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## Sacrifice vs. Sacrament

- Pastor Sorenson

This may not be something that you've thought much about. It may even be something that you don't think makes much of a difference. But these two words and understanding them are very helpful when it comes to worship.

A sacrifice, especially when you are talking about worship, is an action and/or a gift from man to God. Man does the action and God receives it.

A sacrament is an action and/or a gift from God to man. God does the action and man receives it.

In this way, these two words and their use in worship help to define what exactly is happening when we gather together in the Lord's house. Sacraments are familiar to you. Holy Baptism is a Sacrament. The Lord's Supper is a Sacrament. Holy Absolution, while not technically numbered as a Sacrament, nevertheless fits this general definition as God is forgiving our sins.

The important part here, then, is to notice the direction. When a baby is baptized or when you come to the altar for communion or when the absolution is pronounced, God is the one doing the action. You are receiving it. You are receiving God's adoption, His body and blood, His forgiveness, His salvation, etc.

On the other side, sacrifices are present in worship too. You hear this in the liturgy, in fact. For instance, in the offertory you sing, "What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving." Praise of God is another sacrifice that is offered during worship.

You see this pattern follow throughout the service, then. God acts first (Sacrament), His people receive it and they offer up thanksgiving and praise (sacrifice) for what God has done.

The Absolution is announced at the beginning of the service. You receive it and then you sing a hymn of praise (Gloria in Excelsis or This Is the Feast).

The Word of God is read. You receive it and then you confess your faith back to God with the creeds. The Word of God is preached in the sermon. You receive it and then offer up your tithes and offerings to the Lord.

God feeds you His body and blood in communion. You receive it and then you thank and praise Him with a canticle (Thank the Lord or the Nunc Dimittis).

Understanding these two things really does help you understand what's happening in worship and why we do what we do. The focus, first and foremost, is on God and what He is going to give to us. But faith, as it receives God's good gifts, naturally responds by giving back to God prayer and praise and thanksgiving and offerings.

We aren't calling on God trying to get Him to do something. Nor are we sacrificing for the sake of man. Nor are we just sitting there mindlessly going through some words in a book and on a page.

In worship, God comes to act by giving us His good gifts and we receive them. Then, we offer up praise and thanksgiving, not to earn these gifts but as an expression of a faith that has received them.

We receive these sacraments because Christ has offered the perfect sacrifice by His death on the cross. And we offer the sacrifices we do because Christ's sacrifice gives us everything we need. His sacrifice wins for us forgiveness, life, salvation, and resurrection, which He brings us in His Sacraments.

# LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Lcms.org/stewardship

As a kid, I remember my Grandma and Grandpa Diepholz' home with extraordinary joy. Family fun. Great food. A legacy of faith. One of my lasting memories of that house was the table that sat between their twin beds. It contained a lamp, a Bible, a catechism and a hymnal. These were well-worn, as Grandpa read to Grandma every night before they went to sleep! What a treasure these tools of faith are! Let us spend some time this month in the hymnal to help us better understand our life as Christian stewards! To do this, we will use LSB 785 "We Praise You, O God."

*We Praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
In grateful devotion our tributes we bring.  
We lay it before You, and kneel and adore You;  
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.*

Stewardship is an act of worship. It flows from the grace and mercy we have received in Jesus! Faithful stewardship can never start with us. Our sinful nature will make us and our desires the center of our worship. Our tributes, our giving and our serving only flow from how the Lord Jesus has given of Himself for our sake! When we have this in clear view, our knees bow and our praises flow freely! All this flows from the Name that has been placed on us in Holy Baptism!

*We worship You, God of our Fathers, we bless You;  
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.  
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,  
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.*

Our stewardship that flows from what God has done for us in Jesus Christ is rooted in history. Passed from one generation to the next, stewards of the Gospel connect God's provision in the past to His continued care in the present.

