



# PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Appleton, Wisconsin

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024 – 9 a.m. Service

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

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

## **POP VISION 2024**

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



**Reconciling  
In  
Christ**

God has called PoP to the ministry of reconciliation, to carry out God's mission of grace and inclusion, and to become an even more welcoming and inclusive congregation. We are committed to being a safe space for all people to explore and live out a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Prince of Peace recognizes the Menominee and Ho-Chunk peoples and acknowledges that we are gathered upon their ancestral homelands. We honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land—and call it their home. We, as members of the ELCA, commit to learning and acting in ways which help to realize healing and justice for the Indigenous people whose lands we now occupy.

**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 so, we have some ways to help you 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. The 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.**

---

## 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

*The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.*

GATHERING MUSIC    ***I Will Praise Him / May Jesus Christ Be Praised***    arr. Tornquist

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P    Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C    **Amen.**

P    Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P    God, our provider,

C    **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P    Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C    **Amen.**

When morning gilds the skies,  
 my heart awaking cries:  
 may Jesus Christ be praised!  
 When evening shadows fall,  
 this rings my curfew call:  
 may Jesus Christ be praised!  
 When mirth for music longs,  
 this is my song of songs:  
 may Jesus Christ be praised!  
 God's holy house of prayer  
 has none that can compare  
 with "Jesus Christ be praised!"

No lovelier antiphon  
 in all high heav'n is known  
 than "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
 There to the eternal Word  
 the eternal psalm is heard:  
 oh, Jesus Christ be praised!

Let all of humankind  
 in this their concord find:  
 may Jesus Christ be praised!  
 Let all the earth around  
 ring joyous with the sound:  
 may Jesus Christ be praised!

Sing, sun and stars of space,  
 sing, all who see his face,  
 sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
 God's whole creation o'er,  
 today and evermore  
 shall Jesus Christ be praised!

Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.

## 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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. O God,

**C** **you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

---

### WORD

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

---

## FIRST READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

*Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.*

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

## SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

*Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.*

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. <sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast

A Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL READING

Mark 4:26-34

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

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

*Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.*

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." <sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a

mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." <sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON

Pastor Jennifer DeNetz

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
 Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
 Make us your own, your holy people,  
 light for the world to see.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
 Shine in our hearts.  
 Shine through the darkness.  
 Christ, be our light!  
 Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
 Longing for hope, many despair.  
 Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
 Make us your living voice. *Refrain*  
 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
 Longing for water, many still thirst.  
 Make us your bread, broken for others,  
 shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
 Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
 Make us your building, sheltering others,  
 walls made of living stone. *Refrain*  
 Many the gifts, many the people,  
 many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
 Let us be servants to one another,  
 signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957; Text © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications.  
 Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-703841

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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 & SHARING THE PEACE

- P We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.  
Petitions end: Merciful God,  
Response: ...**receive our prayer.**
- P Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.
- C **Amen.**
- P May the peace of Jesus, be with you now and always.
- C **And also with you!**

