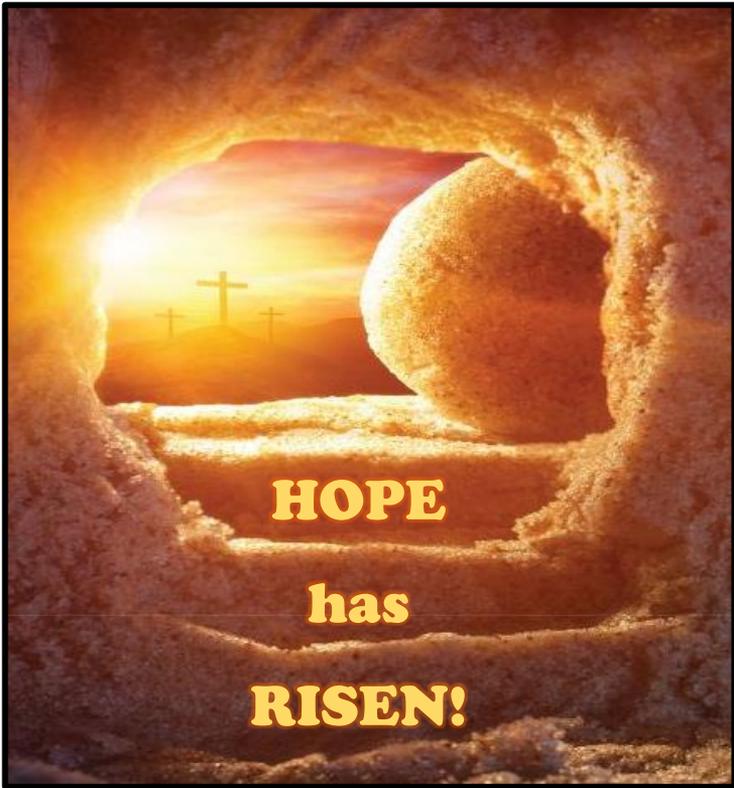


Welcome to  
**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**  
*202 Van Buren Street*  
*Evans City, Pennsylvania 16033-1127*  
*(724) 538-5810*



*Pastor Brandon Johns*  
*April 4, 2021*  
*10:15 Worship Service*

*Welcome to worship this Easter morning! Having journeyed with Christ to the cross, now we encounter his empty tomb. The baptismal promise of a resurrection life like Jesus' after having joined him likewise in death takes sharper focus in light of this journey to the cross and empty tomb. Each Sunday, we celebrate the mystery of Jesus' incarnation and resurrection, but on this day of all days, our praises soar to new heights as Jesus' victory over death comes more sharply into focus. Here, also, in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, we encounter the real presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord who has been resurrected unto everlasting life. If you are new to this gathering of disciples, please commune with us believing that Jesus is truly present for all of us who gather in his name, and especially when we share in this holy meal together.*

**Prelude**      *Easter Fantasy on "Palestrina"*      Ellen Jane Lorenz

**Bell Ringing**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**GATHERING HYMN: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today** *(Sung by Choir)*

- 1      *Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*
- 2      *Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*
- 3      *But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*
- 4      *Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!  
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

## GATHERING LITANY

Day has dawned and shadows are left behind.  
The stone is rolled away and hope is reborn.

**This is the day that our God has made.  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

God opens to us the gates of righteousness.  
We enter to give thanks to our God.

**We give thanks, for our God is good.  
God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Set your mind on things that are above.  
Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is Risen indeed!**

Look up and welcome Christ's appearing.

**We have been raised with Christ.  
Glory is being revealed to us on this holy day.**

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

Let us greet one another in peace with the strong name of  
the Living Christ.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24** (*Read Responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God’s mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare,  
“God’s mercy endures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the  
righteous: “The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

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

<sup>20</sup>“This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter.”

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26**

<sup>19</sup>If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. <sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. <sup>21</sup>For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; <sup>22</sup>for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*Sung by Choir*)

(*The assembly stands, if able, to welcome the gospel.*)



## **GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8**

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done** (*Sung by Choir*)

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

- 1 *The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
now is the victor's triumph won!  
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!*
- 2 *The pow'rs of death have done their worst;  
Jesus their legions has dispersed.  
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!*
- 3 *The three sad days have quickly sped,  
Christ rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen head! Alleluia!*

- 4 *Christ closed the yawning gates of hell;  
the bars from heav'n's high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!*
- 5 *Lord, by the stripes that wounded you,  
from death's sting free your servants too,  
that we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love. *A brief silence.*

Praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send us to tell the good news wherever death holds sway.

