

Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 27, 2022
10:15 am Worship Service
Pastor Brandon Johns

PRELUDE

Chime Prelude

James Alexander Patterson

BELL RINGING

GATHERING LITANY

O Lord, you have called us and brought us to this sacred place.

It is good for us to be here.

You have gathered us here and led us apart from the world.

Help us to be present with you in this moment.

You have appeared in majesty beyond human understanding.

It is good for us to be here.

You have revealed your splendor here and given us a glimpse of the divine.

Transform our fear into reverence and trust.

You have shone the radiance of God as the Word Incarnate.

It is good for us to be here.

You have spoken to us here and taught us in the Way.

Enable our hearts to listen and to love.

You have encompassed us with your own brilliant light.

It is good for us to be here.

You have transfigured us here and yet the fullness of your glory awaits.

Empower us to follow you back down the mountain and to dwell with you always.

GATHERING HYMN: How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

GREETING

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

And also with you!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM *Down by the Riverside* Jay Althouse

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

PSALM 99 *(Read Responsively)*

¹The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

²**The LORD, great in Zion,
is high above all peoples.**

³Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome;
God is the Holy One.

⁴**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's
footstool; God is the Holy One.

⁶**Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those
who call upon your name, O LORD,
they called upon you, and you answered them,**

⁷you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

⁸**O LORD our God, you answered them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for
their evil deeds.**

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy
hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness,

¹³not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of
Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside.

¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when
they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still
there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day

whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when
one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the

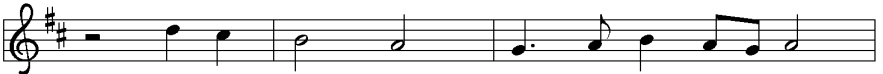
Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And

all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though
reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image
from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord,
the Spirit.

^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God’s mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God’s word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-43a

The holy gospel according to Luke, the ninth chapter.

Glorify you, O Lord.

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” — not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child.

³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

^{43a}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.
This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: My God, How Wonderful Thou Art



1 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thy maj - es - ty how bright!
 2 How won - der - ful, how beau - ti - ful the sight of thee must be—
 3 No earth - ly fa - ther loves like thee; no moth - er, e'er so mild,
 4 Yet I may love thee too, O Lord, al - might - y as thou art,
 5 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thou ev - er - last - ing friend!



How beau - ti - ful thy mer - cy seat in depths of burn - ing light!
 thine end - less wis - dom, bound - less pow'r, and awe - some pu - ri - ty!
 bears and for - bears as thou hast done with me, thy sin - ful child.
 for thou hast stooped to ask of me the love of my poor heart.
 On thee I stay my trust - ing heart till faith in vi - sion end.



THE BURIAL OF THE ALLELUIA

Reader: I heard a great voice of many people in heaven saying, Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power be to the Lord our God. And again they said, Alleluia!

People: And the twenty-four elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God who sat on the throne. And they said, Amen! Alleluia!

Reader: I heard what sounded like the voice of a great multitude. It was like the sound of many waters. It was like the sound of mighty thunder. And it said, "Alleluia! The Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"

People: Alleluia! The Lord does reign! He is clothed with majesty. Alleluia!

Reader: Alleluia! Give praise to the Lord our God and worship Him, for He is holy. Alleluia!

People: Alleluia! Give praise to the Lord our God, and worship at His holy hill, for He is holy. Rejoice in Him and give thanks as a remembrance of His holiness. Alleluia!

Pastor: The Lord is indeed King of Heaven, but is He the King of our hearts?

Reader: I looked and saw a great multitude, impossible to number, people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted, "Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb. Alleluia!"

*(Service continues with congregation singing
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones on next page)*

1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright

ser - apts, cher - u - bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain:

"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,

pow'rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:

"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su -

per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the

Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:

"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Pastor: Are your minds set on God's righteousness?

People: Our mouths say we are.

Pastor: But do your lives show this? God forbid that we should approach Him with our mouths and lips alone and not have our hearts in it!

People: Does this mean we should stop singing our Alleluias?

Pastor: There is a time to laugh and a time to weep. A time to dance and a time to mourn. Bring forth acts that are suitable signs of repentance. Remember that the sacrifices of God are a humble spirit. It is a humble and contrite heart God does not despise.

