



TÕE TERA / THE SOWER - NOVEMBER

ST. PETER'S ESTONIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TORONTO

EELK Toronto Peetri Kogudus



Pühapäev - 2. november on Hingedepäev ehk Surnute mälestuspäev. Palve:

Igavene Jumal, taevane Isa, Sina ei ole mitte surnute, vaid oled elavate Jumal, ja Sinu elavad kõik need, kes haudades puhkavad. Me palume: ära lase meil surmahirmus masendusse vajuda, vaid hoia meid armulikult oma Püha Vaimu väega rõõmsas usus, julges lootuses ja südame-tunnistuse rahu. Aita meil kristlikult elada, õndsalt lahkuda ja rahu uinuda, kuni Sa hauad avad ja meid igaveseks eluks üles äratad; Jeesuse Kristuse, Sinu Poja, meie Issanda läbi. <https://eelk.ee/kirikukalender/>

*"Õndsad on surnud, kes nüüdsest peale surevad Issandas!"
Ilm 14:13*

All Souls' Day, is a centuries-old Christian tradition now observed on November 2. It is a time to honor and remember our departed friends and loved ones. It calls us to speak aloud the names that stir our hearts—sometimes gently, sometimes with deep ache—and to grieve while holding both the beauty and the pain of those memories. This day gives us permission to name those who shaped us, to acknowledge their enduring influence, and to pause in sorrow-tinged gratitude for the lives that have left an indelible mark upon our own.

A Prayer for All Soul's Day

Compassionate God, we read in the psalms that you are "near to the brokenhearted" (Psalm 34:18). We hold fast to this promise because we feel broken, our spirits ache, our grieving hearts are in need of mending. On this All Soul's Day, we speak aloud the names of those we love, and those we miss. We say their names, and we light these candles because we know you are near to us in our grief, and our loved ones are also known and loved by you. Stir up in our minds beautiful memories of those that have gone ahead.

As the flame on this candle shares warmth and light, we ask that you would use this time of remembrance to infuse us with the warmth of remembering and the light of knowing we are not alone.

In the name of Jesus, who can sympathize with us in all our weaknesses, we pray. Amen. - Pastor April Fiet

**817 Mount Pleasant Road
Toronto, Ontario M4P 2L1**



416-483-5847



stpeterstontoronto@rogers.com



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[www.stpeterstontoronto
estonianchurch.ca](http://www.stpeterstontorontoestonianchurch.ca)



[www.facebook.com/
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Kantselei Tunnid/Office Hours

Teisipäeval/Tues. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Kolmapäeval/Wed. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Neljäpäeval/Thurs. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Deacon Karl Paju

karl.paju@mail.utoronto.ca
Neljäpäeval/Thurs. 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Music Director & Organist

Erik Kreem erikkreem@hotmail.com

Church Administrator

Tiina Jenkins 416-483-5847

Juhatus Liikmed / Executive

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argetthomas50@gmail.com NEW

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Anne Liis Keelmann, Program Director
akeelmann@rogers.com

Ilo Maimets, Archive Director
ilo@yorku.ca

Please donate to secure the future of St. Peter's with cash or cheques. E-mail transfers accepted at stpeterstontoronto@rogers.com

UUDISED / NEWS

St. Peter's Thanksgiving Service - October 5th



St. Peter's Thanksgiving service offered much to be grateful for – both personally and as a congregation. The service was led by Bishop Ove Sander, visiting from Estonia, alongside Reverend Ando Kass, and Deacon Karl Paju. Music was provided by our organist Erik Kreem. Scripture readings were delivered by Alice Jupe and Allan Seim.



We were especially thankful for the debut performance of our newly-formed choir, under the direction of Erik Kreem. We were appreciative that during the service, the new Congregational Council (juhatust) received a blessing from Bishop Sander.

Each year the EELK Consistory recognizes individuals that have made significant contributions towards the work of the church and its mission. In an editorial for the E-Kirik, a bishop noted that when he reflects on the many parishes he has visited, he thinks of the faithful people who quietly and consistently support parish life without seeking recognition. It was precisely these kinds of dedicated individuals that Bishop Sander honoured during the Thanksgiving service.

As part of the celebration, **Deacon Karl Paju** was presented with a book of meditations and a key-chain from Rome, in recognition of the Vatican's Jubilee Year. Thomas Arget received a handmade wooden cross from Finland.