***The response for each petition is:***

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

*Our offerings are made processionaly, which means dropped into the plates located near the entrances to the front and rear of the nave.*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Merciful God, **receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **OFFERING SONG: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing**

*(Sung by Choir)*

- 1 Praise we Christ, whose love divine  
gives his sacred blood for wine,  
gives his body for the feast—  
Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!*
- 2 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,  
paschal victim, paschal bread;  
with sincerity and love  
eat we manna from above. Alleluia!*

3 *Easter triumph, Easter joy,  
this alone can sin destroy!  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!*

### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

**THE PROPER PREFACE** *(It is indeed right.... join their unending hymn)*

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars; beneath the sea;

within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water; by night and day;

across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:

at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;

beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way,  
at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering; within this meal;  
among your people; throughout the world.  
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord remember us in your kingdom and help us to pray:  
**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**

## **INSTRUCTION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*At this time Pastor will take a moment to explain how the distribution of Holy Communion will take place from our seats. The explanation will conclude with the Invitation to Communion and then we will commune.*

*The elements of the Sacrament are offered with these words:*

*The body of Christ, given for you. And The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

*For children who do not communion, lay hand(s) on each child and offer this or another blessing:*

*“Child of God, may the victorious grace of the Risen Christ fill your heart.”*

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven.

**Hallelujah!**

## **BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

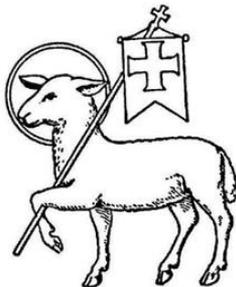
Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**



**SENDING SONG: Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! (Sung by Choir)**

1 *Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
Risen our victorious head!  
Sing his praises! Alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead!  
Gratefully our hearts adore him  
as his light once more appears;  
bowing down in joy before him,  
rising up from griefs and tears. Refrain*

<p><i>Refrain: Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head! Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!</i></p>
---

2 *Christ is risen! All the sadness  
of our Lenten fast is o'er;  
through the open gates of gladness  
he returns to life once more;  
death and hell before him bending  
see him rise, the victor now,  
angels on his steps attending,  
glory round his wounded brow. Refrain*

3 *Christ is risen! All the sorrow  
that last evening round him lay  
now has found a glorious morrow  
in the rising of today.  
See the grave its firstfruits giving,  
springing up from holy ground;  
Christ was dead, but now is living;  
he was lost, but he is found. Refrain*

4 *Christ is risen! Henceforth never  
death or hell shall us enthrall.  
We are Christ's, in him forever  
we have triumphed over all.  
All the doubting and dejection  
of our trembling hearts have ceased;  
hail the day of resurrection!  
Let us rise and keep the feast. Refrain*

## SHARING FOR SERVING: BIRTHDAYS AND MISSION NOTICES

### DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Alleluia! Christ Is Risen*

Benton Price

### RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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### *Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for April*

*Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for the month will support EDCO. If you would like to support this cause please mark the other line on your contribution envelope EDCO.*



*The Eternal Candle  
Is Presented By  
Marlene Domhoff*

*Today's Altar Flowers  
are presented by  
Karen, Trista & Tara  
In loving memory of  
Edith Sarver*

### Prayers Have Been Requested Recently For The Following:

Don Zinkhann

Mary Fulghum

Janice Marburger

Colleen Prenovitz

Casey Hogan

Jane Brown

Marge Lindgren (surgery)

Heinie Raupp (surgery)

Rick Reifenstein

Please hold these members and friends of St. Peter's in your prayers.

