



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, WEST PENN

"...where worship and service don't stop with the final hymn."

Rev. Virginia M. Heimer, Pastor
Carol Steigerwalt, Director of Music

March 26, 2023 ~ Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship ~ 9:00 a.m. Sunday School ~ 10:15 a.m.

(Please turn off your cell phone.)

We Gather Again and Seek God's Presence

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, breathe upon us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may be raised to new life in Christ, that we may serve you faithfully with our lives, through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Greeting/Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Prelude

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

by Joseph Scriven & Charles Converse

(All who are able, please stand.)

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

L: Let us lift up our voices and call out to God.

P: **We cry out, believing that God hears us.**

L: Let us come together and wait for God.

P: **We come together, trusting that God is still speaking.**

L: Surely God's presence is here with us now.

P: **We wait in hope, for God's steadfast love lifts our hearts.**

L: Come, let us worship the Lord.

P: **We celebrate the power of God that restores us.**

Opening Hymn

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

#314

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek God's Forgiveness

Call to Confession

(silence for reflection)

Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

Merciful God, you call us to be your voices in the world and we stay silent. You call us to be your hands in the world and we keep them in our pockets. You call us to be your feet in the world and we go our own way. When we meet those in doubt and we say nothing, forgive us. When others need our touch and we fail to reach out, forgive us. When we are called to take up our cross but carry nothing, forgive us. Bring life into our bones and our souls that we might proclaim in heart, soul and voice that you are God. Bring us your mercy and forgiveness. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Praise *(sung)*

*Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way;
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord I lift your name on high.*

(The congregation may be seated.)

Special Music “My God is So Big” by Ruth Harms Calkin
 “Lord’s Army” by Chris Christian
 ~offered by the Cherub Choir

Children’s Time

We Listen for God’s Word to Us

The Reading of Scripture

The First Reading *(The New Living Translation)*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Gospel Reading

John 11:1-45

*(The Gospel is printed on the back of the bulletin.)
(After the Gospel is announced, all who are able stand and sing:)*



Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

(After the Gospel is read, sing:)



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

(The congregation may be seated.)

Special Music

“Calvary Covers It All” by Dennis Allen & Camp Kirkland
~ offered by the Senior Choir

The Sermon

(All who are able, please stand.)

Affirmation of Faith *(in unison)*

The Apostle’s Creed

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We 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. We 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.

(The congregation may be seated.)

The Offering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

“I Sing Praises”

by Terry MacAlmon

(All who are able, please stand.)

The Offertory Response *(sung)*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication *(in unison)*

Lift us up, O God, to invest in sharing with others. Increase our gifts of time and treasure that those around us might see the message of the Gospel in our lives. Receive these gifts, our worship and praise, and our lives as a sacred offering to you. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

(The congregation may be seated.)

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

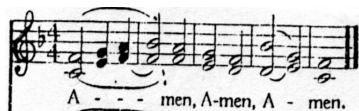
***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

(All who are able, please stand.)

Closing Hymn *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

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The Benediction with Three-fold “Amen”



Extinguishing of Candles/Silent Meditation

Choral Blessing *(sung)*

“Go Now in Peace”

***Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.***

Postlude

“Jesus Saves”

by Priscilla Owens & William Kirkpatrick



THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented in loving memory of the 5th anniversary of the passing of my beautiful wife Mary Ann, by her husband Frank Rossi.

THE BOWL ARRANGEMENT is in honor of Kolby Foster's birthday. Love Mom and Dad.

THE BULLETINS are sponsored by Helen Frey and family in loving memory of Eldora Rex, a loving sister and aunt.

LECTOR: Denise Moyer.

ACOLYTES: TBD.

BELL RINGER: Liam Nelson.

SOUND SYSTEM: Tony Thomas.

APRIL VISITATION BIRTHDAY: Buddy Arner (April 2nd).

MAY VISITATION BIRTHDAY: Robert Coombe (May 1st).

(Please see Laverne Hunsicker in the church parlor after worship to sign cards.)