Letters of Appreciation, (*Tänukirjad*) quoting the verse "Who sows generously will also reap generously" (*Kes rohkesti külvab, see ka lõikab rohkesti*), were presented to **Väino Einola** - for his dedicated service as former Congregational Chair and to **Reverend Ando Kass** - for his pastoral service and mentorship to Deacon Karl Paju.

Letters of Commendation, (*Aukirjad*) quoting the verse "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (*Teenigu igaüks teist selle andega, mille ta on saanud, kui Jumala mõnesuguse armu head majapidajad.*), were awarded to: **Vivi Kivi** - for her dedicated service as long-time treasurer and active member of the women's group, helping organize countless events and celebrations with tireless energy and a cheerful spirit.



Maie Lees – for being a long-time member of the church's women's group, and for her many years of faithful service in organizing and carrying out events, celebrations, and fellowship gatherings at the church. Maie's energetic and always engaged attitude toward herself, others, and church work has been remarkably co-operative.

Lia Pikkov - for being a long-time member of the church's women's group, and for her many years of faithful service in organizing and carrying out events, celebrations, and fellowship gatherings. Lia's boundless positivity and joyful attitude toward herself, others, and church work has been inspiring.



Bishop Ove Sander congratulates Lia Pikkov and Anu Randmaa.



Anu Randmaa – for being a dedicated member of the women's group, her many years of faithful service in tirelessly and consistently organizing, updating, and maintaining the archive collection of the church.

Helmi Viksten – for her faithful leadership as chair of the archives and contributions to preserving the church's history.

The combined efforts of these women in both the archives and the women's group have played a crucial role in supporting and advancing the church through both joyful and challenging times. Their contributions include key renovation projects and the successful publication of a church cookbook. Their practical, calm, and co-operative spirit has been a cornerstone of our community. We offer our heartfelt thanks to all the individuals recognized for their invaluable role in preserving and revitalizing our beloved church.



The service was followed by a hot thanksgiving luncheon at which we heard from our visitors, the **Rectors and education leaders of Estonian universities of applied sciences**. We enjoyed having such distinguished guests.



If you are more fortunate than others, build a longer table not a taller fence.



The Congregation's 77th Anniversary English-language Service October 19th

Lots of activity at St. Peter's as we commemorated the 77th anniversary of the congregation and 70 years within our own building. The service was led by Reverend Ando Kass and Deacon Karl Paju with our organist Erik Kreem.

Visiting from Estonia was accordionist Henrik Hinrikus who performed "Kesk Öitsvaid Lilli" and "Valss Saaremaalt." Scripture readings were by Väino Keelmann and Kristina Leis. During the service, the "mudilased" Moms, Pops and Tots group, participated in the service with their parents.



Photos: Anne Keelmann & Tiit Roiser

Karl's sermon centered on Love and he told us that bible scholars agree that God created the world. What we don't know, however, is why. Karl surmised that it was done for love, for as today's scripture reading from Matthew 22:34-40 says, love is the most important of commandments: "When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together,

and one of them, a lawyer, asked him (Jesus) a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'"



The new Ushering and Welcoming Committee (Teenistuste Toimkond) was blessed into service. We thank everyone who has volunteered to help and welcome more members to help with services, candle lighting, ushering, collecting donations, etc.



Some of the members of the new Ushering and Welcoming Committee - Teenistuste Toimkond.



Participating in the Moms, Pops, and Tots group are Mark, Tiina and son Oliver. Below: Vello Keelmann and daughter Hailey.



We invite families to join the Moms, Pops, & Tots group ("mudilased") and our Sunday School which meets once a month. The next get-together will be on November 16th, but all are welcome to join us at our Christmas Craft Sale and Café on Saturday, November 15th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Photos: Anne Keelmann & Tiia Roiser)

Toronto Peetri kogudus

**Hingedepäeva
Jumalateenistus**

**2.
nov.**

*Kell 11:30 el Teenib diakon Karl Paju,
orelil Erik Kreem.*

Järgneb kohvilaud Gildiruumis.

St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto

CHRISTMAS
Craft Sale & Café

NOVEMBER 15TH, 2025

Craft Vendors, Bake Sale, Café +
ENTERTAINMENT

10 A.M. – 3 P.M.

\$2 ENTRY DONATION

Nov. 30th - 1st Advent
Estonian Church Service

Reverend Ando Kass, Deacon Karl Paju, organist Erik Kreem,
and Church Choir.

The Sunday School and Moms, Pops & Tots programs.