*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:16*

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## St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

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Mon. 4-5	7 pm	Property Meeting
	7 pm	Scouts
Tue. 4-6	3:30 pm	ASP (Tue. – Fri.)
	7 pm	Fellowship Meeting
Wed.	5:30 pm	<b>Manna Night Returns!</b>
	7:30 pm	Bible Study



### **ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*is a congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of  
the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).*

Presiding Bishop (ELCA)  
Synodical Bishop (SW PA Synod)  
Pastor  
Music Director and Organist  
Office Secretary  
Sexton  
Lector  
Bell Ringer  
Choir

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
The Rev. Kurt A. Kusserow  
The Rev. Brandon Johns  
Marlene Domhoff  
Heidi Beahm  
Joe Ludwik  
Troy Barkley  
Joe Ludwik  
Bev Critchlow, Bea King, & Adam Price

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Today's Easter Flowers Are Sponsored by the following:  
*(Supported by Thrivent Financial)*

### **To the Glory of God**

- By Faye Dawn
- For 2 new grandkids by Janice Rengers Hogan
- God by the Erin family
- Gloria Deo by Teresa O'Malley
- The Johns family



## **In Honor Of**

- Children, Grandchildren, & Great Grandchildren
- Dee Brady, Gaynell Brady, and Natalie Price by Adam & Erin Price
- God by the Erin family
- Kurt Wearing & family, and Todd Wearing & family  
by Garrie & Marge Wearing
- Joe Ludwik by Casey Anthony & Daniel Guerriero
- Lucille Wingard by Luann & Perry Brosius
- Pat & Dave VanDyke by Robin VanDyke
- Joseph Ludwik by the Anthony family
- My family & friends by Teresa O'Malley
- Bea King by the Neal Critchlow family
- Our Mothers by Helen & Paul Barto
- My children & grandchildren by Becky Rengers
- Margaret M. Clawson by Jane Taylor
- Our children: Kate & family, Chuck & Sara & family,  
and Special daughter Lynn & family by Charlie & Patti Flach
- Our parents by Davin & Heidi Beahm
- Mary Fulghum, Bea (Flower) King, Janice & Karen Marburger,  
Barb Graham, and Marlene Domhoff by a friend



## **In Loving Memory Of**

- Charles & Elizabeth Banyay by Bev Banyay
- Harold Graham by Barb Graham
- Lucy Dunbar (mom & best friend) by Faye Dawn
- Ruth Corfield & John Watson, and Freda & Frank Merrison  
by Jim & Debbie Merrison
- Susan Ludwik by Joe Ludwik & Family
- Mary Jane & Heinie Raupp Sr., and John & Ruth Watson  
by Mary Jane & Heinie Raupp Jr.
- Kevin Detwiler, Art & Mary Wearing,  
and Marle & Eleanor Middleton by Ray & Linda Middleton
- Gerard, Helen & Regis Rengers by Janice Rengers Hogan
- Jo Ripper and Donna Best by Adam & Erin Price & Boys

## **In Loving Memory Of (cont.)**

- Our dog Tucker, and Pa-paw by the Erin Family
- Martin & Jennie Marburger, and Art & Mary Wearing  
by Garrie & Marge Wearing
- Our Grandmothers: Catherine, Ruth, and Susan  
by Casey Anthony & Daniel Guerriero
- Lee & Genevieve Brosius and Paul Wingard  
by Luann & Perry Brosius
- Jean Sutton, Rege Rengers, and Dot Marburger by Robin VanDyke
- Jerome, Ruth & Claire Hoffman, Herb & Delores Brittner, Howard,  
Doris, David Brittner, Pam Mashuda, and David & Lorena Mashuda  
by Teresa O'Malley
- Mr. & Mrs. Charles Banyay by Richard Hanf family
- Bob Domhoff, and Charles M. & Mabel A. Peters  
by Marlene Domhoff
- Clare, Ethel & Alice Gilliland, and Clint & Evelyn Rader by Kay Burr
- R. Paul Wingard, and Charles M. & Mabel A. Peters  
by Lucille P. Wingard
- Lydia Grace by the Neal Critchlow family
- Our Fathers by Helen & Paul Barto
- Rege Rengers, David Piper, Dot & Joe Marburger, and Helen &  
Jerry Rengers by Becky Rengers
- Betty Westerman, and Troy Barkley Jr. by Troy & Beverly Barkley
- Kenneth W. Clawson, Lowry M. Clawson, and Anna Margaret  
Taylor by Jane Taylor
- George & Greg King by Bea King

## **Staying in Touch:**

Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

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Church Website: [www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org](http://www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org)

Church Facebook Page: St. Peter's Lutheran Church