

The Fishnet

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Hilltown, PA
March 2026**



In addition to "in-person" worship, Services are viewable live each Sunday morning on St. Peter's Facebook page, at St. Peter's website and on St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Hilltown, PA YouTube page after the Service.

Pastor's Message

We continue our Lenten journey through March. As such, I offer a brief reflection on Lenten practice.

In the "Invitation to Lent," part of the Ash Wednesday liturgy, we were "called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor." I then invited those gathered to the discipline of Lent – self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love – strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament."

One of the concerns that the Lutheran reformers sought to address was the medieval preoccupation with "the letter of the law" rather than "the spirit of the law." Take, for example, fasting. Fasting may mean different things in Christian usage, from total abstinence from food and drink for designated periods of time to the adoption of a more simplified diet. "Oh, I'm going to give up chocolate or broccoli for Lent," someone may say. The problem with that kind of practice is that it quickly focuses on the person rather than God. "Look at me for what I am giving up. See how wonderful I am!" the person may claim. Does God really care about what we are eating or not eating during Lent?

Interestingly, in his Lenten message, Pope Leo took a more substantial view of fasting. He cautioned that fasting must be "lived in faith and humility" rather than pride and should be grounded in communion with the Lord ... "Fasting must also include other forms of self-denial aimed at helping us to acquire a more sober lifestyle ... Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot

defend themselves," cultivating kindness "in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities."

Indeed, if we are going to fast, may we fast from the evil that threatens to devour us and seek to build the community that God intends for us!

Sunday Lenten Bible Study

This year, instead of the Wednesday services of Evening Prayer, we are offering a Sunday Lenten Bible Study, which meets after worship in the Apostles Room from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Because of the impending threat of the afternoon snow on February 22, we regrettably cancelled the first Sunday Lenten Bible Study. However, we plan to meet on Sundays, March 1, 8, 15, and 22. Our subject is *Jesus' Last Week* as reported in the Gospel of Matthew. We hope that you will join us!

Holy Week and Easter Worship

March 29, **Palm Sunday**, Holy Communion with Blessing and Distribution of Palms at 9:00 a.m.

April 2, **Maundy Thursday**, Holy Communion with the Stripping of the Altar at 7:00 p.m.

April 3, **Good Friday**, Service of the Word with the Procession of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

April 5, **Easter Sunday**, Sunrise Service of Holy Communion in the Cemetery (weather permitting) at 7:00 a.m. and Festive Service of Holy Communion in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.

Upper Bucks Conference

The annual Upper Bucks Conference assembly is planned for Sunday, March 8, beginning at 2:00 p.m., at Durham Lutheran Church, 821 Durham Road, Durham. Pastor Rick Summy will be on hand to talk about the current synod emphasis *Love Revolution*.

Upcoming Dates (please mark your calendar)

March 1	9:00 am	Service
"	10:00 am	Lenten Bible Study
March 8	9:00 am	Service
"	10:00 am	Lenten Bible Study
	Don't forget 3/8 time change!!	
March 15	9:00 am	Service
"	10:00 am	Lenten Bible Study
March 19	Easter flower forms due in church office	
March 22	9:00 am	Service
"	10:00 am	Lenten Bible Study
March 29	9:00 am	Palm Sunday Service
"	10:00 am	Lenten Bible Study
April 2	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
April 3	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service
April 5	7:00 am	Easter Sunrise Service
	10:00 am	Easter Service

Easter Flower order

The Church Office is accepting Easter flower donations for lilies and tulips.

Please see the order form on another page of this newsletter or pick up a form in the church narthex when you're at St. Peter's.

Orders are due by Thursday, March 19, please.



Time Change

Oh my – it's time to change the clocks again!

On Sunday, March 8, it's time to "spring forward" one hour. Please be sure to change your clocks before going to bed on Saturday evening.

Please mark your calendar accordingly. And spring is coming!!

Holy Week Services

It seems hardly possible, but Easter is only six weeks away.

