

4th Sunday after Epiphany



St Peter's Lutheran Church
January 29, 2023

St. Peter's Lutheran, York
4th Sunday after Epiphany
Sunday, JANUARY 29 – 8:45 AM

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.



Prepare now to give thanks to God:

Place an envelope in the offering plate on the way to Communion *OR* use the QR code *or* download the Vanco Mobile app on your smartphone. Search on "York" and choose St Peter's Lutheran. It's easy! Give thanks generously for God's abundant grace.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Confession & Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the Name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

As we prepare to come into the light of Christ, let us call to mind our sins and ask for forgiveness.

Silence for self examination.

Lord Jesus, You call us to cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Lord, have mercy.

C: We confess that we have tried to hide our sins and stay in the shadows. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, You come with God's light of compassion and love. Christ, have mercy.

C: We confess our weakness and seek the Spirit's strength. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, You come with signs of healing and new life. Lord, have mercy.

C: Forgive us when we do not see your presence in our lives. Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to each of you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**Hymn
of Praise**

#714
ELW
Stzs. 1-4

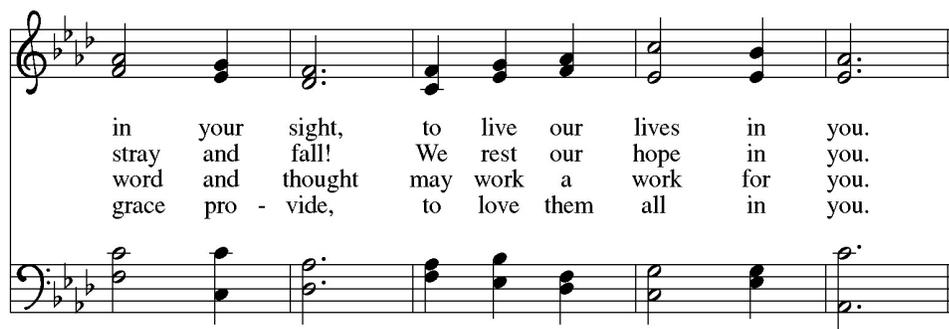
O God of Mercy, God of Light



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
word and thought may work a work for you.
grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **C: And Also with you.**

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading *Micah 6:1-8*

A reading from Micah

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Ba-

laam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.” ⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your ¹tabernacle? Who may abide upon your ¹holy hill?

²**Whoever leads a blameless life and does ¹what is right,
who speaks the truth ¹from his heart,**

³there is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil ¹to his friend;
he does not heap contempt up-¹ on his neighbor.

⁴**In his sight the wicked ¹is rejected, but he honors those who ¹fear the LORD.**

⁵He has sworn to ¹do no wrong and does not take ¹back his word.

⁶**He does not give his money in ¹hope of gain,
nor does he take a bribe a-¹gainst the innocent.**

⁷Whoever ¹does these things shall never be ¹overthrown.

**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.**

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:18–31*

A reading from 1 Corinthians

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is

written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater

of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers

and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation #174 ELW

The cantor will sing once through, then the congregation will repeat. The cantor sings the verse and the congregations repeats the alleluia

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Alleluia. Rejoice¹ and be glad,^{*}
 for your reward is¹ great in heaven. *Alleluia.* [Matthew 5:12]

Holy Gospel *Matthew 5:1-12*

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸“Blessed are the pure

in heart, for they will see God. ⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.***The assembly is seated.***The Message***Silence for reflection follows the sermon.**The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**Hymn
of the
Day**
#383
Green

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;
3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Apostles' Creed

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again 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**

The Prayer of the Church

Called together by the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus, we pray to the Father for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God,
C: hear our prayer.

Grant the foundations of the earth to bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills to echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,
C: hear our prayer.

Open our eyes to see how you make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,
C: hear our prayer.

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, healing and wisdom to all in need, especially those we name now..... Merciful God,
C: hear our prayer.

As with your people Israel, remind our congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God, **C: hear our prayer.**

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. As you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Keep us united with them through faith and bring us all into your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Peace

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, God does not hold our sins against us. This is true peace. Like Jesus with his disciples, the pastor shares the word of reconciliation from God to us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

We share Christ's forgiving and reconciling love with one another, binding ourselves to one another as community. As we are at peace with God, so we are also at peace with one another.