So often, the struggles we face are self-inflicted. While there are indeed perils that can shake us from outside of ourselves, we are more likely enduring the suffering that comes because of our own choices that are outside the Word and will of God! But even in these situations, the Lord who loves us will never forsake us. When we become selfish, self-serving and self-destructive, the Lord NEVER abandons! The Lord helps us to overcome the struggles in faith and win the victory the steward rejoices in!

*With voices united our praises we offer  
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.  
To You, our great redeemer, forever be praise!*

Stewardship is more than just an individual thing. There is a corporate nature to our steward life. We see this in the Divine Service. There, stewards of all ages, all economic strata and all languages are joined in the singular task of praise. This stewardship of praise flows from the altar to us, out into the world and then back to the altar! God's strong arm leads us in this stewardship 24/7. This makes stewardship, in all times and places, a matter of worship. We praise our Redeemer who has entrusted us with this great stewardship of the Gospel which forgives our sins, grants us new life and salvation. And this treasure we freely share for God's glory and the benefit of our neighbor!

## Elders' Corner

*(A monthly feature from the Board of Elders)*

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

As Lent begins, we remember these words from Ash Wednesday: "We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>1</sup>Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything." (2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10)

Yours in Christ,

Elders of St Peter

### WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

#### Bible Studies:

- **Sunday Mornings:** We will begin a study on a new book of the Bible.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. On break until after Easter. If you have any ideas or suggestions for future topics, please speak to Pastor.
- **Book of Concord Study:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, March 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:00 PM. We will begin a study on the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope and we will have a pitch-in dinner following the study.

#### Sermons and Devotional Resources:

- Weekly sermons will be posted on our church website (<http://www.stpeterwaymansville.com>) on the sermon page under the "At St. Peter" tab. (Direct link to page - [https://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page\\_id=2796](https://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page_id=2796))
- You can also find helpful resources for your home devotions on the "Devotional Resources" page under the "Resources" tab ([http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page\\_id=489](http://www.stpeterwaymansville.org/?page_id=489)). Now is a great time to begin, continue, and strengthen a home devotional pattern by yourself and with your family.

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May these resources assist you as you continue to hear the Word of God and cry out to Him in prayer.  
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### IN OUR PRAYERS

Throughout the year, this space will be used to encourage you to keep your brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. Peter in your prayers. As you pray for them, you may even ask them how you can pray for them. Families will be listed in alphabetical order throughout the year. During this month, you are encouraged to pray for:

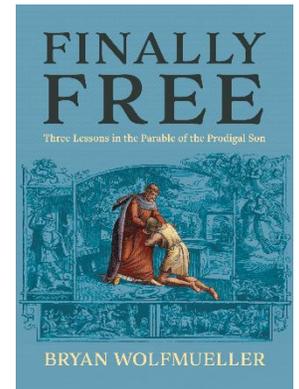
- |                                    |                                       |                         |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Mark, Melessa, & Trevor Wiesehan | • Cheryl Yearsley                     | • Allen & Beverly Acton |
| • Mark & Yvonne Willman            | • Dan, Janice, Joe, Trevor, & Abigail | • Doug Ahlemeyer        |
| • Sonya Wilson                     | • Acree                               | • Conner Axsom          |
| • Dale & Ruth Woodard              | • Curt, Jenni, Rayleigh, & Abe Acton  |                         |

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Missions:** This year we will be supporting two missions: a new playground for the church and a seminary student (Rick Crain). May God continue to bless these missions as Christ is proclaimed to the ends of the earth.

**Thrivent Action Teams:** If you have any Thrivent policies or products, you are eligible for two action teams a year. An action team includes \$250 seed money and may be used for a fundraiser, an educational event, or a service activity. As a church, we have used action teams for the fish fry, the youth golf scramble, Bible studies, etc. If you are interested in using your action teams for events at church or anywhere else, you can look for more information and help signing up on the Thrivent website or by speaking to Pastor.