CONGREGATION CHRISTMAS PARTY

Luncheon cost per person is \$25.00
(\$5.00 for children under 10) Please register by Tuesday,
November 25th at 416-483-5847

St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto



After church, little Johnny and his brother go ice fishing. Little Johnny starts drilling on the ice when a voice from above says, "Young man, there are no fish down there."

Little Johnny asks his brother, "Who is that?"

His brother replies, "I don't know."

So little Johnny starts to drill again and the voice says again, "For the second time, there's no fish down there."

Little Johnny asks his brother, "Could that be God?"

His brother replies again, "I don't know."

Little Johnny starts drilling again and the voice says once more, "Young man, for the last time, I'm telling you there are no fish down there."

Johnny looks up and asks, "Is that you, God?"

The voice says, "No, I'm the manager and the rink's closed."

When making donations

We've received a request from our bank asking that all cheques made out to St. Peter's include our full legal name. The legal name is in English: **St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Toronto.** You may also use the bank-approved shortened version: **St. Peter's E.E.L.C. Toronto**

All donations — of any amount — are sincerely appreciated and help support the ongoing work of our congregation.

Donations may also be made by cash or by e-transfer to: **stpeterstoronto@rogers.com**
We thank you for your continued support!

CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS / JUMALA-TEENISTUSED & ÜRITUSED*

***New events may be added to the calendar—please check our church website for any additions.**

www.stpeterstorontoestonianchurch.ca/event-calendar

- Nov. 2 - Sunday - 11:30 - All Souls' Day (*Hingedepäev*) Estonian remembrance service. Fellowship and coffee after the service in the Guild Room
- Nov. 5 - Raffle & silent auction items due for upcoming Christmas Craft Sale and Café - Jõululaat. Please bring them to church.
- Nov. 5 - Wednesday - 12:00 noon - Guild meeting in the Guild Room. We will be wrapping gifts. New members welcome !
- Nov. 5 - Choir practice in the nave with Erik Kreem from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. All singers welcome!
- Nov. 12 - Choir practice in the nave with Erik Kreem from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Nov. 15 - Saturday - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Christmas Craft Sale and Café - Jõululaat. Entry \$2.
- Nov. 16 - Sunday November 16th, 11:30 a.m. English-language service with deacon Karl Paju and organist Erik Kreem. The Sunday School and Moms, Pops & Tots programs will be running. Please register if you are interested in being confirmed this year.
- Nov. 19 - Choir practice in the nave with Erik Kreem from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Nov. 26 - Choir practice in the nave with Erik Kreem from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Nov. 30 - Sunday Nov. 30th, 1st Advent Estonian-language service (with some English translation) with Reverend Ando Kass, Deacon Karl Paju, and organist Erik Kreem. Singing will be our new church choir. The Sunday School and Moms, Pops & Tots programs will be running. Our annual Christmas Party (*Jõulupuu*) will follow the service with luncheon downstairs. The cost per person is \$25.00 (\$5.00 for children under 10) Please register by Tuesday, November 25th at 416-483-5847

Church Office Hours:

Tues. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wed. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Thurs. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Dean Karl Paju's Office Hours:

Thursdays from
12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.



To request prayers, please
contact St. Peter's office.

*Eestpalved võib igal ajal kir-
jalikult esitada kiriku kon-
torisse:
stpeterstoronto@rogers.com*

If you have not already done
so, please ensure that the
church has your up-to-date
contact
information.

*Kui teie ei ole juba teinud,
palun saatke oma kehtivad
andmed (postiaadress,
epost, ja telefoninumber)
kiriku kantseleisse:
416-483-5847.*



Let Your Light Shine this Christmas Season!

Share Your Talents with Our Church Family.

Do you or someone in your family love to sing, dance, play an instrument? Does your child enjoy performing? We'd love to see your talents shine!

We're looking for children, teens, and anyone young-at-heart, to perform during our upcoming church services and events!

The Christmas Craft Show & Café – November 15th - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Christmas Party – November 30th - After the church service.

*Whether it's a song, dance, poem, or some holiday cheer,
we would love for you to be a part of the fun and celebration!*

Please notify Tiiu Roiser at tiiu-roiser@rogers.com of your interest.



Donations Welcome for Christmas Craft Show and Café

If you have any new or gently used items in good condition that you wish to donate for our lottery, please bring them to the church by Wednesday, November 5th at 12 noon.

We also accept donations of baked goods for our bake sale (on November 15th), wine, boxes of chocolate or cookies, gift cards, toys, etc.

What you no longer need could be the perfect "new treasure" for someone else.