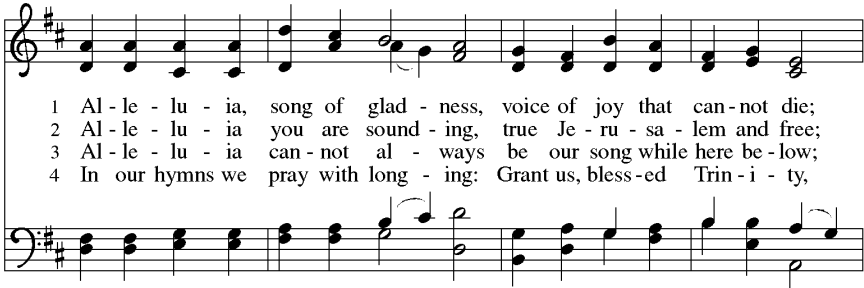
Reader: It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Who may abide the day of His coming? Who shall stand when He appears? At the time of harvest and threshing He will gather the wheat into the barn, but the chaff will be burned. The day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night. When men say, "Peace" and all things are safe, then judgment will come on them. Brothers and sisters, take warning: While there is still time set to work before the night comes. Let us walk as children of the Light. Do we not believe in the Light? Let us remember that though our sins be as scarlet, they shall be made white as snow. Let us repent and return to Him who is merciful and forgiving. Let us take His yoke upon us and learn of Him. His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

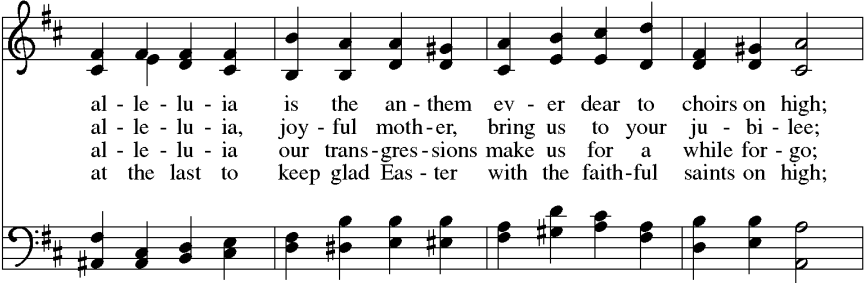
(Service continues with congregation singing Alleluia, Song of Gladness on next page)



Alleluia, Song of Gladness



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
 al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
 at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
 here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
 for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
 there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Pastor: I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: 'Happy are the dead who die in the faith of Christ! Henceforth,' says the Spirit, 'They may rest their labors.'"

So says the Church of its ALLELUIA. Today it dies until with Christ it rises at His glorious resurrection. When He died, He died to sin, once for all. Living as He lives, He lives to God. In the same way you regard yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God, in union with Christ Jesus.

People: (As ALLELUIA banner is taken from chancel) **If you, O Lord, remember our sins, Lord who shall stand? Out of the depths I have cried to you, O Lord, Lord hear my voice. Let your ear be open to the voice of my supplication. If you, O Lord, remember our sins, Lord who could stand? But with you is forgiveness, that you may be praised. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word do I trust. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning. More than those who watch for the dawn, let Israel wait for the Lord. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is boundless redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his sin. Give glory to the Father Almighty, to His Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord, and the Spirit who gives life to all things, now and forever. Amen. If you, O Lord, remember our sins, Lord who could stand?**

Pastor: Until that day, when Christ's resurrection is celebrated with joy and gladness, we commit our joyful "Alleluia" to God who gave it.

People: **O God, look with favor on your people gathered here. We know that we have sinned and deserved your judgment, yet we look to you for mercy. Spare us, as you have spared your people in the past. During Lent help us to re-order our lives so that others can see your presence. We ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.**



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

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

Transform us by your greatness, O God. Send us down the mountain to share joy with all people. Make us agents of change, confident that your hope will vanquish despair and your goodness will conquer evil.

The response for each petition is: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

OFFERING

During social distancing protocols, our in-person offerings are made before or after the worship service. The offering plates are located near the entrances to the nave.

OFFERING SONG: God Gave to Me a Life to Live



1 God gave to me a life to live; God
2 When I am helped to see what's good, and



gave me hands with which to give; God gave a heart with
led to do the things I should, I thank you, car - ing



which to care; God gave me love that I might share.
God a - bove, for life and hands and heart and love.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

Amen.

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



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



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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

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

Taught by God's Word Incarnate, we are bold 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:

“May you find shelter in God and take delight in the abundance of peace found in God’s kingdom. Amen.”

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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. Radiant God with our eyes we have seen your salvation and, in this meal, we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

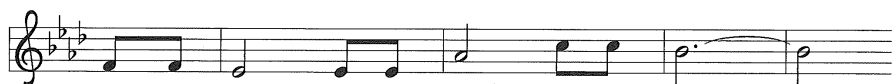
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**



SENDING SONG: Precious Lord, Take My Hand



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

SHARING FOR SERVING: BIRTHDAYS AND MISSION NOTICES

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Let your light shine. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Marche Brillante

Elizabeth T. Van Woert

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for February

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support Sherri Ifft, Missionary. If you would like to support this cause, please mark the other line on your contribution envelope Sherry Ifft.