**Book of the Month:** The Book of the Month will be available in the Parish Hall library. The March Book of the Month is *Finally Free: Three Lessons in the Parable of the Prodigal Son* by Bryan Wolfmueller. Here is an excerpt from the book: "Jesus' desire for all to join Him is essential for us. We each have a sinful flesh that would love to wander from the Father's house and do whatever we want. We each have a troubled conscience that wonders if we've sinned too much to be welcomed back into the Father's care. And we each have a little Pharisee living in our hearts. We consider ourselves to be good and righteous based on our own efforts. Each of these three inclinations is a form of slavery. Each is illustrated in this parable. And our dear Lord Jesus desires to set us free from each of them."



**Bylaws:** In our April voters' meeting we will be discussing and potentially voting on proposed changes to our bylaws. Copies of these proposed changes are available in the narthex.

**Playground:** As we look to a new playground for the church, there is a matching grant of up to \$10,000 available to us. If you would like to contribute to the playground and utilize this matching grant, please speak to a council member or to Camden. Thank you!

**Easter Lilies:** Order forms will be available in the narthex. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per lily, which you can place in the offering plate or give to Camden or Pastor. After services on Easter, you may pick up your ordered lily/lilies.

**Altar Flowers:** If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, there is a sign-up sheet for 2025 & 2026 in the hallway between Pastor's study and the church office. The cost to sponsor the flowers is \$20, and the payment can be put in the offering plate or in the mail rack outside the church office door. The flowers are yours for the taking after the worship service. Please contact Barb Minor (812-372-4193) if you have any questions.

**Communion Assistance:** We are looking for people who may be interested in setting up and/or cleaning up communion. No need to worry about the linens, as those will be taken care of for you. If you are interested in learning more, please speak with Lynnette or Pastor. The sign-up sheet for 2025 & 2026 is also on the bulletin board.



**Vanco:** A new, online offering method is now available. You can find more information by scanning the QR code in the bulletin or by going to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZMRA>.

**Church & Parish Hall Cleaning Volunteers:** If you are interested in helping to clean the Church and Parish Hall, there is a sign-up sheet in the hallway in the Parish Hall. You can sign-up for a month at a time and you can sign-up with another person/couple/family too. Prayerfully consider lending a hand in this way. You may also speak to Janice Acree or Jenni Acton for more information about the cleaning duties or the sheet on the bulletin board.

**Puzzle Sharing:** If you would like to borrow a puzzle or donate a puzzle, they can be found or placed in the cabinet in the Conference Room closest to the white board. Enjoy a variety of puzzles and some fellowship with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ!

## YOUTH GROUP & YOUTH CLASSES

**Youth Group:** The youth group will meet Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 5 PM for our youth night. We will have a meal, time to study God's Word, and a fun activity. Feel free to bring a friend! If you would like to be added to the text group to receive youth group notifications, please let Pastor know.

**Golf Outing:** The Youth Group will be hosting our annual Golf Outing on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at Hickory Hills Golf Course in Brownstown. If you would like to play or be a sponsor for the outing, please speak to Pastor Sorenson. Additional information can be found on the flyers on the bulletin boards.

## EVENTS

**Game Night:** Game Night will be on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:00 PM. All ages are welcome and bring a friend too! Feel free to bring a dish to share, your favorite games, or a deck of cards. Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to come along as well!

**Easter Egg Hunt:** The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. We will meet in the shelter house (weather permitting). Eggs will be available in the narthex to pick up and fill with individually wrapped candy. Please have the eggs returned by March 29<sup>th</sup>. Also, be sure to invite any children or grandchildren to be part of the hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Easter Breakfast:** The Youth Group will serve an Easter breakfast this year between the sunrise and Divine Service on Easter (April 5<sup>th</sup>). We will be serving breakfast from 7:15-8:40 AM.

## LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

**Lutheran SGO:** Take full advantage of all the benefits of donating to the Lutheran SGO and support the students and families of Trinity Lutheran High School. For their generosity, donors may receive a 50% state tax credit. Donations can take many forms, from cash to credit cards to commodities. <https://www.lutheransgo.org/donations/index.php> Have questions or want to learn more? Contact Erin Brooks at 812-524-8547 or [ebrooks@trinitycougars.org](mailto:ebrooks@trinitycougars.org)

**St. Paul ECM:** Registration for the 2026-2027 school year at St. Paul Lutheran Early Childhood Ministry has begun! St. Paul Lutheran ECM (6045 E State Street) is a fully accredited early childhood center. The Word of God is the foundation of our instruction as we provide for the developmental needs of the whole child. We offer preschool classes for three and four-year-olds, as well as a comprehensive half-day kindergarten program. Kindergarten students can participate in a complimentary, flexible pickup time until 2:30 PM. Before and after school care is offered to all classes on the days their classes meet. Tuition for kindergarten is free at St. Paul, and needs-based scholarships are available for preschool families. Our program also offers a weekly, after-school STEM enrichment class. To register or find out more about our Christ-centered ECM, please visit [stpaulcolumbus.org](http://stpaulcolumbus.org) or contact our director, Jennifer Probst, by phone 812-376-6504 or email [director@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:director@stpaulcolumbus.org).

## FROM THE OFFICE

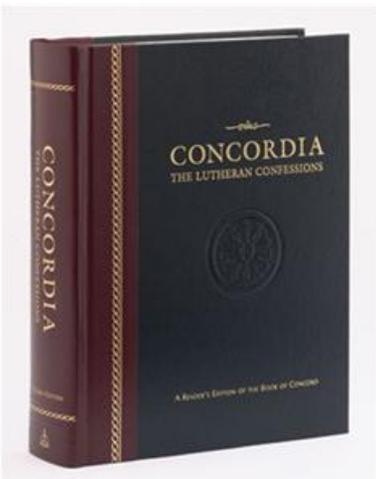
**Contact Information:** We would like to be able to contact everyone in a quick and timely manner. If you could please contact Camden or Pastor to update your contact information, especially phone number and email, that would help us tremendously and be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

**Church Constitution:** If you would like to sign the church constitution, please contact Camden.

Pastor Erik Sorenson • (812) 343-1688, office • (812) 371-1151, cell • [pastoresorenson@gmail.com](mailto:pastoresorenson@gmail.com)

Camden Jeffries • (812) 343-1688, office • (812) 390-5980 cell • [waymansvillestpeter@yahoo.com](mailto:waymansvillestpeter@yahoo.com)

On the web: [www.stpeterwaymansville.com](http://www.stpeterwaymansville.com) • Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch](http://www.facebook.com/StPeterEvangelicalLutheranChurch)



### Book of Concord Corner

On the Lord's Prayer: "Such promises certainly ought to encourage and kindle our hearts to pray with pleasure and delight. For He testifies with His own Word that our prayer is heartily pleasing to Him. Furthermore, it shall certainly be heard and granted, in order that we may not despise it or think lightly of it and pray based on chance. You can raise this point with Him and say, 'Here I come, dear Father, and pray, not because of my own purpose or because of my own worthiness. But I pray because of Your commandment and promise, which cannot fail or deceive me.' Whoever, therefore, does not believe this promise must note again that he outrages God like a person who thoroughly dishonors Him and accuses Him of falsehood." (Large Catechism, Part III, 20-21)

# Lent and Holy Week Services

Lent is a special 40-day season during which the Church reflects on her sin and on her need for a Savior. It is a time for us to turn our focus away from the things of this world and toward Christ, our dear Lord. As such, it is most appropriate for the Church to gather together more often during this season as we wait with anticipation for the joy of Easter. It is my prayer that all of us here at St. Peter would join together during this special season as we repent of our sin and look for the death and resurrection of Christ.

