

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"

"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin

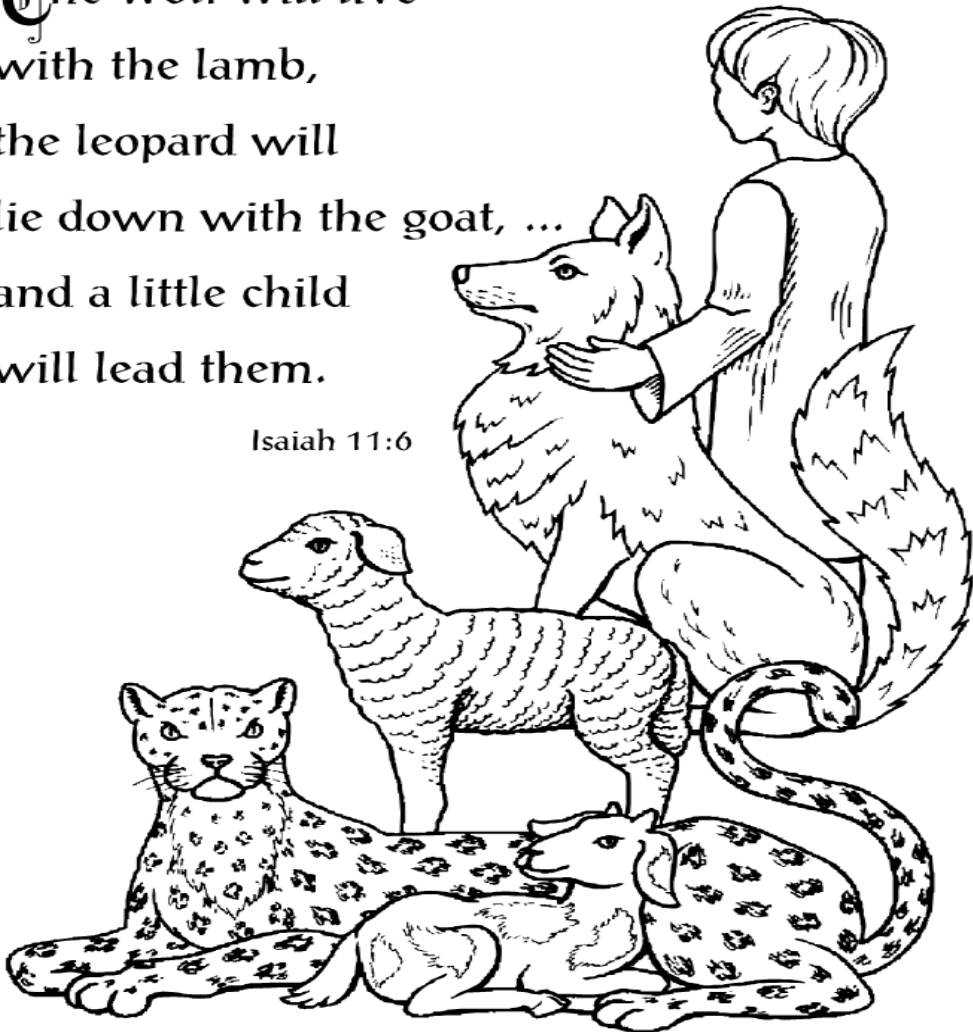
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Second Sunday in Advent – Dec. 7th, 2025



The wolf will live
with the lamb,
the leopard will
lie down with the goat, ...
and a little child
will lead them.

Isaiah 11:6



Welcome! We are glad you are here today!

Our mission here at Prince of Peace is to exist to be a disciple making community for the Lord Jesus Christ. Our message is that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. If you have questions about the Christian faith or Prince of Peace, our pastor or one of our elders would be happy to talk with you.

Pastor: Rev. Peter Adelsen

Cell: 765-860-5204 Email: pastor@wspop.org

Elders: Dan Kolander, 608-697-5458, Email: dkolander5458@gmail.com

Joe Scholze, 608-780-6771, Email: josephscholze@gmail.com

Church Office: 608-786-3938 Email: Office@WSPOP.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30am-12:00pm (*staffed voluntarily*)

Our Communion Practice: *Prince of Peace is a member congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). The LCMS practices the Biblical and historical practice known as Close or Closed Communion (1 Corinthians 11:18-22). In this Supper of Our Lord, we receive the real presence of Jesus Christ’s true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25). Since this is also a sign of our communion, or common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we welcome to the Lord’s Supper all those who are catechized members in good standing of the congregations of the LCMS or those in fellowship with the LCMS, such as The American Association of Lutheran Churches (TAALC).*

It is indeed a consequence of the division in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to receive the Lord’s Supper. Reception of the Sacrament of the Altar by those who are not fully united with us would confess a oneness that does not yet exist and for which we must all pray. New member classes are offered regularly, so that those who are not in fellowship with us can be welcomed to the Lord’s Table in the future! We thank you for your respect for our Biblical and historical practice. Guests, please ask an elder or Pastor Adelsen before the service if you have any further questions concerning the Sacrament of the Altar, including the desire to become a member so we can all join together at the Lord’s Table.

