

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH and ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways
Resurrection of Our Lord ~ Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

[Virtual Prayer and Preaching]

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**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**THANKSGIVING for BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We bless you, O God, maker and ruler of all things.

Your voice thundered over the waters at creation.

**You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys  
to refresh and satisfy all living things.**



Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom.

**In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock,  
and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.**

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us  
to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us,

and the deep shall not swallow us up,

for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise.

**He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name  
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water;  
clothe all the baptized with Christ;

**and claim us for your children, no longer slave and free,  
no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized.**

Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated  
on the throne, and to the Lamb! **Amen**

**PRAYER of the DAY**

The risen and ascended Christ is with you. **And also with you.**

Holy One, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* 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 Leader and Savior, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

## **GOD'S WORD**

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING: Colossians 3:1-4**

*Easter means new life for us as it first meant for new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.*

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

This is holy Wisdom, God's holy Word.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10**

*Sorrow gives way to "fear and great joy" when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!*

This is the Holy Gospel of the Resurrection of Christ,  
as the Word was given to Matthew, the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter.

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my followers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

### **HYMN of the DAY: #365 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"**

- 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!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.;  
Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

**MESSAGE:**            **LIVE**            *silence for reflection follows*

### **NICENE CREED**

With the whole Church, we confess the ancient faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,  
Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance  
with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living  
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father  
and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

**the CHURCH PRAYS**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, we pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence.*

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain. Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. We pray for ELCA Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop Bill Gohl, Ebenezer Grace Worship, those hospitalized or recuperating at home, Greg, John, Lori, Mary Lue, Lynn, Will, Bea, Kathy, our at-home worshippers, ... Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died, ... and who now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Blessing God's holy name, we pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

### **PRAYER for MISSION**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Holy One, through the Word of the resurrected life of Christ Jesus, you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen**

### **BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and their Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
bless † us now and forever. **Amen**

### **PEACE**

We are sent to share Good News,  
forgiven and reconciled with all God's people.  
The peace of Christ is with you always.

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**Today's Sponsorships**

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Today's Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

Easter Cross

Given In Loving Memory of my parents, Vi and Ernest Grimm.

With love from their daughter, Carole Grimm

~and~

In Loving Memory of our parents, Audrey and Buzz Robinson.

Given by the Mills family.

We wish everyone a happy and blessed Easter!

Given by the Mills family.

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*Today's Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God*

In Honor of Emma Rose Volz's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Given by Nanny and Gramp (Lois & Fred Volz).

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Attendance for Sunday, March 29, 2026: 45

Learning, Serving, and Fellowship Opportunities

Holy Week Worship:

Maundy Thursday (4/2) and Good Friday (4/3): On-site at 7 pm.

Resurrection Sunday (4/5): On-site at 7:00, 8:45 & 10:15 am.

Easter Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, April 5th at 7:45 am. in the lower level open area. All are welcome!

Easter Holiday Closures: The church office and SPES will be closed from April 2nd – April 10th. We hope that you have a blessed Easter holiday!

The Small Catechism Zoom gatherings will continue intermittently throughout the next few months. Upcoming dates are: 4/9 & 16, 5/7, 14, & 21, and 6/4, 11, & 18. All information will be sent out by email on the afternoon of each Zoom date.

Office Help Needed! Joy will be away from the church office May 4-8. If you are able to provide coverage 1 or more days that week from 9a-12p, contact Joy at 410-665-7300.

Line Dancing: Saturday, April 11th from 1-4 pm. at St. John's, Essex (518 Franklin Ave., 21221). Put on your dancing shoes and join the dancers! Everyone is welcome – including beginners. Admission is \$10 at the door and one non-perishable food item for the food pantry. Bottled water is provided with food and snacks available for purchase. All proceeds benefit St. John's new HVAC system.

The Chosen (season 4): Tuesdays from 5:15-7 pm., April 14-June 2. Season 4 explores faith, loss, courage, and what it truly means to follow Christ when the way forward is uncertain. Invite a friend and come for a lite dinner and fellowship at 5:15 pm. followed by a viewing of this uplifting series. April 14 & 21 at Epiphany (4301 Raspe Ave., 21206); April 28 at St. John, Parkville (8808 Harford Rd., 21234); May 5 & 12 at Ascension (7601 York Rd., 21204); May 19 at St. Luke (7001 Harford Rd., 21234); May 26 & June 2 at Christus Victor (9833 Harford Rd., 21234).

