

ST. PETER'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Service of Holy Communion

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 18, 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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

+ GATHERING +

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

Prelude

Musical Meditation

8:00 a.m.

The Lord's Prayer (Malotte)

10:30 a.m.

Shall We Gather at the River (arr. A. Organ)

St. Peter's Ringers

Welcome

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. Amen.

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns (DIADEMATA), No. 855

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 of Praise

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

- 1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain

Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

- 2 Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray together.

C: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through 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 Hanus

+ WORD +

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

First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

L: A reading from Acts.

L: ¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to

explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

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



¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

² **Praise the LORD, | all you angels;**
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.

³ Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,**
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.

⁵ Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.

⁷ Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, | snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;

⁹ mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰ **wild beasts | and all cattle,**
creeping things and | flying birds;

¹¹ sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹² **young | men and maidens,**
old and | young together.

¹³ Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants,**
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!

Second Reading:

Revelation 21:1-6

L: A reading from Revelation.

¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading

John 13:31-35

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

Sermon

Pastor Hanus

Please stand.

Hymn of the Day

Thy Holy Wings (BRED DINA), No. 613

Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation

Presentation

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Raegan Geesey, Maddy Miller, Maggie Stream, Rosie Smith, Azhie Rotz, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

L: I present Raegan Geesey, Maddy, Maggie, Rosie, and Azhie, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Raegan, Maddy, Maggie, Rosie, and Azhie, whom you have made your own by water and the Word of baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nurtured them in the community of your faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

Profession of Faith

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: I believe in Jesus Christ God's only Son, of 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 in heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in the holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Confirmands (individually): I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Raegan, Maddy, Maggie, Rosie, and Azhie, and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray.

P: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to the eternal life.

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in____the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith guide her life, empower her in her serving, give her patience in suffering, and bring her to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

P: Let us rejoice with Raegan, Maddy, Maggie, Rosie, and Azhie.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

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.

Shall We Gather at the River (arr. A. Organ)

St. Peter's Ringers

10:30 a.m.

What a Fellowship (arr. Cherwien)

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

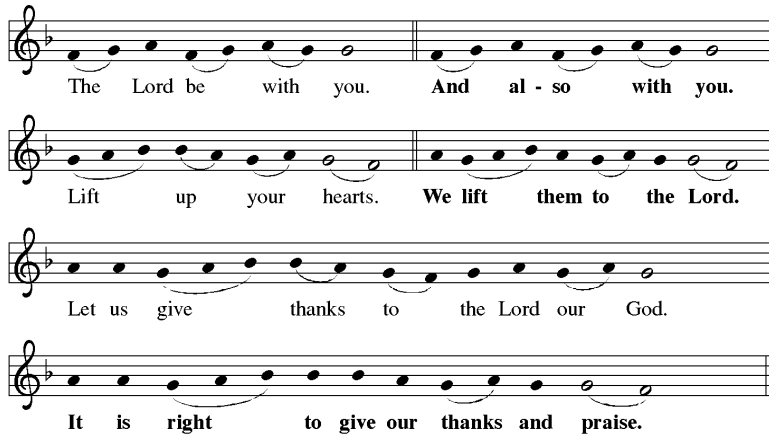
P: Let us pray together.

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.

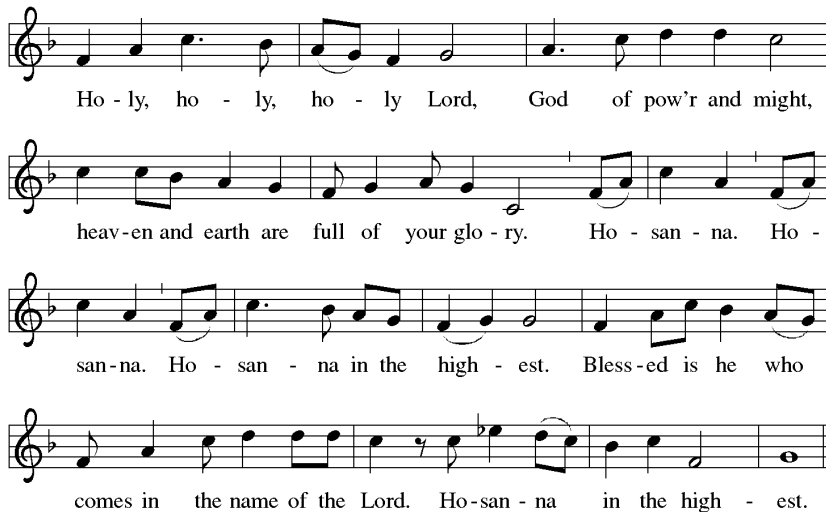
+ MEAL +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Great Thanksgiving