Please let us know you were here. Please fill out a Connection Card. You may leave it on the table at the back of the sanctuary or place it in the offering plate. Or leave it at the end of your row and an Usher will collect it. Thank you!

Theme for Today's Service: Wisdom, understanding, counsel, and might are unveiled in Jesus. In His letter to the Romans, Paul unwraps the complete truth—Jesus embraces even Gentile nations with divine hope, joy and peace. John the Baptist with his abrasive appearance and unexpected rhetoric, forcefully proclaims both judgment against arrogant Pharisees and the need for repentance. Ultimately, Jesus alone casts final judgment on the fate of unbelievers and eternally claims salvation for repentant sinners.

Order of Service **Divine Service 1, p. 151 ff.**

Opening Hymn **LSB 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

Confession and Absolution **LSB p. 151**

Service of the Word **LSB p. 151-160**

Introit *Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b*

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

He is the Lord our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

**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.**

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Kyrie

LSB p. 152

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB p. 156



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the

cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle Reading

Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." ¹²And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Holy Gospel**Matthew 3:1-12**

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’” ⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every

tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB p. 158

Teaching the Faith from the Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism The Second

P *What benefits does Baptism give?*

C It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

P *Which are these words and promises of God?*

C Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

(Mark 16:16)

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

LSB 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Sermon

“A Shoot from the Stump of Jesse” (Isaiah 11:1-10)

Prayer of the Church

Following each prayer read aloud ending “Lord in Your Mercy,” the congregation may respond “Hear our prayer.”

Offering, Offertory

LSB p. 159-160

Service of the Sacrament

LSB p. 160 ff.

Distribution Hymns

LSB 342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

LSB 336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

LSB 346 When All the World Was Cursed

Post-Communion Canticle – *Nunc Dimittis*

LSB p. 165

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction

LSB p. 166

Closing Hymn

LSB 359 Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming

Announcements

Go in peace and Serve the Lord, thanks be to God!

Soup Suppers & Midweek Advent Prayer Services

Wednesdays, Dec. 10, Dec. 17

Meal at 6:00pm Evening Prayer Service at 7:00pm

Sign-up for meal planning in the narthex

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. In December people spend hours putting up lights in their living space and ornaments on their evergreens. Poinsettias are placed on the mantel and presents under the tree and we “deck the halls with boughs of holly”.

These Christmas decorations bring enjoyment and anticipation to the holiday.

Advent is the Church's season of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Lord. This Advent season, as part of our preparation on Wednesdays, we reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for his coming:

Evergreens - Lights - The Creche

Then, on Christmas, we will focus on the decorated presents which point us to the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

Advent Devotional Booklets

Slow down and focus on the meaning of the season by emphasizing hope, peace, joy, and love amidst holiday busyness. Seek a journey of spiritual preparation and reflect on Christ's birth and eagerly anticipate His return!

* on the table to the left in the narthex*

Prince of Peace News and Notes for December 7th, 2025

Serving the Lord and One Another Today: *Accompanist:* Deb Dunnun, *Song Leader:* Sarah Kolander; *Ushers:* Russ & Sharie Brunk; *Greeters:* POP Family; *Money Counters:* Barb Hinds, Deb Dunnun; *Acolyte:* Elska Sheffer; *Altar Guild for December:* Sharie Brunk and Lizbeth Novak

Serving the Lord and One Another Next Sunday: *Song Leader:* Sarah Kolander; *Ushers:* Roger & Ginny Emmons; *Money Counters:* Barb Alsobrooks, Elaine Schmidt; *Acolyte:* Caleb Kolander

Our Response to God's Gifts

Attendance last Sunday and Monday: 44
Weekly Need Original Budget: \$3,868.38
Weekly Need Revised Budget: \$3,225.00
Week of November 30 Offering: \$ 1,864.62
(Full Financials are posted on the kiosk in the lobby.)

THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

December 7 through December 14

<i>Today</i>	9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion <i>afterfellowship time</i> 10:30 am..... Adult Bible Study 10:30 am.....Sunday School 11:30 am..... Catechesis Class
Mon. Dec. 8	7:00 pmDivine Worship Service with Holy Communion
Wed. Dec. 10	9:30 am..... Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Advent Evening Prayer Service <i>after POP Choir practice</i>
Sun. Dec. 14	9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion

December Newsletters were distributed via email just before Thanksgiving.

If you prefer a paper copy, email a request OFFICE@WSPOP.ORG

Not on the email list? Also make an email request at OFFICE@WSPOP.ORG

Lutheranism 101/Adult Instruction Class: Are you considering membership to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church? Are you a member who would like to touch-up on what we believe, teach, and confess? Stay tuned for Lutheranism 101/Adult Instruction! This class is for potential new members and all current members who would like to learn more about the basic teachings of Christianity. For more information, or to sign-up, please contact Pastor Adelsen.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY
POP LWML La Crosse County Jail Donation Drive**

Please join our LWML group in collecting items for the La Crosse County Jail. Suggested items are recent magazines with label taken off, paperback books (no Harlequin romance), puzzles, adult coloring books, jackets and coats in good condition. For a complete list of donation items, see the sheet next to the tote in the narthex. Collection will run **through mid-December**. LWML Women plan to drop donated items off shortly before the Christmas holiday. Thank you!