Following are Holy Week Services:

Palm Sunday	3/29 – 9:00 am
Maundy Thursday	4/2 - 7:00 pm
Good Friday	4/3 - 7:00 pm
Easter Sunrise	4/5 - 7:00 am outside in "old" cemetery
Easter Service	" - 10:00 am in sanctuary



Church office hours

The Parish Administrator is in the office on Monday and Wednesday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 12:00 noon.

In the event of bad weather (snow, ice, hurricane) she may work from home. Please call the church office (215-822-9108) to verify someone is there before travelling to the church on "weather" days.

FISH continues to need canned and dry goods

Canned and dry goods donations continue to be needed by FISH. Please help! A bin for donations is in the Narthex.

FISH asks, whenever possible that your donation(s) come in a carton as the bags tear too easily. Thanks!

LILIES AND TULIPS FOR EASTER

Your generosity last year provided beautiful flowers for our celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Let's do it again this year! Please return this form and your donation to the offering plate or the church office by Thursday, March 19th. Thank you!

Name(s) _____

In memory / honor of (circle one)

Donation amount (circle one) \$12 \$25 other \$_____

I would like to take a lily home with me _____Yes _____No

I would like to take a tulip home with me _____Yes _____No



MUSIC CONCERT

Join us at Trinity for this music opportunity!

University of Pittsburgh Men's Glee Club

Friday, March 13 at 7:30 pm



Experience the Spirit of the Steel City! Join the Pitt Men's Glee Club—one of the oldest and most storied traditions at the University of Pittsburgh—for their upcoming concert, Pitt Men State of Mind. This performance celebrates the brotherhood, resilience, and unique culture of the Pitt community through a diverse repertoire that spans classical choral works to modern favorites.

Whether you are a lifelong fan or a newcomer to the Glee Club's powerful harmonies, this concert promises an evening of vocal excellence that captures the heart and "state of mind" of a Panther.



MORE INFO AT

www.trinitylansdale.com

1000 W. Main Street
Lansdale, PA

PRAYER CONCERNS as of March 1

(* = new addition to list)

God's Protection and Safety:

On all who drive buses, trains & planes. For all the service men & women especially:

Petty Officer First Class Abigail L. Gall, US Coast Guard, daughter of Diane & Chris Gall
CAPT. Walker Gall, US Air Force, son of Diane & Chris Gall

God's Healing:

Parishioners: Mary Long, Spencer Butterwick, Pam Abaza, Ed Hardy, June Bair, Sheryl Gladfelter, Kim Jerasa, Dave Reice, Heather Jerasa, Reed Jerasa, Don Jerasa, Jim Lynch, Mary Ettore.

God's Healing:

Friends and family:

Ed & Jean Janisheck (friends of Rita Bixler), David Gottshall (Bill Gottshall's brother), Brian Blackburn, Sr., Brendan Rush (grandson of Norm Driscoll), Vicki Matott (Deb Detweiler friend), Charlotte Hacker (sister-in-law of Jerry & Joan Gerhart), Franz Grove (friend of Donna Blackburn), Robyn Gulick (granddaughter of Janet Owens), Jim Fryling (Jerry & Joan Gerhart's cousin), Tom Korbas (Jerry & Joan Gerhart's brother-in-law), Marlon Cortolean (Deb Detweiler's friend), Emily Kuykendall (Bev Gottshall's daughter), Heidi Beason and Ruth Miller (friends of Rita Bixler), Shirley Treichler (Hope Garrett's sister), John Moll (Wally Simpkins' friend), Keith Lewis (Lori Lombardo's brother), Tessa Bair (June Bair's granddaughter), Butch Trucksess (Donna Blackburn's brother-in-law), Bill Treichler (Hope Garrett's brother), David Hallman (Rita Bixler's friend), Judy Johnson (Marv & Betty Rohrs' daughter), Tammy Owens (Janet Owens' daughter-in-law), Rhelda Warriner (Rita Bixler's sister), Lindsey Hollingswoth (Lori Groves' niece), Caitlin(Cate) Fishman (Lori Groves' relative), Jim Trucksess (Donna Blackburn's nephew), Ann Sellers (Pastor Miller's mother-in-law), Kay Moyer (Hope Garrett's friend), Danni Tyrrel (Kim Jerasa's great-niece), Terri Lewis (Lori Lombardo cousin), Terri Jewett-Larkin (Patti Dowse's sister), Aidan Drakeley (Carol Barringer's grandson), Beverly Goheen (Maureen Simpkins' sister), George Yarns (Tammy Daubert's father), Pat Daubert (Rick Daubert's sister).

