



The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Appleton, Wisconsin
November 27, 2022
8:00 & 9:40 a.m. Services

MISSION STATEMENT

*Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a family of Christians
growing in Faith and Reaching out in Love*

POP VISION 2024

*We will be... an engaged and inclusive congregation of
disciples, transforming the lives in our community
through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Welcome to God's House which is the spiritual home of all who worship today, wherever you may be. Part of Prince of Peace Church's mission statement says that we are "a family of Christians." Because God has made us family, we are together, even though we are physically separated, to receive the Lord's strength, comfort, and peace. Christ, our brother, is with us, and his presence will change us. As new people, we leave this time of worship to live our daily lives in the world as ambassadors for Christ. Go, but remember to come home. See you next Sunday!

We love kids in worship: young ones, old ones, squirmy ones, curious ones, crying ones, happy ones. Jesus loves them, too. In fact, one day when he was trying to explain to a bunch of adults who would enter the Kingdom of God, he plucked a child out of the crowd and said that if they wanted to enter his kingdom, they should be like this wide-eyed child! What an object lesson for us all and what hope, because we are all kids at heart, just trying to follow Jesus.

We know it is sometimes a challenge and, with our nursery closed for our youngest ones' safety during the pandemic, we have some ways to help out. We have bags of activities on the wooden kiosk near the entrance by the bathrooms that children can grab before entering the sanctuary. We have a place for kids to play in our narthex, the **PrayerGround**, which is stocked with toys and books and comfy chairs, and there are speakers projecting the service, so caregivers can keep track of what's going on in the service and can listen to and/or rejoin worship anytime. **New is a space located at the back of the sanctuary, called the PlayDeck, with a rug and some quiet toys where a child might need to hang out for a few minutes with mom or dad nearby.**

You can find changing tables in the bathrooms near the narthex **PrayerGround** for your convenience. And, finally, we have ushers and greeters who love kids, too, who were once kids themselves, and who want to help you have a great worship experience! We are glad you are here!

The **Glass Cross on the Altar** is unique. There are only 3 of these handmade crosses in the world. The other two are in congregations with whom we share our ministry. One is on the altar of Kopano Lutheran Church in Mogwase, South Africa and the other is at the Evangelische Stadtpfarrkirche Hermannstadt in Sibiu, Romania. These Lutheran churches are ministry partners with us with whom we have shared visits, resources and mutual support. Each Sunday as we gather in worship under this

common cross, we are reminded of our faith in our Savior, Jesus the Christ, whose Spirit unites peoples of different countries, races, cultures and histories under His benevolent love.

 **A hearing loop system** is installed in our sanctuary. Those with hearing aid devices may activate their T-Coil technology.

As a courtesy to others, please remember to turn off your mobile devices during worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Preaching Minister	Pastor Jennifer DeNetz
Presiding Minister	Pastor Roger McQuiston
Assisting Minister	Leah Johnson
Musicians	Colleen Perrine, Nancy Ullsperger Bob Merrill
Projection Prep/Sunday A/V	Tom Richmond, Tom De Young, Nate Rowinsky
Ushers	(8:00) Dave Jordahl, Dave Rades (9:40) Mark Anderson, Chris Volkman
Greeters	(8:00) Margie & Mike Bricco (9:40) Dean & Kathy Buffington

Midweek Advent Worship

During our Advent Midweek services (at 6:15 p.m.) we will use our traditional “Joyous Light” liturgy. The THEME for this year is “Images of Hope”: Water, Light, Pathway, and Healing—images from the prophet Isaiah. We will examine these images and then, meditate on them using “Visio Divina,” a way of seeing, reflecting and responding to an image.

Nov. 30 – **Water**
Dec. 7 – **Light**

Dec 14 – **Pathway**
Dec. 22 – **Healing**

GATHERING

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

ELW denotes the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal

P—Pastor A—Assisting Minister C—Congregation

GATHERING MUSIC

Noel

Cash | Redman | Tomlin

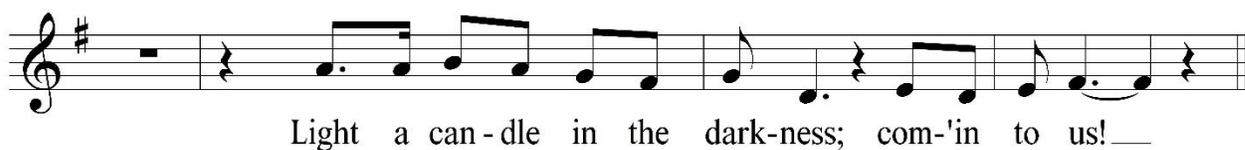
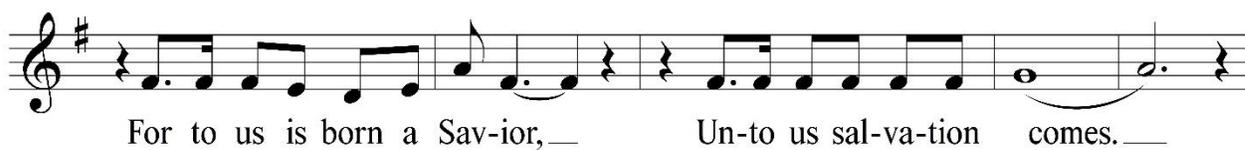
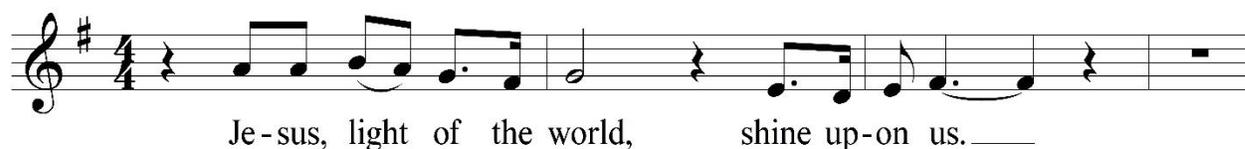
WELCOME TO WORSHIP

ADVENT BLESSING & CANDLE LIGHTING

P We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C Amen

The first candle is lit during the singing of the following song.



