

Prince of Peace Tidings

Volume 27

May 2025

Issue 5

Like Going Home

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

Do you remember visiting your grandmother's home? Why did you like being there? Was it sleeping in a bedroom where you were comfortable and secure? Was it hearing some of the reassuring sounds of the house itself? Was it smelling the aroma from the kitchen and enjoying the good tastes that came from it? Was it the good times you had there with your relatives? Very likely, the primary reason you liked to visit was to be with your grandmother herself. You wanted to see her, talk to her, hug her. And, undoubtedly, some of the best times there were around a meal.

How similar to when we go to God's house for worship! We get to meet God, to interact with Him, to sense His love once more, and to express our thanks for His caring. That's the meaning of worship.

God is there. *"For where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I among them"* (Matthew 18:20). God is present in His Word and in His Sacraments. And where God is, there are His gifts of salvation, peace, and joy.

Now, there are other facets of worship that delight us. Beauty of sight and sound may be pleasant and rewarding. The friendliness of those around us and the sharing of our joy may be encouraging. The triggering of memories of past worship experiences may touch us deeply. Voicing our faith with other Christians may strengthen us. But what surpasses everything else is the very presence and power of God.

This would not be possible if it were not for Jesus Christ. This is how God brought us close to Himself again. Jesus, the Son of God, became man in order to rescue us from the powers of sin, death, and the devil. Because Jesus died for our sins, we by His grace through faith in Him, now live forever.

If you asked a random person on the street about what they think about worship, they may likely say that worship is something we do for God or toward God. But the reality is quite different.

Think back to visiting your grandmother's home. Why was there the smell of aroma from the kitchen? Who produced those good tastes? Now, you may have assisted grandma, but if you're honest, it was grandma doing all the baking and cooking.

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In the Divine Service, God provides His service for us. He does it all. God comes to us in the reading, preaching, and proclamation of His Word and in His. In true worship, God gives His grace, and we respond with thanks and praise.

We give thanks to the people we love. We hug and kiss our grandma. We give her our gratitude. For God, we give back with our time, talents and treasures. He gave us His all, so it would be only fitting to give something back in thanksgiving. We give back to God through our presence in the Divine Service and in loving service to your neighbor. We give back to God through lending a helping hand in church leadership positions, singing in the choir, quilting, and maintaining the church grounds. We give back by giving money to support what we love. And Christians love the Gospel.

We are so blessed by God. He loved us before we even love Him. He loves us all unconditionally. (Even more unconditionally than grandma.)

And we long to continue to be with God because our spiritual life depends on Him. Just as no tree bears fruit by its own energy, so God's design for spiritual growth involves the outside force of His Word and His Sacraments. From them, the Holy Spirit works in us, and faith becomes deeper and stronger – and thus the fragile stem of faith grows and produces more fruit.

That fruit is the Christlike life. With the power that comes from God and freed from serving only self, we are able to put others ahead of ourselves. How grateful we are that He loves us and has made us His own children! He loved us first. It all begins with God.

This is worship – a faith-response to God's love and presence in Jesus Christ. Worship is like going home. In the Divine Service, we receive Christ's humble embrace and His protection. God bless you!

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Adelsen

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Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

Sunday Adult Bible Study (10:30 a.m. Sundays)

THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

The central theme of Proverbs is wisdom: “*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction*” (Proverbs 1:7).

The word **proverbs** comes from the content of this Bible book. For the most part, it contains short, two-line sentences that describe how God’s people can live positive, productive lives.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study (9:30 a.m. Wednesdays)

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John’s Gospel focuses beautifully on both the promise of everlasting life and the bodily resurrection of those who trust in Jesus. Throughout the study, we will take comfort in Christ’s many great and precious promises to His flock. His words are spirit, and they are life! (This month, we will be meeting on May 21 and 28.)

Men’s Bible Study (5 p.m., Tuesday, May 20 at Features in West Salem)

1 & 2 TIMOTHY and TITUS

St. Paul’s two letters to Timothy are vivid reminders that the early Christians faced trouble and even the threat of death for their faith. And yet, the joy that stirred and encouraged their hearts is unmistakable! As we study the letters to Timothy, we will see how God blesses His Church through the Office of the Holy Ministry through which Jesus brings salvation to the whole world. St. Paul’s letter to Titus also makes it clear that holy living and pure teaching are two sides of the same coin. What we believe affects what we do, and what we do grows out of what we believe. Paul begins his letter to Titus by referring to this truth writing,

“Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God’s elect and *their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness ...*” (Titus 1:1; emphasis added).

