

THIRD SUNDAY after EPIPHANY

“Follow me,
and I will
make you fish
for people.”

Matthew 4:19, NRSV



**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Appleton, Wisconsin**

January 22, 2023

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 to care for little kids in worship. That is why we have several options for parents and caregivers. *NEW: We have a volunteer-staffed nursery during the 9:40 service for those 4 years old and younger that can be used if you wish. Just follow the signs or ask an usher for help to find it!* Also, we have bags of activities on the wooden kiosk near the entrance by the restrooms that children can grab before entering the sanctuary. Additionally, in the sanctuary, we have a space in the back that we call 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. Another spot for kids to play is in our narthex called the **PrayerGround**, which is stocked with toys, books, and comfy chairs. There are speakers projecting the service in the narthex, so caregivers can keep track of what's going on in the service and can listen to and/or rejoin worship anytime. You can also find changing tables in the restrooms near the **PrayerGround**. So, there are lots of options and parents may choose whatever works best for them and their child(ren). 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 Roger McQuiston
Presiding Minister	Pastor Jennifer DeNetz
Assisting Minister	Monica Koller
Musicians	Sondra Joten, Jeff Sheffler Soli Deo Handbell Choir
Projection Prep/Sunday A/V	Tom Richmond, Nathan Jansen
Ushers	(8:00) Greg Grunert, Dave Rades (9:40) Brennen & Chris Howard
Greeters	(8:00) Sharyn March, Margie & Mike Bricco (9:40) Dean & Pam Gruner, Tom & Nancy Scheuerman

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

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

GATHERING MUSIC

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

arr. Cathy Moglebust

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

C **We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word, you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

P To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen**

OPENING SONG

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW 815

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
 I want to be with Jesus.
 When we have run with patience the race,
 we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

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GREETING

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.**

GLORY TO GOD

Leader

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!

All

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!

Leader

To God be glo-ry for-ev-er!

All

To God be glo-ry for-ev-er!

Leader

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2, 3

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Lord God,

C **your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time the LORD brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them

light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the

name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

A Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





Cantor: Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom and cured every sickness among the people.
Repeat "Alleluia" 1 x thru

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GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:12-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."
¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his

brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. ²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

"The Unstoppable Good News!"

Pastor Roger McQuiston

(9:40) Faith Formation children join us for worship during the singing of the hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

"Will you come and follow me
 if I but call your name?
 Will you go where you don't know
 and never be the same?
 Will you let my love be shown,
 will you let my name be known,
 will you let my life be grown
 in you and you in me?
 "Will you leave yourself behind
 if I but call your name?
 Will you care for cruel and kind
 and never be the same?"

Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?

"Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?"

"Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

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CHILDREN'S VIDEO MESSAGE

Brigetta Wingender & Friends

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 INTERCESSION

P Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Petitions end: Merciful God,

Response: **receive our prayer.**

P We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C Amen

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Jesus, the Light of the World



1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je - sus, the Light of the world;
2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je - sus, the Light of the world;
3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je - sus, the Light of the world;
4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je - sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je - sus, the Light of the world.
join the tri - umph of the skies; Je - sus, the Light of the world.
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je - sus, the Light of the world.
Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je - sus, the Light of the world.

Refrain



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845-1928, refrain.
Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. Liberating God,

C **you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus 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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come and taste the joy of God!



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

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.

Music: from BREAD OF LIFE, Jeremy Young, b. 1948; Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
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COMMUNION HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

ELW 574

"I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.
"I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

"I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

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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 Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

C **Amen**

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FINAL BLESSING

P The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod † bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

C **Amen**

Will you let me be your servant,
 let me be as Christ to you?
 Pray that I may have the grace to
 let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
 we are trav'lers on the road;
 we are here to help each other
 walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
 in the nighttime of your fear;
 I will hold my hand out to you,
 speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
 when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
 I will share your joy and sorrow
 till we've seen this journey through.

Will you let me be your servant,
 let me be as Christ to you?
 Pray that I may have the grace to
 let you be my servant, too.

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DISMISSAL

- A Prince of Peace is a family of Christians...
- C **...growing in faith and reaching out in love.**
- A Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
- 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.**

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