OFFERING - WE RETURN THANKS TO GOD AND SUPPORT GOSPEL MINISTRY



Please prepare your offering in an envelope to place in the offering plate when you are dismissed for Communion **Or** use the QR code or download the Vanco Mobile app on your phone.

You may also mail your offering to the church office or give through our website

www.stpeterslutheranyork.com Also be sure you have filled out the attendance card.

Everything we are and have belongs to God and is entrusted to us for God's glory. We are committed to sharing God's resources so that we can be a vital center for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and help others locally and around the world.

The Great Thanksgiving - The Eucharistic Meal

As the baptized children of God, we are invited by God to share the heavenly banquet.

Jesus seats us at his table where we are delivered from sin, death, and evil by his body and blood from his death on the cross. In this meal, Jesus forgives our sins, granting us life and salvation. He is truly present here and reveals himself to us in the breaking of bread.

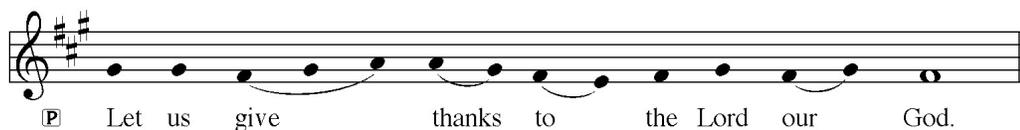
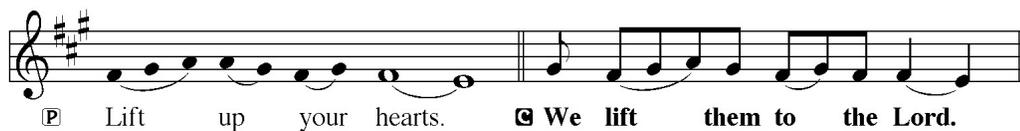
When we share Jesus' meal, we receive the Holy Spirit to live in hope and joy.

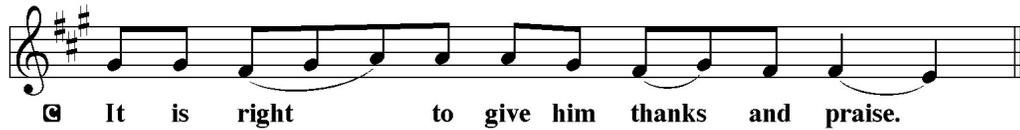
Offering Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Dialogue

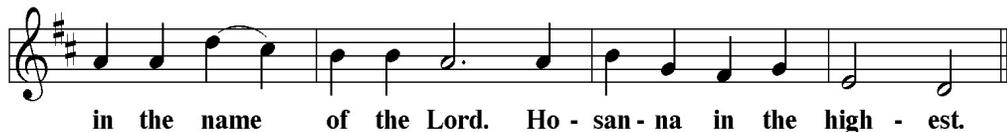
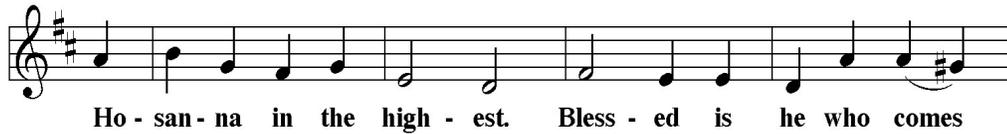




Preface

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast. **C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. **C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.**

Fraction — The Breaking of the Bread

The Body of Christ is broken as he was broken for us in the Passover, in the loaves, and on the cross. He gives himself to us as he fed the multitudes. Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb who gave himself to deliver all people from slavery to sin.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. **C: Let us taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Agnus Dei *Please join in singing during the distribution of the sacrament.*



☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution

The pastor will commune. Then she will commune those with infirmities in the pew. Then the congregation. Place your offering in the offering box and then take an empty cup. Receive the Body of Christ in your open palm from the pastor and then proceed to the assisting minister to receive the Blood of Christ. Return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your emptied cup into the bowl of water. Give thanks to God for such grace!

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say...

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond...