Quarter Auction: Sunday, April 19th at 12 pm. at Epiphany (4301 Raspe Ave., 21206). Baskets, candy, gift cards and more! Doors open at 12 and games begin at 1. 2 paddles are \$5 Lunch and snacks for sale. Call 410-485-7654 to RSVP and for information.

Community Health & Wellness Fair: Saturday, April 25th from 10 am.-2 pm. at Epiphany (4301 Raspe Ave., 21206). Fair offers free resources and information to support health living for the entire family and includes information about: nutrition, mindfulness, physical activity, and community supports. For more information, contact cphillips@cityneighbors.org, nrobinson@cityneighbors.org, or call 410-325-2627.

Flea Market & Craft Fair: Saturday, May 16th from 7:30 am.-12 pm. at St. Michael, Perry Hall (9534 Belair Rd., 21236). Vendors are wanted – information and to register, go to www.stmichaelperryhall.org (\$25/space). Rain date 5/23.

Rest & Recharge on the Ridge: Sunday, April 26th from 2-5:30 pm. Hiking, mindfulness, yoga, hymn singing, arts & crafts, hammocks, nature activity guides, and a light meal at 4:30. Mar-Lu-Ridge (3200 Mar Lu Ridge Rd., Jefferson, MD 21755) is hosting this free event for you to find a quiet space to reconnect with nature, engage in a favorite creative hobby & recharge your soul. Email mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org to RSVP.

DE/MD Synodical Women's Organization's 37th Annual Convention: Saturday, May 16th from 8:30 am.-3:30 pm. at Journey of Faith Church (7902 Liberty Rd., Windsor Mill, MD 21244). This year's theme is Under Her Wings - Motherhood in the New Testament. Registration is \$35, due by April 18th. For more information and/or to register, call Michele Jecelin at 410-925-2662.

Afternoon Tea Bus Trip: Thursday, June 18th, hosted by St. John, Brooklyn (226 Washburn Ave., 21225). Tea Trolley Tearoom in Delta, PA with first stop at The Markets of Shrewsbury. Cost \$110 (food, transportation, tax, gratuity and driver tip included). The bus will leave St. John parking lot at 10 am. and return at 5 pm. Information and reservations, contact Leslie at 410-969-0129. Deadline for Reservations and payment in full due by June 14. This is an annual fundraiser to support the programs and ministries of St. John.

Save the Date: St. Luke (7001 Harford Rd., 21234) will be hosting their annual Summer Music & Arts Camp July 27th-August 4th from 9 am.-3 pm. Registration will be open in mid-late May.

Secretary Position Available: Part time, 20 hr./week, 4 days/week. Applicants must demonstrate proficiency in Word and PowerPoint. Applicants must also have good organizational skills, be able to work independently and with others as well as have good communication skills. Interested parties should call St. Matthew Lutheran Church office (410-335-4210).

Sponsorships Available: Bulletins on 4/19 (contact the church office).

St. Peter's Family Goods Center: If you are interested in volunteering for the Family Goods Center, please contact Bill Lauer. This is a great opportunity for service hours for your middle or high school student, and volunteer hours for SPES families. Please place donations in the shopping cart in the Narthex.

Give to St. Peter's On-line! Did you know that you can make offering donations and sponsorship payments on-line through PayPal?? Login to your PayPal account and search for our tag: @Spl367 or St. Peter's Lutheran Church and Christian Day School. When submitting your donation or payment, you can note what it's for. It's THAT easy!

News from St. Peter's Elementary School and PACE

Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions or want to schedule a tour. Open enrollment for 2026-27 continues. Referrals are always welcome!

Upcoming: Open Houses on April 18th from 12-2 pm. and May 7th from 6:30-7:30 pm. NEW THIS YEAR: Shadow Day on Wednesday, April 22nd from 9 am.-3 pm. Contact the school to RSVP for these events.