## The Start of Lent

**Wednesday, February 18, 7:00 PM – Ash Wednesday**

## The Midweek Services – Jesus in the Servant Songs

**Wednesday, February 25 7:00 PM – 1<sup>st</sup> Song: Isaiah 42:1-9**

**Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 PM – 2<sup>nd</sup> Song: Isaiah 49:1-6**

**Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 PM – 3<sup>rd</sup> Song: Isaiah 50:4-9**

**Wednesday, March 18, 7:00 PM – 4<sup>th</sup> Song (pt. 1): Is. 52:13-53:3**

**Wednesday, March 25, 7:00 PM – 4<sup>th</sup> Song (pt. 2): Isaiah 53:4-12**

## The Start of Holy Week

**Sunday, March 29, 9:00 AM – Palm Sunday**

## The Triduum

**Thursday, April 2, 7:00 PM – Maundy Thursday**

**Friday, April 3, 7:00 PM – Good Friday**

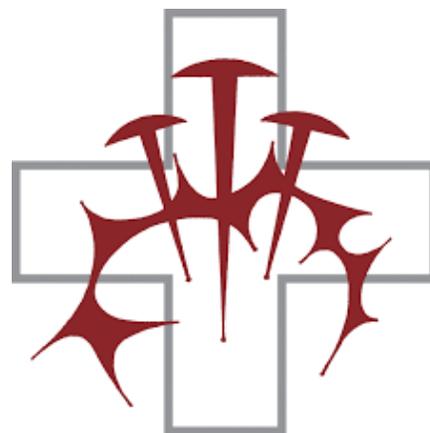
**Saturday, April 4, 8:00 PM – Easter Vigil**

## The Resurrection of Our Lord

**Sunday, April 5, 6:30 AM – Easter Sunrise**

**Easter Breakfast between services (7:15-8:45 AM)**

**Sunday, April 5, 9:00 AM – Easter Divine Service**



# Annual Waymansville Open Golf Scramble



## Prizes for:

Closest to the Pin

Longest Drive

Winning Team Members

Yardsticks and marshmallows will  
also be available! (\$5 each)

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Hickory Hills Golf Course  
1509 SR 135  
Brownstown, IN 47220  
(812) 358-4529

8:00 AM - Registration  
9:00 AM - Shotgun Start

\$55/player  
4 players per team  
Includes: 18 holes, cart,  
food, drinks, prizes

Proceeds benefit the  
missions of St. Peter  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church, Waymansville  
Youth Group

To register your team, sponsor a hole for \$100, or  
for more information, contact Pastor Erik Sorenson  
at (812) 371-1151 or [pastoresorenson@gmail.com](mailto:pastoresorenson@gmail.com)

# St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

**March 2026**

**Ushers:** open

**Acolytes:** **March 1** – John Nye  
**March 11** – John Nye  
**March 22** – John Nye

**March 4** – Noah Nye  
**March 15** – Noah Nye  
**March 25** – Noah Nye

**March 8** – Abe Acton  
**March 18** – Abe Acton  
**March 29** – Abe Acton

**Communion Set-up & Clean-up:**  
 3/1, 8, 15, 22, 29: open

**Parish Hall Cleaning:** Brenda Turner & AJ Trimpe

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  6 PM – Lenten Supper 7 PM – Lent Midweek Service	<b>5</b>  10 AM – Elders Meeting	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  5:00 PM – Book of Concord Study	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  10 AM – 2 PM – Pastor @ Circuit Meeting	<b>11</b>  6 PM – Lenten Supper 7 PM – Lent Midweek Service	<b>12</b>  6 PM – Council Meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis  5:00 PM – Youth Group	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  6 PM – Lenten Supper 7 PM – Lent Midweek Service	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  6 PM – Lent Supper 7 PM – Lent Midweek Service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <i>Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday</i> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 – Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>HOLY WEEK</b>						
				<b>7 PM – Holy (Maundy) Thursday Divine Service</b>	<b>7 PM – Good Friday Service</b>	10 AM – Easter Egg Hunt  <b>8 PM – Easter Vigil</b>