

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

“A Disciple Making Community”

“KNOW, GROW, and GO”

West Salem, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

First Sunday after Christmas
December 29, 2024



Our Mission:

“Prince of Peace exists to be a disciple making community for the Lord Jesus Christ”

Our Message:

“We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”

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Holy Communion at Prince of Peace, LCMS

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod practices “Close Communion” as an expression of unity in doctrine (1 Corinthians 10:16-17; Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 1:10). When a person partakes of the Sacrament at the Altar he is also confessing his unreserved agreement with that church body’s doctrine. Because of doctrinal differences existing between the Missouri Synod and other Lutheran bodies, and also with other denominations, we cannot expect their members to make that kind of confession at our altar, nor do we desire anyone to compromise his own convictions and his church body’s teachings. Therefore, our practice of “Close Communion” admits only those in doctrinal agreement who are members of congregations of the Missouri Synod.

The Holy Sacrament requires a mature participation which includes self-examination (1 Corinthians 11:28). Scripture also warns against “unworthy” reception (impenitence or unbelief) which would bring God’s judgment on the recipient: 1 Corinthians 11:27; 1 Corinthians 11:29. Thus, out of loving concern for all, and commitment to the Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, we practice “Close Communion”. We thank you for your cooperation and respect for our practice.

Those who will not be communing, but would like to receive a blessing are invited to come forward. Please cross your arms on your chest to indicate that you are requesting a blessing. May the Holy Spirit bless us all as we “Search the Scriptures” (John 5:39), and humbly strive to “Continue in His Word.” (John 8:31) Please speak to an elder if you have questions concerning communion.

Theme

The glory of the people of Israel and the revelation to the Gentile nations are continually unveiled in the redemption of God’s people. From Israel’s dramatic exodus from Egypt; their restoration through conflict and turmoil in the land of Canaan; and now in the definitive presence of Jesus Christ before the righteous and devout man Simeon—God’s redemptive intervention is unmistakable. Christlike compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience permeate the church, and we stand unmistakably forgiven and redeemed.

Order of Service:

Divine Service 1, p. 151 ff.

Opening Hymn
Confession and Absolution

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice
(LSB p. 151)

Service of the Word

(LSB p.152-160)

Introit

Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

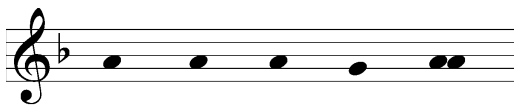
Kyrie

(LSB p.152)

Hymn of Praise: Gloria in Excelsis

(LSB p.154)

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

³Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s.

¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

Epistle: Colossians 3:12–17

Colossians 3:12–17

¹²Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:22–40

Luke 2:22–40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



☐ Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

(p. 158)

Sit

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day

389 Let All Together Praise Our God

Sermon

"As God's Chosen Ones"

Colossians 3:12-17

Offering

Offertory

(p. 159-160)

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For strong hearts set on the certain grace of God, that we would sing His praises boldly and so bring His Holy Word to dwell richly within us, now and to all generations, let us pray to the Lord: **C** Lord, have mercy.

P For the Lord's blessing on the whole Church on earth, that Christ's people may set their hearts and minds on the things above and, in love, be clothed with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Visit, O Lord, the homes in which Your people dwell, and keep all harm and danger far from them, especially *Russ and Sharie Brunk*. Grant that we may dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels, sharing eternally in Your blessings, let us pray to the Lord: **C** Lord, have mercy.

P For our families, that they would be harmonious in God's love and ruled by Christ's peace; that the Word of Christ would dwell richly among us; that fathers and heads of the household would teach and admonish their families in all

wisdom; and that our songs, words and deeds would be done in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, with thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who await the second advent of our Savior, that our gracious Father would give us the faithful patience of Anna to endure in our vocations and do the good works prepared in advance for us to do, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P For those suffering wounds of body and soul, [*especially and those we name before God in our hearts,*] that our gracious Father would heal them according to His will and sustain them unto the day of the resurrection of all flesh, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P That we, like blessed Mary, may know what is worthy of our attention and what will pass away; and that, approaching the table of our Lord, we may be well-prepared to receive His flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all sin, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of Your mercy, trusting that You will grant us all things needful and prevent all things harmful to our faith, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

(p. 160-166)

Distribution Hymns

388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Post-Communion Canticle Nunc Dimittis

(LSB p. 165)

Post-Communion Collect

(LSB p. 166)

Benediction

(LSB p. 166)

Closing Hymn

392 God Loves Me Dearly