Colleen Perrine WTL 2018

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be God's name forever.

C **Amen**

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C **God of new beginnings, we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen**

P People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit, you are joined to this wonder. You have put on † Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C **Amen**

OPENING HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

ELW 263

Savior of the nations, come;
virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth:
God has chosen such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood,
but the mystic Breath of God,
was the Word of God made flesh,
fruit of woman, blossom fresh.

Wondrous birth—oh, wondrous child—
from his throne, a virgin mild!
Very God, and Mary's son,
eager now his race to run!

From God's heart the Savior speeds,
back to God his pathway leads;
out to vanquish death's command,
back to reign hand.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.**

- P Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ and come!
- C **By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in

his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk.

- A Word of God, word of life.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

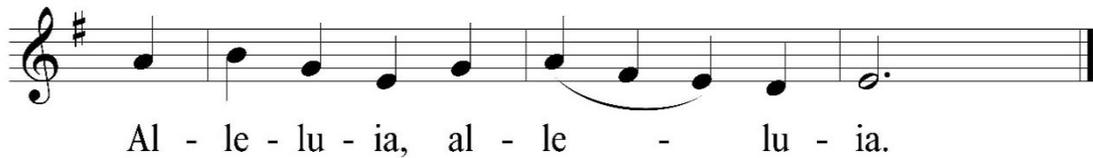
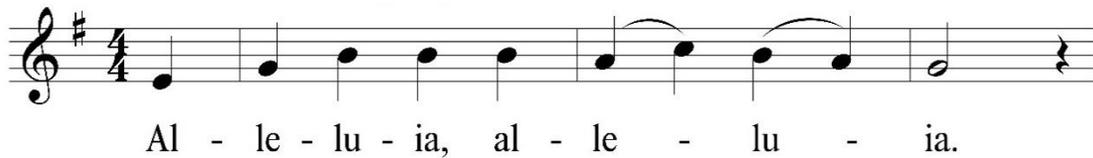
¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live

honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

- A Word of God, Word of Life.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Intro/Cantor/Congregation



Cantor: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, (Ps. 85:7)
and grant to us our salvation. *Repeat Alleluia*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken

and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

ELW 244

Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches
with alleluias clear.

The marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
the bridegroom is at hand.

The saints, who here in patience
their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever
when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him
their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907.

APOSTLES CREED

- P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I 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.
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**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.
Petitions end: God, in your mercy,
Response: **hear our prayer.**
- P God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.
- C **Amen**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Isaiah Knew

Colleen Perrine

OFFERING PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Eternal God,
- C **you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Jesus' disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us how to pray." He said to them, "When you pray, say":

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

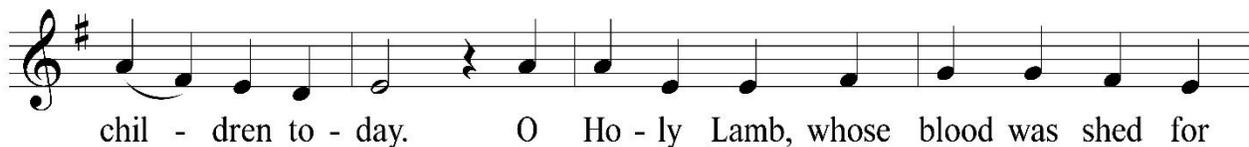
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**



In the bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present. Much more than a sign, story, or symbol of God's love, it is an event where God reaches down to us through common earthly elements and invites us into the mystery and miracle of a relationship with him, the Word made flesh for us. All, who have been baptized, are invited to this experience of God's love, where He is our host and we are his guests, who will take the message of his love into the world.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION SONG

He Will Send to Us a Savior



We walk in dark - ness, we pray for light.
We wait in blind-ness, we dream of light.



God's pro - mise pier - ces the dark - est night.
We have been hum-bled, our hearts con-trite.



Un - bind our souls, Lord; bring peace to us.
High king of hea - ven born as a man



Our hearts are so cold, we need to trust!
comes to com-plete God's sal - va - tion plan!



Em-man-u - el, Em-man - u - el!



He will send to us a Sa-vior, Em-man-u - el.



From age to a - ge, the pro-phets tell:



Our God is with us: Em-man-u - el!

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C **Amen**
- P Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen**

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FINAL BLESSING

- P God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.
- C **Amen**

SENDING SONG

Hark, The Glad Sound!

ELW 239

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

DISMISSAL

- A Prince of Peace is a family of Christians...
- C **... growing in faith and reaching out in love.**
- A Go in peace. Christ is near.
- C **Thanks be to God!**

SHARING THE PEACE

- P May the peace of Christ Jesus be with you, now and always.
- C **And also with you.**



ADVENT

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