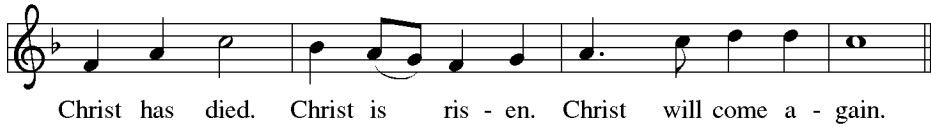


P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, 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:



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.

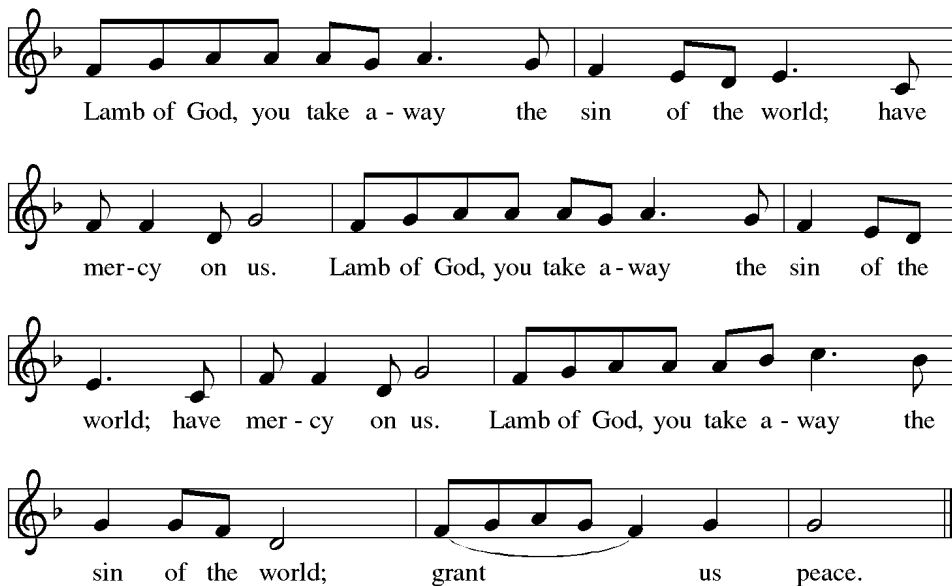
Communion by the means of intinction

All are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers, and proceed to the altar to receive wafer 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. Please dip your wafer in the chalice containing wine before consuming it.

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

Music during communion as time allows.

Lamb of God



Communion Hymns

Now We Join in Celebration (SCHMÜCHE DICH), No. 462
By Your Hand You Feed Your People (CAMROSE), No. 469
Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether (UNION SEMINARY), No. 470

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.

What's Happening at St. Peter's

+ 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

Give Me Jesus (GIVE ME JESUS), No. 770

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

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

Postlude

Acknowledgements:

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AT 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Mark Burkholder

Greeters: Tom and Pat Badorf

Ushers: Jo Boltz, Cindy Miley

Welcome Center: Ron and Joan Beck

A/V: Tom Chever

Communion Assistants: Ginny Stickler,
Mary Jane Wilcox

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AT 10:30 a.m.

