

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"

"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs – Dec. 28th, 2025



Matthew 2:14

"And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt."

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

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

Elder: 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: The baby boys, murdered by Herod and commemorated just three days after the celebration of Jesus' birth, remind us not only of the terrible brutality of which human beings are capable but more significantly of the persecution Jesus endured from the beginning of His earthly life. Although Jesus' life was spared at this time, many years later, another ruler, Pontius Pilate, would sentence the innocent Jesus to death.

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

Opening Hymn **LSB 389 Let Us All Together Praise Our God**

Confession and Absolution **LSB p. 151**

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

Introit *Psalm 54; antiphon: v. 4*

Behold, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of my life.

O God, save me by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.

O God, hear my prayer;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

For strangers have risen against me;
ruthless men seek my life;
they do not set God before themselves.

He will return the evil to my enemies;
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.

For he has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

**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.**

Behold, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of my life.

Kyrie

LSB p. 152

Hymn of Praise: Gloria in Excelsis

LSB p. 154

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.

Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through 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

Jeremiah 31:15-17

¹⁵Thus says the Lord: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more." ¹⁶Thus says the Lord: "Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares the Lord, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

¹⁷There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 71:4a, 5a, 6a, b, 8

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked.

For you, O Lord, are my hope.

Upon you have I leaned from before my birth;

you are he who took me from my mother's womb.

My mouth is filled with your praise,

and with your glory all the day.

Epistle Reading

Revelation 14:1-5

¹Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.

²And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, ³and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, ⁵and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB p. 156



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

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13-18

¹³When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt. ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son." ¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB p. 158



Prince of Peace News and Notes for December 28th, 2025

Serving the Lord and One Another Today: *Accompanist:* Deb Dunnum, *Song Leaders:* Nancy & Patty Horstmann; *Ushers:* Mike & Carolyn Dosland; *Money Counters:* Lori Peters, Deb Dunnum; *Acolyte:* Elska Sheffer; *Altar Guild for December:* Sharie Brunk and Lizbeth Novak

Serving the Lord and One Another, Thursday, January 1st:

Song Leader: Holly Ford; *Ushers:* Barb Hinds, Chris Leis
Acolyte: Caleb Kolander

Serving the Lord and One Another Next Sunday: *Song Leader:* Brooklynn Scholze; *Ushers:* Russ & Sharie Brunk; *Money Counters:* Barb Alsobrooks, Barb Hinds; *Acolyte:* Bella Greydanus; *Altar Guild for January:* Jodi Soto, Ona Childs

Our Response to God's Gifts

Last Week's Attendance: Sun & Mon 72
Weekly Need Original Budget: \$3,868.38
Weekly Need Revised Budget: \$3,225.00
Sunday, December 21 Offering: \$3,991.00
(Full Financials are posted on the kiosk in the lobby.)

THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

December 28 through January 4

<i>Today</i>	9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion <i>after</i> <i>fellowship time</i>
	10:30 am..... Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am..... Sunday School
	11:30 am..... Catechesis Class
Mon. Dec. 29	7:00 pm Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion
Wed. Dec. 31	<i>Note:</i> <i>No Adult Bible Study</i>
Thurs. Jan. 1	9:00 pm Divine Service with Holy Communion <i>after</i> <i>All Welcome! Breakfast at Features</i>
Sun. Jan. 4	9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT - The 2026 paper offering envelopes have been placed in the church mailboxes. In an effort to continue to manage church expenses, it was most efficient to reassign numbers for all of our Congregants.

All assigned members will receive new offering (envelope) numbers. Also, if you regularly do not use a paper envelope, or consistently give electronically, you will not receive a box of paper envelopes but of course still have a giving number assigned. If you have questions, see Kurt Childs. Thank you.

**Thursday, January 1st – Tradition Continues!
All Welcome, after the 9am Divine Service
to head over to Features for breakfast!**

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.

WEEKLY LIFE THROUGH FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE – The devil hates little children because he hates the Christ child, who was promised to crush his head (Gen. 3:15). Sadly, his influence can still be seen today in those who, like Herod, see little children as a threat to their authority and aim for their destruction (Matt. 2:16). As we weep with Rachel and her children (Jer. 31:15), we also rejoice that by sparing His only-begotten Son from Herod's wrath, God has provided eternal salvation for all the holy innocents – past, present and future – that they too might join in the heavenly song around the throne of God (Rev. 14:3).

PRINCE OF PEACE BABY HATS MINISTRY Our goal is to make 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. A collection is started on the table in the narthex! If you have any questions, see Melissa Adelsen.

PRAYER CHAIN POP PRAYS! Do you know that Prince of Peace has an email prayer chain? If you have a prayer request or want to be on the prayer chain to pray for others, please email Bill Stichman. We rejoice always, pray without ceasing, giving thanks in all circumstances. wstichman@charter.net

Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

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

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: This group is taking some time off over the Holidays. Scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, Jan. 14th with a new topic: Isaiah.

Men’s Bible Study: Men’s group meets at Feature’s in West Salem at 5:00pm on certain Tuesdays. The next meeting will be January 13th. 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 Dunnum if you'd like to join.

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





Christmas (continues!) at Prince of Peace

Circumcision and Name of Jesus Divine Service

Thursday, Jan. 1, at 9 a.m.

(breakfast at Features to follow)

Second Sunday after Christmas

Jan. 4, at 9 a.m.

Christmas

a contraction of "Christ's mass." This day (Dec. 25) and its season celebrate the birth of Christ. The season is also called Christmastide and is in total 12 days. This season celebrates the fulfillment of the Advent expectation.

Epiphany

from the Greek for "appearance." This festival (Jan. 6) and its season celebrate the revelation of Jesus to the world as God's Son.

From Christmas Day onward, all the fun and festivities are just beginning! You have twelve more days to celebrate, so leave those decorations up, right on up through Twelfth Night (Jan. 5–6). Simply put, the appearance or manifestation of God is just too big to contain in one day! That's why the Church doesn't. Instead, it extends the celebration of God's coming among us to twelve days, starting at Christmas. Don't let the world, the mall, or any calendar tell you any differently!

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 54 – We see expressions of the Christian soul's struggle with God, the devil, and the world. David's pleas against slanderers, seeing God's powerful and rescuing presence while learning to rest in God's strength, not personal merit. Then turning accusation into joyful thanksgiving. Note also the emphasis on prayer, meditation, and the reality of spiritual warfare taking place.

DAILY READINGS

28 Dec	Is 52:13 – 54:10	Matt 2:13-23
29 Dec	Is 55:1-13	Luke 1:1-25
30 Dec	Is 58:1 – 59:3, 14-21	Luke 1:26-38
31 Dec	Is 60:1-22	Luke 1:39-56
1 Jan	Is 61:1-11	Luke 1:57-80
2 Jan	Is 62:1-12	Luke 2:1-20
3 Jan	Is 63:1-14	Luke 2:21-40

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.
- Pray for: Willie Danielson, Gary Adelsen, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Lyle Anderson, Bill & Sal Stichman, Tom Schran

LEARN BY HEART Matt. 11:10^b *“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.”*

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: 1 Kings 3:4-15, Ephesians 1:3-14, Luke 2:40-52