The eternal candle
is presented by
Lucille Wingard
In loving memory of
Lynette Wingard

Today's altar flowers
are presented by
Karen Ferrari
In loving memory of
Michael Ferrari

Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Matt & Kim Morris | Dave Grubbs |
| Jan Hogan | Corey Wearing |
| Todd Manuel | Luke Clawson |
| Tom Manuel | Cole Barkley |
| Bob Tarbet | Ron & John West |
| Emma Evelyn Laun (Neonatal ICU) | |
| Ed Hunia | The family of Carol Kusserow |

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



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
Organist & Music Director
Office Secretary
Sexton
Lector
Acolyte
Bell Ringer
Ushers

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
The Rev. Kurt A. Kusserow
The Rev. Brandon Johns
Marlene Domhoff
Heidi Beahm
Joe Ludwik
Becky Rengers
Gus Mossor
Joe Ludwik
Troy Barkley & Brian Johns

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

| | | |
|--------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Mon. – Fri. | 3:30 pm | After School Program |
| Mon. Feb. 28 | 7:00 pm | Worship Meeting Scout Meetings |
| Tue. Mar. 1 | 6:00 pm | Pancake & Sausage Dinner |
| Wed. Mar. 2 | 7:00 pm | Ash Wednesday Service |
| | 8:00 pm | Choir Practice |
| Thur. Mar. 3 | 9:00 am | Quilters Group |
| | 1:00 pm | Mary Circle |
| | 7:00 pm | Bible Study & Scout Meeting |



Shrove Tuesday – is March 1st and St. Peter's will host our annual pancake and sausage dinner beginning at 6 pm followed by a bring your best joke competition and a 2021 year in review DVD presentation, followed by the burning of palms service.

Those who have their best joke ready to share can sign up on Shrove Tuesday to provide and even flow of entertainment. Best jokes can come from folks of all ages, just remember to keep them G rated for younger ears and in respecting our church family as a whole.

Fish Fry Dinner- will be held on Friday, March 25th starting at 4:30 pm. The dinner will be drive thru only with NO RESERVATIONS needed. It is first come first served until it is sold out.

Eilene Budisky is accepting cash donations to cover the cost of food and other items needed for the dinner. A poster for other items that will be needed will be posted at a later time.



Looking Ahead...Lent

| | |
|---------|---|
| Mar. 1 | Shrove Tuesday |
| Mar. 2 | Ash Wed. 7:00 pm Service (communion at seats, ashes as you come forward) |
| Mar. 10 | Lent Service 7 pm (with communion) |

Morning Manna & Kid Camp- will be offered again this coming summer. St. Peter's will host 1 week of morning manna and 3 weeks of kid camp. (June 6-10, June 13-17, August 15-19) Please see Heidi Beahm if you are interested in registering for any of these camps. Morning Manna is from 9-noon and will be a farm theme this year. Kid camps will run from 7:30 am – 5:30 pm.



Communion Ministers - if you would like to volunteer to take communion to shut in members, that ministry is going to begin again in the next few months, and we need your help! Training will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, March 13th. Please let Pastor Johns know if you would like to be part of this ministry.

Meager Meals – are returning this Lent. On Thursday evenings at 6 pm starting on March 10th, we will gather before worship to eat soup and bread together. If you would like to provide either for a night or nights, there is a sign-up in Luther **HALL**.



Welcome to St. Peter's



We are thankful that you are here to worship with other Christians today. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray that your worship experience will fill you with the grace and mercy of Almighty God through his Holy Spirit.

Newcomers and Guests

New to St. Peter's? Please sign the GUEST REGISTER behind the last pew. A handicapped accessible RESTROOM is located near the Van Buren Street entrance (through Luther Hall, past the kitchen, restroom is on the left in the foyer). You are welcome to commune with us if that is your practice.

Nursery- is self-serve and available on for children and caregivers. Exit the rear of the nave and follow the steps to the basement, the nursery is on the left. The service can be heard through an intercom in the nursery. There are activity bags in the back of the sanctuary and children's bulletins geared to children ages 5 and up.

Office Hours:

Heidi Beahm, our secretary, is in the church office Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM until Noon.

Pastor Johns can also be reached at the church.

Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

Church Office: 724.538.5810

Church Email: stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net

Pastor Email: rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com

Church Website: www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org

Church Facebook Page: St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Sunday Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays at 10:00 AM.

Newsletter deadline: Third Sunday of the Month