---

#### **MEAL**

***God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.***

---

OFFERING

*Faith of Our Fathers*

H. Hemy/arr. L. Smith

OFFERING PRAYER

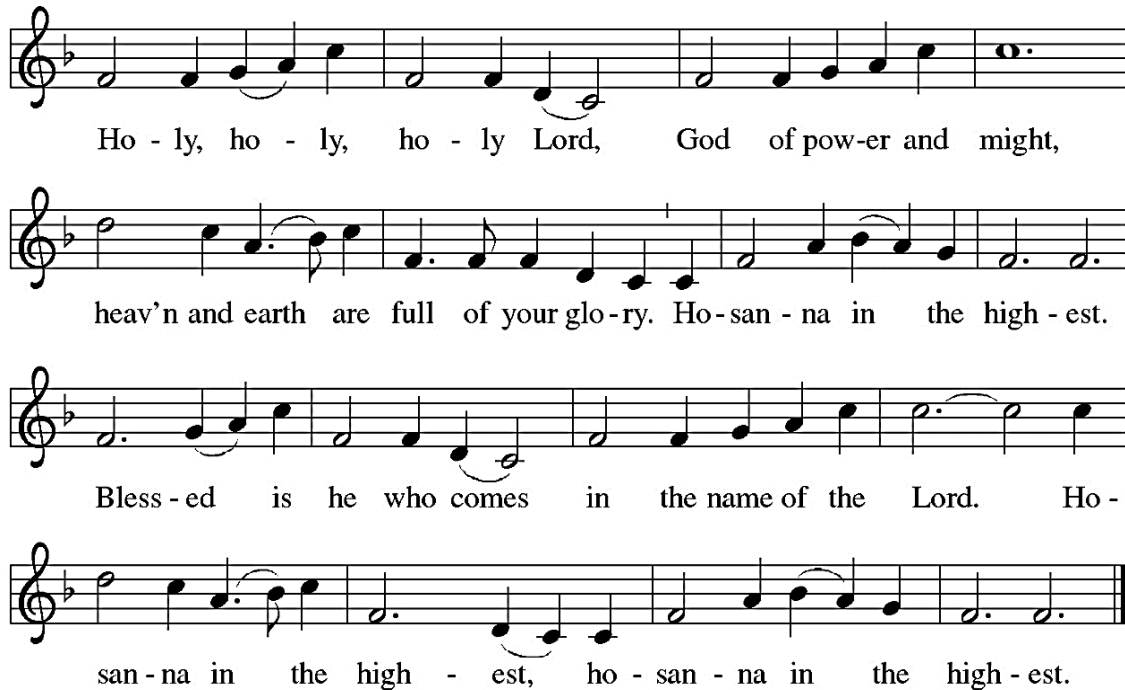
- A Jesus, Bread of life,  
C **you have set this table with your very self and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**  
P Lift up your hearts.  
C **We lift them to the Lord.**  
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

### COMMUNION

#### *For the Fruit of All Creation*

ELW 679

For the fruit of all creation,  
thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev'ry nation,  
thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping,  
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,  
God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor,  
God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing,  
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,  
thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit,  
thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all, that love has found us,  
thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.  
Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-703841

#### 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 Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C **Amen.**

---

#### SENDING

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

---

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### FINAL BLESSING

P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

#### SENDING SONG

*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*

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946; Text © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc.  
Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-703841

## DISMISSAL

- A We are a family of Christians,
- C **Growing in faith and reaching out in love.**
- A Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
- C **Thanks be to God!**

## **WORSHIP LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS**

Preaching Minister	Pastor Jennifer DeNetz
Presiding Minister	Pastor Roger McQuiston
Assisting Minister	Leah Johnson
Musicians	Sondra Joten; Colleen Perrine
Projection Prep/Sunday A/V	Tom Richmond / Peter Juhl
Ushers	Dave Jordahl, Ron Joten



### **Sanctuary Flower Donations Signup**

Please help beautify the sanctuary with flowers/plants during our services of worship!  
The flowers can be placed in celebration of anniversaries, to commemorate the memories of loved ones, etc. Thank you for helping add color and beauty inside our walls as you honor your celebration or memory.

---

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream scripture (New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America/Revised Common Lectionary), liturgy, and worship texts obtained under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #SAS000711.

Permission to print/podcast and/or stream and *Christ Be Our Light* (Text & Music: Bernadette Farrell; Text & Music © 1993; Published by OCP Publications), *For the Fruit of All Creation* (Text: Fred Pratt Green; Music: Welsh trad.; arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams; Text © 1970 Hope Publishing; Musical arr. © Oxford University Press), *Faith of Our Fathers* (Musical arrangement: Lani Smith; Arrangement © 2002 Lorenz Publishing Co.), and *Here I Am, Lord* (Text & Music: Daniel L. Schutte; Text & Music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc.) obtained under OneLicense.net #A-703841. Permission to reprint, podcast and/or live-stream *I Will Praise Him / May Jesus Christ Be Praised* (Keyboard Arrangement: Carol Tornquist; Arrangement © 1989 Singpiration Music/ASCAP) obtained under CCLI License #788723. All rights reserved.