Prince of Peace Baby Hats Ministry

is again restarting for the winter. As many knitted and crocheted hats for newborns, preemies and stillbirths as we can make! *Can you help?* We have yarn for the taking. *Don't know how?* We have the time to teach you! Hats are then dedicated in **January 2026**, then given to a local hospital. If you have any questions, see Melissa Adelsen.

***(Thank you everyone that took the time to prepare gifts
for the Lakeview Health Center Giving Tree!)***

Weekly Life Through from Lutherans for Life - We rejoice that God Himself defends the cause of the poor and needy (Psalm 72:4) and that He does this primarily through us, His saints. We must be careful, however, that we don't fall into self-righteousness and become a pharisaical "brood of vipers" (Matthew 3:7), always pointing out the sins of others while neglecting our own. Instead, as children of Abraham, we are all to "bear fruit in keeping with repentance" (Matthew 3:8), remembering that the things of God's Word were "written for our instruction" (Romans 15:4), as well as for the instruction of others.

Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

Sunday Mornings after Fellowship: Please stay today for adult Bible Study after fellowship time. We are nearing the end of our topic of Proverbs. *“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.”* Proverbs 30:5

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: All welcome at 9:30am as we continue our study on the Gospel of John. Join us anytime! Martin Luther regarded the Gospel of John as a cornerstone of Christian faith, placing it among the most important books of the New Testament.

Men’s Bible Study: All men are invited to our study on Timothy and Titus. The next scheduled meeting is December 16th. Men’s group meets at Feature’s in West Salem at 5:00pm on certain Tuesdays. See Pastor Adelsen if you have questions.

Women’s Bible Study – (*this group meets online*) You don’t even have to leave the house! Meets on most Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. on Facebook Messenger. Current topic is “Promised Rest” by Michelle Diercks. See Carrie Horstman or Debbie Dunnun if you'd like to join.

Job Well-Done! Thank you to all that have signed up for building cleaning. This team effort has made a difference and will continue to do so for our housekeeping and the church finances. We are almost covered for the rotation through February! Except – the week of December 28th through January 3rd. Sign-up sheet in the narthex. Note some date ranges for duties are weeks and some are months.

Prince of Peace Congregational Voters’ Meeting is Sunday, Dec. 21st after fellowship time. Please stay for this important semi-annual update from Pastor and the Officers of the Church.

Going away for a weekend? Would you like to listen to the sermon again?

Did you know that you can listen to Prince of Peace sermons online?

Check it out:

- Sounding the Scriptures POPcast on Spotify & Apple Podcast
- Facebook.com/WSPOPLCMS
- Our website at WSPop.org



One Thing's Needful

In Luke 10:42, Jesus says, "one thing is needful," referring to the importance of prioritizing time with God and listening to his word, as exemplified by Mary, over being consumed by worldly tasks like Martha's serving. It emphasizes that nurturing one's spiritual life through intimacy with God is more essential than getting caught up in external activities, even those done with good intentions.

INVOCATION In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

INTROIT Page 3

MEDITATION Psalm 72 –Martin Luther interpreted Psalm 72 primarily as a Messianic prophecy pointing to Jesus Christ, and he focused on its emphasis on a righteous king who brings justice to the poor and spiritual peace to God's people. He stated that the "peace" mentioned in the psalm should be understood not as earthly peace, but as the spiritual peace that comes from reconciliation with God through Christ. He saw the psalm as a model for how to pray for and recognize a just and righteous leader, viewing the "king" as a foreshadowing of the Messiah, whose rule brings ultimate justice and peace.

DAILY READINGS

7 Dec	Isaiah 24:1-13	1 John 1:1 – 2:14
8 Dec	Isaiah 24:14 – 25:12	1 John 2:15-29
9 Dec	Isaiah 26:1-19	1 John 3:1-24
10 Dec	Isaiah 26:20 – 27:13	1 John 4:1-21
11 Dec	Isaiah 28:14-29	1 John 5:1-21 2
12 Dec	Isaiah 29:1-14	Jude 1-25
13 Dec	Isaiah 29:15 – 30:14	Rev 1:1-19

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

- That those wandering from the Body of Christ would return to His fold
- The Leyh family, Josh and Faith, and their pre-school age son Peter currently attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne Indiana, at the loss of their unborn baby.
- Pray for: Gary Adelsen, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Lyle Anderson, Bill & Sal Stichman,

LEARN BY HEART Luke 3:4b *“Prepare the way for the Lord make straight paths for him.”*

COLLECT Page 4

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.* (Numbers 6:24-26)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matt. 3:1-12