

Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 3, 2022
10:15 Worship Service
Pastor Brandon Johns

BELL RINGING

BREAD *“Jesus said, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry...’” -John 6:35*

Bread has been a life-sustaining staple of humanity since the dawn of civilization, but Caesar’s idea of a peaceful kingdom was to demand the working poor to pass their crops to him so he would have an abundance of bread on his own table, sharing little back occasionally to appear generous. Jesus, on the other hand, gives his own self away as bread for the hungry, that all in God’s kingdom might be fed body and soul at God’s table, where life is abundant.

We pause to reflect as the loaves of bread are added to the cross garden.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING LITANY *(Psalm 26:8, 7, 2, 3)*

My heart exults in the Lord;

my strength is exalted in my God.

There is no Holy One like the Lord,

there is no Rock like our God.

I called upon the Lord in my distress

and cried out to my God for help.

My flesh and my heart may fail,

but God is the strength of my heart.

O Lord our God, show us your everlasting love,

that we may serve you from the obedience of our hearts.

Lead us in the way of your peace,

that our souls may be restored.

Fill our imaginations with the wonders of your creation,

that our minds may reflect your glory.

Guide us in the way of the cross,

that we might proclaim the strength of your love.

GATHERING HYMN: Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.



CONFESSION AND REASSURANCE OF GRACE

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, remember us in your love, and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all 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.

GREETING OF PEACE

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The greeting of peace is shared.

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM

He Loved Them to the End Joseph M. Martin

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
 or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
 ²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

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

PSALM 126 (Read Responsively)

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
 then were we like those who dream.
²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,**
 and our tongue with shouts of joy.
 Then they said among the nations,
 “The LORD has done great things for them.”
³The LORD has done great things for us,
 and we are glad indeed.
⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,**
 like the watercourses of the Negeb.
⁵Those who sowed with tears
 will reap with songs of joy.
⁶**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,**
 will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

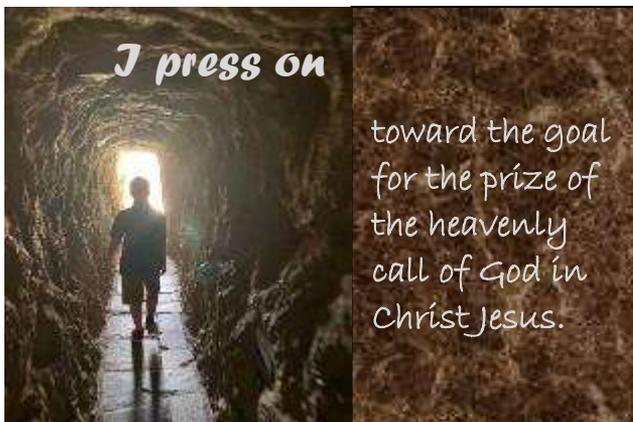
SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

The holy gospel according to John, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: When I Survey the Wonderful Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, his sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.



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

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Creating God, continue to do new things in the church. Free us from paradigms that no longer serve the gospel and bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change.

The response for each petition is: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OFFERING

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

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

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:

“May God’s love hold you through your tears and bring you again to songs of joy. Amen.”

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Let us share now in the heavenly banquet that has no end.

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. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our 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: Day by Day



1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at-tend me, bring-ing com-fort
2 Day by day, I know you will pro-vide me strength to serve and
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur-dens



to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me
wis-dom to o-bey; I will seek your lov-ing will to guide me
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near-er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di-vine, be-yond all
o'er the paths I strug-gle day by day. I will fear no e-vil
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat-ter



mor-tal mea-sure, brings to naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior,
of the mor-row, I will trust in your en-dur-ing grace. Sav-ior,
what be-tide me, you will hold me ev-er in your hand. Sav-ior,



lead me to the home I trea-sure, where at last I'll find e-ter-nal rest.
help me bear life's pain and sor-row till in glo-ry I be-hold your face.
with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

SHARING FOR SERVING: BIRTHDAYS AND MISSION NOTICES

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Now unto the King Eternal* Arthur Thomas Gilbert

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for April

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support EDCO Park.

If you would like to support this cause, please mark the other line on your contribution envelope EDCO.

Jan Hogan	Joyce Hayes
Luke Clawson	David English
Cole Barkley	Amy Anthony
The family of Florence Lindgren	Ray Middleton
The family of Mike Mashuda	The family of Ellie Suereth
The family of Ron West	

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

*Today's Altar Flowers
are given by Karen Ferrari
In loving memory of mother and
grandmother, Edith Sarver*

*The eternal candle is
given by Marlene Domhoff
In loving memory of
Bob Domhoff*

Help Wanted: Keeping the Word Alive Vigil – Starting after the 7 pm Good Friday Service, St. Peter's family and friends will work as a team to keep a vigil until the sunrise service on Easter morning. This is a unique opportunity to deepen our spiritual connection to Christ, the Living Word, in connection with the time he spent in the tomb. The vigil will include reading the Gospel of Luke as well as other devotional materials. To make this vigil successful we need volunteers to sign up at any time (day or night)! You can sign up in Luther Hall.

Fish Fry Dinner- Many thanks to everyone who participated and donated in any way to make this year's dinner a huge success. A special thank you to St. Peter's Youth and Fellowship Committee who worked hard at serving others. About \$3,200 was raised, \$200 of which will benefit the Evans City Community Library and the rest benefits our ministries by helping to pay down our brick loan.



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)	The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Synodical Bishop (SWPA Synod)	The Rev. Kurt A. Kusserow
Pastor	The Rev. Brandon Johns
Organist & Music Director	Marlene Domhoff
Office Secretary	Heidi Beahm
Sexton	Joe Ludwik
Lector	Cheryl Thomas
Acolyte	Myka Plank
Bell Ringer	Wes Schmidt
Ushers	Cindy Ayres & Heidi Beahm

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

Mon. – Fri.	3:30 pm	After School Program
Mon. April 4	7:00 pm	Boy/Cub Scouts Meeting
	7:00 pm	Fellowship Committee Mtg.
Tue. April 5	7:00 pm	Property Committee Meeting
Wed. April 6	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch at Luciano's, Mars
	5:30 pm	Manna Night
	7:00 pm	Sr. Choir Practice
Thur. April 7	9:00 am	Quilters
	1:00 pm	Mary Circle
	6:00 pm	Meager Meals
	7:00 pm	Lent Service
Sat. April 9	11:00 am	Luther Hall Reserved (Wearing)

Easter Egg Hunt Donations- there is a box on the reading table under the bulletin board in Luther Hall for donations for St. Peter's Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Learning Ministry on Easter morning. This year we are asking for plastic eggs, small prizes, and allergy safe candy (individual serving size): smarties, starburst, skittles, Swedish fish, nerds, and any other things you can think of.



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