BAKE SALE SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

We will be holding a bake sale at Warren Steigerwalt's Auction sale on Saturday, April 1st. All proceeds will be going to the roof project. Items can be dropped off at Merle and Laverne Hunsicker, 297 Meadow Brook Road, Lehighton on Friday, March 31st, or you can bring items to the sale on April 1st. Please have items cut and wrapped for individual serving, if possible. If you have any questions or need more information, please call Nancy Knadler at 570-956-6851.

Don't Forget!!

St. Peter's Annual Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt
is scheduled for
Saturday, April 8, 2023
1:00 PM SHARP!





*The Lenten Season Services for this year were shared with
our sister churches.
The remaining services are:*

Wednesday, March 29, 2023
at St. Peter's

*Refreshments and fellowship to follow at each church after the mid-week
Lenten services.*

Maundy Thursday, Model Seder Meal

April 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM at Ben Salem UCC

Good Friday

April 7, 2023 from 12:00 -3:00 PM at St. Peter's

The church will be open for all those who would like to spend time in
prayer in the sanctuary

April 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM at St. John's LC, Mahoning

ST. PETER'S DINNER THEATRE PRESENTS

Cricket County Academy

The hillbilly Taylor clan from Cricket County came into a great deal of money when their penny-pinching Uncle Zeke passed into the great beyond a couple of years back. The ironic thing is that Uncle Zeke left his dear county family a lot of money. So, in an attempt to finally get his country cousins a decent education, Elkin Taylor decides to enroll his kinfolk in Gold-Leaf Academy, a highbrow private school close to the city.

SHOW TIMES: (includes dinner & show)

Friday & Saturday, May 5, & 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Friday (Meatloaf) Saturday (Ham)

Sunday, May 7 at 1:00 p.m.

Sunday (Ham)

Tickets: \$20.00 adults \$15.00 children 5-10

Ticket deadline April 16, 2023

**For tickets call the church office (570) 386-4388,
or Lori Hoppes at (570) 386-2440**

Proceeds benefit the Building Fund Roof Project

Say a Prayer for:

*Loved Ones of
Bob Kropp
Loved Ones of
William Wert
Rev. Russ Campbell
Ruth & Carl Miller
Matt Brickler
Leonard Miller
Paul Drosnock
Chester Jones
Ralph Fisher
George Belanchick
Gary Steigerwalt
Ronald Yuricheck
Dan McMullen
Dan Myers
Bob Goerner
Gladys Balliet
Robert Coombe
Althea Zehner
Loretta Beers
Teena Miller
David Schoch
Erin Coombe
Dorothy Miller
Sharon Tanczos
Karen Lenhart
Billy James
Charlotte Solt
Wyatt Davis
Rita Yarnell
Laurie Black*

*Eric Breiner
Darryl Moyer
Betty Breiner
Betty Clark
Debbie Peipher
Rose Bear
Sherry Seip
Maggie Wehr
Nancy Domanski
Melinda Frey
Linda Agosti
Walter Szymanski
Logan Pribila
Bruce Wolf
Lori Fairchild
Franklin Mackes
Thomas Miller
Mark Abrachinsky
Greg Blackall
Lana Kuehner
Lucas Milot
Travis Flannigan
Paul David
Zayden Mabey
Gary Zehner
John Kowlewski
Jessica Nehm
Aiden Kreimendahl
Mike & Bernice Delp
Ben Fink
Diane Middlecamp
Gino Lorady
Kim & Dave Carson*

*Marion Kupres
Louise Billman
Tony Masor
Sherry Walz
Shari Yediny
Darlene Kunkel
Erla Biasi
Carolyn Kunkle
Aspen Murphy
Jillian Datchko
Pastor Nathan Kennedy
Russel Stull, Jr.
Veronica Steigerwalt
Donna Roderick
Jaden Leiby
Justin Klotz
Gene McCormik
Mike Rascho
William Shirar
Amy Meixsall
Jackson Delebar
Austin Klein
Melissa Drake
Lorna Hart
Carson Barron
Caroline Lantz
Nancy Barkus*



**If you know of someone to be added or removed from the Prayer List, please contact
Pastor Ginny, Chris Miller or the church office.**

**PRAYERS FOR OUR ARMED FORCES
AT HOME AND ABROAD**



Deployed to Japan:

John McGuire

Deployed to Africa:

Jonathan Liggitt

Michelle Liggitt



**Active Duty,
Not Deployed:**

Jacob Coombe

Patrick Donohue, II

Mark Habel

Dustin Hoppes

LeRoy E. Kromer II

Timothy Kromer

Ezekiel Kuneck

Sean Kurtz

Antonio Lorenzo

Dominic Lorenzo

Amanda Miller

Lisa Miller

Austin Resch

Tyler Resch

Trevor Schilling

Andy Snyder

Chad Wehr

Mark West

Scott West

Michael Zeigenfuss

PRAYERS FOR THOSE ON OUR VISITATION LIST

Gracedale Nursing Home: Lynn Gerber

Maple Shade Meadows: June Williams

Heritage Hill Senior Community: Warren Steigerwalt-Room 17

Scenic View: Olga Faust

At Home:

Buddy Arner

Velma Schaeffer

Robert Coombe

Doris Wolfe

Larry Miller

PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

**Michael, Kay, Mikayla, Leilani, & Michael Killar in Thailand
Maude, Valera, Zarina, Alexander, & Nicolas Motovilov in the
Czech Republic**

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

Today, Sunday, March 26:

9:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Sunday School

6:00 PM Girl Scouts

Monday, March 27:

7:15 PM Play Practice

Tuesday, March 28:

6:00 PM Bible Study

7:00 PM Church Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 29:

7:00 PM Mid-Week Lenten Service at St. Peter's

Thursday, March 30:

6:30 PM Cherub Choir rehearsal

7:00 PM Senior Choir rehearsal

Next Sunday, April 2:

9:00 AM Worship Service ~ Celebration of Holy Communion

10:15 AM Sunday School

6:00 PM Girl Scouts

**For complete details on these events, please consult your newsletter.*

ST. PETER'S PRESCHOOL

Registrations are being accepted for the 2023-24 School Term. St. Peter's Preschool admits students of any race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin. To attend the 3 year old program, children must be 3 by September 1, 2023. To attend the 4 year old program, children must be 4 by September 1, 2023. All children must be potty trained. If you have any questions or would like to register your child(ren), please contact Barbara Nametko at 570-386-4388 or email her at preschoolbarbara@gmail.com

There will be a presentation by a Princess Cruise Line Representative on **Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:00 PM** at St. Peter's Church social hall for the purpose of outlining the Alaska Land/Cruise Tour to be held July 2 ~ 17, 2024. All are welcome! For additional information, please contact Sue Conner at 570-778-5367

March 19, 2023

Attendance: 101

Total Current Offering: \$ 2,147.50

Building Maintenance Fund: \$ 288.00

Plate Offering: \$ 101.00

YTD-Fuel: \$ 490.00

YTD-Elevator: \$ 20.00

Benevolence:

Total YTD: \$ 2,910.50

2023 combined benevolence goal is \$10,000.00

St. Peter's Church, West Penn

184 St. Peter's Road Tamaqua PA 18252 570-386-4388

Rev. Virginia M. Heimer, Pastor

For Pastoral Care or Emergency:

Pastor Heimer's Cell: 610-762-3840

Pastor Heimer will be in her office on:

Tuesdays and Wednesday from 10:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM

Thursdays from 9:00 AM ~ 1:00 PM

Friday ~ OFF; Saturday ~ SABBATH DAY

(Contact for emergencies only, please. Non-urgent communications, please email)

Contact for our TLC Committee for Your Special Needs:

Please call Sue Conner at (570) 778-5367, or text her at jrotc@ptd.net.

Director of Music: Carol Steigerwalt

Sexton: Lou Ann Algard

Financial Secretary: Jacqueline McCandless

Church Office: Elaine Koons

Church Office Phone: (570) 386-4388

Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00 AM~2:00 PM

Wednesday-10:00 AM~1:00 PM

E-mail addresses:

Pastor Heimer: pastor@stpwp.com

Church Office: info@stpwp.com

Financial Secretary: financials@stpwp.com

Sunday School: spwpsundayschool@gmail.com

Web Site Address:

<https://www.stpeterschurchwestpenn.com>

Web Master email:

info@stpwp.com

Facebook:

St Peter's Church of West Penn