

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025



St. Peter Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)

43 North Third Street

Hilbert, WI 54129

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Welcome to St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Divine forgiveness is incomparable. God's justifiable anger for sinful rebellion is assuaged. Prodigal sons are forgiven, embraced, and fed. The church continually recalls this same liturgical sequence—Confession, Absolution, and Eucharist feast. Our restoration as God's people is complete by God's decree and action. The old has passed away and the new has come. As a forgiven people, we resound in shouts and songs of unsurpassed joy! Thank the Lord and sing His praise!

Holy Communion – Visitors who are not members of a Missouri Synod Lutheran church are asked to speak with the pastor or one of the elders before receiving the Lord's Supper.

Contact Information – To request prayer or to set up an appointment, contact the church office at 853-3217 or stpeterhilbert@gmail.com. If you have concerns or spiritual needs, please contact Pastor Peterson or one of the elders.

Pastor Peterson: (920) 483-0956

Elders: Dan B.: (920) 418-3696 Dan K.: (920) 378-5096
Dean: (920) 915-8678 Dale: (920) 660-5124

Liturgy: Divine Service Setting One p. 151

Hymns: 686, 915, 420, 537, 524, 588

Serving in our worship...

Preacher: Pastor Mark Peterson

Audio/Visual: Dan Bergelin, Dan Koffarnus

Altar Guild: Dan & Cindy Koffarnus

This Week at St. Peter
March 30 -April 6, 2025

Sunday, 3/30 9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Tuesday, 4/01 6:30 p.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, 4/02 10:30 a.m. Midweek Service

Sunday, 4/06 **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

(Isaiah 43:16-21; Phil. 3:4b-14; Luke 20:9-20)

8:30 a.m. Divine Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Statement on Holy Communion

I believe that I am a sinner. I repent of my sin and ask God's forgiveness. With His help I will amend my sinful life. I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and, under the form of the bread and the wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life. I resolve to dedicate my life to the service of my Lord by regular group worship, sacrificial giving, thankful living and sharing the Gospel with others.

In the Lord's Supper, the risen Christ is at once the Giver and the Gift! By His promise, His very body and blood are really present, and thereby we come into immediate contact with the exalted Christ! As we do so, witness is also given to oneness in doctrine by those who receive the Sacrament together. For this reason, we practice close(d) Communion.

God's Word teaches the real presence of Christ's body and blood invisibly in, with and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. We take seriously the spiritual care of those who commune at our altar. The Word of God states that no one offend against Christ and His Word by denying His true presence and its promise and seal of forgiveness. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (see 1 Cor. 11:27–29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of what is taught and believed at this altar (1 Cor. 11:26), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession (beliefs) differing from that of this congregation (that is, belong to another church body or denomination) and yet desire to receive the Sacrament will want to first speak with the pastor before communing. As a courtesy, guests from sister congregations of the LCMS are asked to introduce themselves to the pastor before communing.

Introit

Psalm 51:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

C according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

C and cleanse me from my sin!

P For I know my transgressions,

C and my sin is ever before me.

P Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,

C so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

P Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

C and in sin did my mother conceive me.

P Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,

C and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

C according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

P [O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,

C the founder and perfecter of our faith,

P who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,

C and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You – We want to thank everyone, who helped us with our soup lunch last weekend! It meant a lot to have all of the volunteers willing to lend a helping hand with set up, food prep, and clean up. It was also great to see all of the people, who attended the lunch, donated desserts, and helped us raise funds for this summer's VBS. What a blessing you are to our church and our children!

St Peter Constitution and Bylaws – The updated Constitution and Bylaws are included with the April newsletter. There are also copies available in the narthex. Please look them over. If you have any questions, they can be brought to the council or to the committee that prepared the updates. Changes are italicized; words or lines that are crossed out will be deleted. The Constitution will be presented to the congregation at the April Voter's Assembly and will need a 2/3 majority and voted to be accepted at the July Voter's Assembly. The bylaws will be brought forward at the April Voter's Assembly and only needs a simple majority to pass.

April Newsletters are available in the narthex.

Easter Flower Ordering – Today is the last day to order lilies, mini carnations, begonias, tulips, hydrangeas, or kalanchoes. Fill out the order sheet in the narthex, enclose a check or cash in the envelope provided and place the envelope in the church mailbox of Dean & Jan Bergelin. Please make checks payable to Jan Bergelin. The flowers that you order will add to the beauty of the church at Easter. Thank you.

Lenten Midweek Services Lenten midweek services are 10:30 a.m. at St. Peter and 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke on Wednesdays until April 9th. Maundy Thursday is April 17th at 10:30 a.m. at St. Peter and 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke. Good Friday, April 18th, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Peter and 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke.

Luke 15:12 – “And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.” This prodigal son only sees the father as a source of wealth. “Give me my inheritance now!” he says, which is really to say, “You are better off dead in my eyes.” This is the sin at the heart of all greed: valuing things over people. This parable calls us to come to our senses as well, and to see God as the loving Giver of all good, the true Father to be valued above and beyond all the things of this world.

Old Testament

Isaiah 12:1–6

¹You will say in that day: “I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. ²“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.” ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: “Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable: . . .

“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the

younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”