C: Amen.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **C: Amen.**

**Sending
Song**
#546
ELW

To Be Your Presence



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924
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Dismissal

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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Worship & Music Committee Meeting — Tuesday, JANUARY 31, 6:30 PM

Community Meal — Sunday, FEBRUARY 12, 11:00-12:00 PM

Updated Church Directories — are located in the narthex. One per household, please.

2022 Contribution Statements — are available in the narthex.

2023 Offering Envelopes — your offering envelopes are available to pick up & are located in the narthex.

2023 St. Peter's Council *denotes end of 2nd term

Peggy Kling (U-2023) *President* — Jan Botterbusch (2024)* *Vice President*

Matthew Malehorn (2023)* *Treasurer* — Gail Bentzel (2024)* *Secretary*

Barb Malehorn (2023)* — Tom Wachter (2024) — Judy Altland (2025) — Joan Geisler (2025)

York Conferences of Lutheran Tutoring Program

Snacks Needed!

St. Peter's has been assigned to donate pre-packaged drinks and snacks [20 students] for March 20-21 & April 24-25. We ask for a few volunteers to donate the snacks. If you are interested, contact Pr Schlegel for more information.



MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Susan Becker—Dale & Nedra Boyer—Tom Brusant—Evelin Burgos—Janice Cromer—Rich Davis—Bishop Elizabeth Eaton—Bill Everhart—Don Gise—Eric Gise—Shelva Gise—Sue Guerrini & family—Bruce Harget—Mike Hinkle—Lori Joseph—Phil Knobloch—John Lehr—Shirley Lutz—Ron Malehorn—Fabian Marrero—Michele McFarland—Philip Michael—John Miller—Charlie Neff—Rowan Neff—Scott Neff—Vickie O'Connor—Jen Olson—Kathy Pugh—Dolores Rehmeyer—Shirley Rearich—Betty Roach—Donna Roach—Jerry Schrum—George Shenberger—Emma Smyser—Nancy Stough Miller—Chris Thatcher—James Thompson—Vickie Toomey—Matthew Walters—Zach Weiland—Margaret Wiley—Dave Yates—the family & friends of Fran Thatcher.

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Donna Arnold—Norma Buck—Bill Everhart—Don Everhart—Helen Everhart—Doris Hoffacker—Ken & Joyce Innerst—Gloria & Phil Knobloch—Carla & Mike Lehr—Jean Leiphart—John Lehr—Joanne V. Martin—Marguerite Ness—Betty Roach—Lois Smith—Lois Snyder—Joyce Topper—Bob Zeigler

January 22, 2023

OFFERING

General \$ 910.00	Community Meal \$ 30.00
HVAC Project \$ 373.00	Memorial Gift \$ 275.00

God Has a Mission!

As disciples and stewards of Jesus Christ, we, the members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church are committed to the preaching and teaching of the Word of God to all people. We will reach out to one another and to others, giving and receiving.

We belong to:

- ◆ The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
- ◆ The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
- ◆ The Lower Susquehanna Synod—Bishop James Dunlop.
- ◆ The York Conference—The Rev. Stanley Reep, Dean
Trinity, Wrightsville; St. James, Hellam; St. Mark, York; Advent, York; Christ, York; Union, York; St. Matthew, York; St. Jacob, York New Salem; Shiloh; Trinity, York; Grace, York; Zion, York; St. Peter's, York; St. Paul, York; Luther Memorial, York; Christ, Spry; St. James, York
- ◆ We are companions with the Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania and sister congregation to Iyunga Parish. Bishop Edward Mwaikali.
- ◆ We are partners with Christ Lutheran Church, Manchester, PA

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
947 North George Street, York PA 17404
8:45 AM—Worship Service



Church Staff

The Reverend Beth A. Schlegel, *STS* Pastor
Terri Schroll Secretary
Kristen Hartman—Susan Hartman Sextons

Our phone number is: 717-854-0589
Our Website is: <http://www.stpeterslutheranyork.com>
Our Email Address is: stpeterslutheran@verizon.net
Pastor Beth Schlegel: Phone #: 717-495-8894
Email: pastorschlegel@live.com

Next Week CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday
8:00 AM — 1:00 PM

Friday
OFFICE CLOSED