.

Lector:	Larry Wilcox
Greeters:	Judy Wenrich
Ushers:	Eric May, Don Wenrich
Welcome Center:	Bob and Phyllis Hollinger
A/V:	Jordon Lambert
Communion Assistants:	Randy and Debbie Shue
Coffee Bar:	Amy Smith



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AT 10:30 a.m.

Lector:	Jane Musser
Greeter:	Paul and Tricia Hough
Ushers:	Dave and Lis Wolf
Welcome Center:	Rich and Ann Larrick
A/V:	Bill Schlener
Communion Assistants:	Jeff Pretz, Debbie Stover
Altar Guild Coord:	Debbie Shue
Altar Guild:	Barb Beyer
Coffee Bar:	Amy Smith

CALENDAR

Sunday (4/27)	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary) Pastor Jeff Pretz
	9:00 a.m.	Canticle Choir (Choir Room)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary and livestream) Pastor Jeff Pretz
	11:30 a.m.	Children's Ministry- Youth Ministry Meeting (Conference Room)
Monday (4/28)	10:00 a.m.	Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
	6:00 p.m.	Exsultate Ringers (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)
	6:45 p.m.	Tanzania Missions Committee (Conference Room)
	7:00 p.m.	St. Peter's Ringers (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)
Tuesday (4/29)	6:30 p.m.	Call Committee (Cry Room)
	6: 30 p.m.	Council Meeting (Conference Room)
Wednesday (4/30)	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study (Café)
	1:00 p.m.	Community Meal Prep (Kitchen)
Thursday (5/1)	12:00 p.m.	50+ (café)
	4:15 p.m.	Youth Choir (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)
	6:30 p.m.	Herald Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)
Saturday (5/3)	10:00 a.m.	River's Place-Clothing Bank (FLC)
Sunday (5/4)	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary) Pastor Cliff Hanus
	9:00 a.m.	Canticle Choir (Choir Room)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary and livestream) Pastor Cliff Hanus
	11:30 a.m.	First Communion Parent Meeting and Luncheon (Café)
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group End of Year Party (Café/FLC)

OUR MISSION

Building a community of faith by God's grace
"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."
John 15:12

OUR VISION

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church will show our love for God,
our love for neighbors, and our desire to make disciples.

Because we love God, we will:

- Worship and pray together.
- Help each other develop a meaningful relationship with God.
- Model our faith to children, youth, and others.

Because we love our neighbor, we will:

- Serve one another, especially the unseen and underserved within our congregation.
- Support those in need in our Lancaster community and in the world through our ties with the Lower Susquehanna Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.
- Love others boldly in a diverse and changing world, deepening relationships with our neighbors.

Because we desire to make disciples, we will:

- Seek to teach God's love through adult education, programs for children and youth, and our preschool.
- Offer small groups that connect God's Word to our everyday lives and create communities of faith.
- Share the good news in creative and authentic ways with the St. Peter's family and with neighbors in our community.

The Revs. Linda & Cliff Hanus

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Dan Davis, Sexton

The Rev. Russell Rockwell

Pastor Word of Life, Bible Study Leader

Interim Visitation Pastor

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Nicole Snyder

Director of Youth Ministry

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Molly Olmsted

Nursery Coordinator

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Daniel Lewis, Sexton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in remembrance of Win & Art May and their wedding anniversary on April 23 by their five sons and families.

THANK YOU: To all who worked so hard to make Holy Week and Easter so meaningful. -Pastor Linda and Cliff Hanus

DEATH IN THE PARISH FAMILY: Robert “Bob” W. Schaum entered the Church Triumphant on Friday, April 18, 2025. A Memorial Service was held Friday, April 25 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Peter’s. Bob was a longtime member of St. Peter’s. Bob is survived by his beloved wife, Edith Mae Schaum, with whom he shared 82 years of marriage. Please keep the Schaum family in your prayers.

CHURCH SIGN-IN BOOK: It is important to sign the church attendance book every Sunday. This is how we track membership and other statistics. Please take a minute to sign and pass!

BIBLE STUDY: Join Pastor Russ Rockwell for Bible Study every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the Café. This week’s topic: Worship. Old friends, new friends—all are welcome to join us!

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS: Join us for this special six-session series exploring the life and works of Dietrich Bonhoeffer! In many times in history, the Church and world have grappled with deep divisions and deep questions about what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Together we will use the works of Bonhoeffer to explore what it means to be faithful followers of Christ today. Class will meet in the Family Life Center at 9:15 a.m. Held today and on May 4, and May 11.

CALL FOR LIVE STREAM VOLUNTEERS: If you are willing to learn to use our live-streaming software, we would greatly appreciate your help. Even a small commitment of time (once a month?) can make a significant difference. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to learn more, please contact Jordan Lambert jslamvt@gmail.com or speak with them after the service.

VOLUNTEERS: Are needed to help teach grades 5-8 Sunday School. All materials are prepared in advance. Please consider volunteering to help support this important ministry - even one hour a month makes a huge difference! You can sign up to help using this QR code.



RIVER’S PLACE ITEMS NEEDED: The following items are needed for River’s Place and MTSD Care Closet: toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, body wash/soap, shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, hair brushes/combs, feminine products, cleaning supplies, sponges, laundry detergent, trash bags, dish detergent, paper towels, napkins. You can place these items in the large labeled bin right next to the box for shoes in the Narthex. These items are not to be placed in the clothing bank drop-off.

RIVER’S PLACE CLOTHING BANK: Donating is an easy way to support our clothing bank, River’s Place. We clothe over a hundred children monthly and could use your help restocking the racks! (sizes K through 12) Click on the QR code to register. Thank you!



FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: On May 4 after the 10:30 a.m. service the class will meet in the Café; a light lunch will be served. Participating children will receive their first communion on May 11. Your choice of 8:00 or 10:30 a.m. service. To help with planning for the class and lunch, please sign-up by scanning the QR code.



NEW MEMBERS CLASS: We are excited to announce that St. Peter's new members class will be held on Sunday, June 1. The time is TBD; we are awaiting a decision regarding the time(s) of summer worship. Folks will be received into membership on Sunday, June 8, which is Pentecost Sunday. Again, we will await the decision regarding the summer worship schedule to determine whether there will be one service or two for new members to attend and be received.

FOOD TRUCK: We are looking for anyone who may have a connection to a food/beverage truck in the area that we could reach out to for the Sunday School Year 2025-2026 Color Run event that is being held on Sunday, September 7, 2025. If anyone has any information, please reach out to Nicole Snyder by email: nicole@stpeterslutheran.org or by call or text: 717-644-5188. Thank you.

ALTAR GIFTS: We are extremely gratified by your generosity in responding to our requests to support the funding of Sunday bulletins, flowers, and communion elements. These gifts in honor or in memory of loved ones are an important part of supporting our weekly services. You can plan ahead and choose to commemorate current and future events in 2025. You may scan the QR code or pick up a form on the bulletin board next to the office door. Thank you!



COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: We are seeking additional Communion Assistants at the 10:30 service (primarily) or people who are able to serve at either service. Please contact Karen Peiffer at kpeiffer13@comcast.net and provide your phone number. We will provide training if you have not served before.

CHOIR FESTIVAL: Mark your calendar for St. Peter's Choir Festival on May 18 at 4 p.m. to benefit the Manheim Township Ambulance Association. Some of our special guest performers are members of the Lancaster British Brass Band and Auscultation Brass. Invite your friends! No tickets are required: a freewill offering solely benefits the Ambuland Association.