Lector: Janet Roberts

Greeters: Craig and Lisa Rodenberger

Ushers: Jane Musser, Brian Tolbert

Welcome Center: Sherry Weller

A/V: Bill Schlener

Communion Assistants: Greg Hand, TBA

Altar Guild Coord: Lori Weaver

Altar Guild: Trish Hough

Coffee Bar: Mark and Donna Aho

Flower Delivery: Lois Benton, Jo Boltz

CALENDAR

Sunday (5/18)

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary) Pastor Hanus preaches
9:00 a.m.	Canticle Choir (Choir Room)
9:15 a.m.	Sunday School Celebration (FLC/ Café)
10:00 a.m.	Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:30 a.m.	Traditional Service of Holy Communion w/ Confirmation (Sanctuary and livestream) Pastor Hanus preaches
4:00 p.m.	Choir Festival (Sanctuary)

Confirmation Sunday

Monday (5/19)

10:00 a.m.	Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
6:15 p.m.	Exsultate Ringers (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)
7:00 p.m.	MACS Quarterly Meeting (Choir Room)
6:30 p.m.	St. Peter's Ringers (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)

Tuesday (5/20)

5:00 p.m.	Missions Committee (Conference Room)
6:30 p.m.	Call Committee (Cry Room)
7:30 p.m.	Council Meeting (Conference Room)

Wednesday (5/21)

9:30 a.m.	Bible Study (Café)
1:00 p.m.	Communications Committee (Zoom)
1:00 p.m.	Community Meal Prep (Kitchen)
6:30 p.m.	Pub Theology (TBA)
7:00 p.m.	Worship Committee (Library)

Thursday (5/22)

4:15 p.m.	Youth Choir (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)
6:30 p.m.	Herald Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) (Choir Room)

Sunday (5/25)

9:00 a.m.	Canticle Choir (Choir Room)
9:30 a.m.	Traditional Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary) Pastor Hanus preaches
10:00 a.m.	Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)

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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Deborah Berdos

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Nicole Snyder

Director of Youth Ministry

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Molly Olmsted

Nursery Coordinator

astaloo@comcast.net

Daniel Lewis, Sexton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Sean's 19th birthday on May 22 by Liz, Rich, and Iain O'Brien.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in commemoration of our anniversary by Anne Marks.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY: Today, we will recognize the following confirmands at the 10:30 a.m. service; Maddy Miller, Maggie Stream, Rosie Smith, Azhie Rotz, Raegan Geesey. Please congratulate them on their faith journey.

PHOTO SHOOT TODAY: A representative from HQN Design is visiting to snap photos that will be used in our redesigned website. Thanks for being subjects of informal photos that depict our Sunday morning children's ministry and worship services!

END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION! Join us today at 9:15 a.m. in the Café, children, youth, families, and volunteers are invited to join us for a short program to recognize volunteers, children and youth who are moving up, first communicants, and our confirmands. The Children's Sunday School Choir will also sing during the program.

UPDATE: Clint Frontz has moved to a larger room at Moravian Manor Rehab and is now able to have visitors. He is in room 281. The best time to visit is in the afternoon because of various therapies in the morning. Clint, MaryAnn and family want to express their appreciation for all the prayers offered on their behalf.

CHOIR FESTIVAL: Today at 4:00 p.m. is St. Peter's Choir Festival The event will feature a range of sacred choral music, from classical to gospel, as well as flute, clarinet, organ, and vocal soloists. Please plan to join us and tell and bring friends! No tickets are required; a freewill offering will solely benefit the Manheim Township Ambulance Association.

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! We will be on summer break May 28 through August 27. We will continue with the topic of worship when we resume.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS: Class for prospective members will be held on Sunday, June 1, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. service in the conference room, with reception into membership on June 8, Pentecost Sunday. **Contact the office by calling 717-569-9211 or by emailing office@stpeterslutheran.org or by scanning the QR code.**



IMPORTANT SUMMER SERVICE INFORMATION: In light of strong support shown by the summer survey results, our Congregation Council has accepted the Worship Committee's recommendation to have one combined worship service at 9:30 a.m. each week from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Communion will be offered every week. This decision only affects the service times for the summer of 2025. Both the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services will return on Sunday, September 7. We hope to see you there!

CHURCH BULLETIN: We are excited to share that St. Peter's bulletin is getting a new look! Starting on Sunday, May 25, you will notice: an altered front page, text of choir/special music anthems, and announcements formatted in two columns. All feedback is welcome.

WIDOWS GROUP: St. Peter's has a Widows Group that meets one time a month, on the 4th Tuesday, at 10:30 in the Cry Room. We discuss what's going on in our lives and how they have changed. We would love for you to join us. For more information, please contact Betsy Linn, betsylinn1@gmail.com or 717-618-9615.