God's Comfort & Peace:

For our homebound members: **Esther Saylor** (Hidden Meadows on the Ridge), **Ethel Geist** (Arden Court, King of Prussia), **Catherine Truesdell** (Lansdale), **Mary Long** (Park Manor, Quakertown), and **Gene Gugger** (Bridges at Warwick, Jamison).

God's Grace for the Family & Friends who mourn the death of:

*+Leroy Gladfelter, Rochelle Fly (friend of Rita Bixler), +Tillie Kister Murray, +Eleanor Peitzman, Kathy Shea (cousin of Lori Lombardo), +Joe Haenn, Harold Shisler and Leroy Hagey (John Snyder's cousins), Michael Hardy, +Janet Owens, +Jacob Brombach, Dave Yarns (brother of Tammy Daubert), Susan Smolin (daughter of Joan Johnson), Gary Nemec (father of Kelly Florentino, Katie Poust, and Kristine Martin).

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 am Worship Service 10 am Bible Study 7 pm NAFIS	2 7-9 pm NAFIS	3 7-9 pm NAFIS	4 7-9 pm NAFIS	5 7-9 pm NAFIS	6 1pm - Prayers 7-9 pm NAFIS	7 ~5 pm NAFIS
8 9 am Worship Service 10am – Bible Study PM - 4H 8-10 pm NAFIS	9 8-10 pm NAFIS	10 5-7:30 am NAFIS AM- Piano tuner 8-10 pm NAFIS	11 5-7:30 am NAFIS 8-10 pm NAFIS	12 5-7:30 am NAFIS 8-10 pm NAFIS	13 5-7:30 am NAFIS 1pm - Prayers 8-10 pm NAFIS	14 5-7:30 am NAFIS ~5 pm NAFIS
15 5-7:30 am NAFIS 9 am Worship 10am-Bible Study PM – 4H 8-10 pm NAFIS	16 5-7:30 am NAFIS 7 pm Council mtg 8-10 pm NAFIS	17 5-7:30 am NAFIS 8-10 pm NAFIS	18 5-7:30 am NAFIS 8-10 pm NAFIS	19 5-7:30 am NAFIS 8-10 pm NAFIS	20 Eid-al-Fitr 8-10 am NAFIS 1pm - Prayers	21
22 9 am Worship 10am-Bible Study	23	24	25	26	27 1pm - Prayers	28
29- Palm Sunday 9 am Worship	30	31	April 1	April 2 Maundy Thursday 7 pm Service	April 3 Good Friday 7 pm Service	

Monthly Assisting Ministers Calendar – March 2026

Date	Time	Usher(s)	Acolyte	Crucifer	Scripture/ Prayer	Server	Altar Guild	Counters
March 1	9:00 am Service	D & S Texter	L Goves	D Gall	J Snider	L Bell	L Ertel & K Park	
March 8	9:00 am Service	E & S Rebnegger	D Seward	J Seward	K Rebnegger	P Abaza	E Rebnegger	S Davenport & J Snider
March 15	9:00 am Service	Deb Detweiler	Lisa Bell	N Driscoll	L Ertel	P Tackett	P Abaza & D Detweiler	
March 22	9:00 am Service	J & J Gerhart	P Tackett	L Groves	P Tackett	S FischerJ	D & S Texter	J Smith & R Bixler
March 29 Palm Sunday	9:00 am Service	D Detweiler	E Park	F Park	T Daubert	P Abaza	R Bixler & D Detweiler	
April 2 Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm Service						E Rebnegger	
April 5 Easter Sunday	10:00 am Service	J & D Snyder	J Snyder	N Driscoll	J Smith	L Bell	L Ertel & K Park	D & S Texter