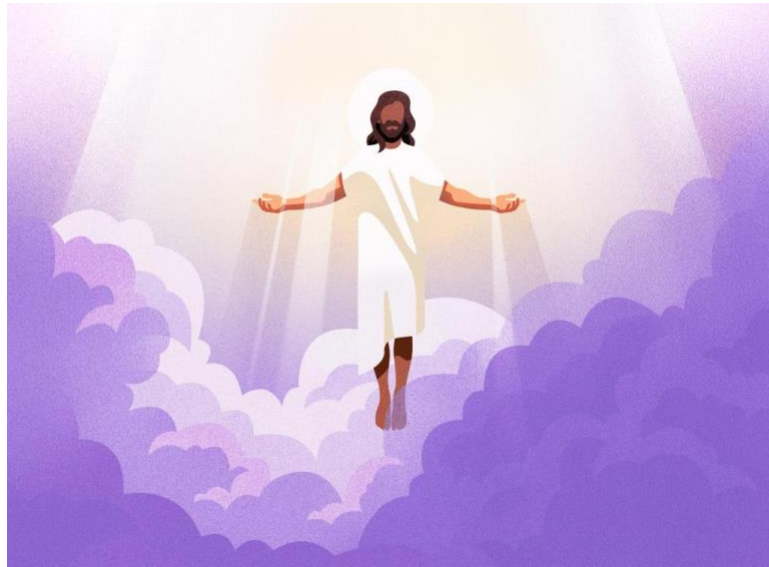
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Women's Bible Study (9 a.m. Saturdays)

CHOSEN

We meet mostly using Facebook messenger and are currently studying "Chosen" by Donna Snow, which is a study based on the Book of Esther. Interested in joining? Talk to Carrie Horstman, Sarah Kolander, Ginny Emmons or Debbie Dunnum!



THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Joint Ascension Day Divine Service at Prince of Peace

1901 E. Church Road, West Salem, WI 54669

Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m.

Potluck at 6 p.m.



*Vicar Josiah Junkin will be preaching.
Pastor Peter Adelsen will be leading the
liturgy.*



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LWML Notes

Our next meeting will be May 3.

Check out the quilts and crafts in the fellowship hall! All the items are for sale, and the proceeds will go to support our LWML. Quilts are being sold for \$25 minimum, and for the other crafts, buyers can determine the price.

We're having a bake sale after church on May 4.

The LWML ladies have been asked by the Fletcher's to work at their 50th anniversary party on May 10. More details to come.

Evangelism Committee Report

The Evangelism Committee members once again plan to participate in the 2025 June Dairy Day **Parade on Saturday, May 31st at noon** downtown West Salem, WI. We are seeking candy donations for the parade and volunteers to walk the parade route. If you are interested in helping, please let Sharie Brunk know to receive additional information. Any questions may be directed to one of the committee members Elaine, Patty and Sharie. Thanks!

Shepherd of the Hills has invited the ladies to "The Ultimate Royal Spa", a women's event with Wanda Emerson. She is a motivational speaker, cosmetologist and spa owner. The event is Thursday, May 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. If you want to go, tell Carrie Horstman and she'll take care of the RSVP.

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Our May birthdays

Amelia Hausner	May 1
Dan Moen	May 1
Daymen Schaub	May 7
Beth Roush	May 8
Joseph Scholze	May 8
Larry Komperud	May 9
Kurt Childs	May 11
Keith Novak	May 12
Lucas Horstman	May 15
Carrie Horstman	May 16
Dee Pralle	May 21
Lori Peters	May 23
Jose' Soto	May 24
Fran Freismuth	May 29

Say Happy Anniversary to Joe & Brooklynn Scholze on May 21!

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May Schedules

Ushers

May 4-Mike & Carolyn Dosland
May 11-Chris Leis & Elaine Schmidt
May 18-Willie & Leatta Danielson
May 25-Dan & Kari Moen

Greeters

May 4-POP Family
May 11-POP Family
May 18-Mike & Carolyn Dosland
May 25-POP Family

Money counters

May 4-Barb Hinds & Barb Alsobrooks
May 11-Debbie Dunnum & Ona Childs
May 18-Elaine Schmidt & Lori Peters
May 25-Barb Alsobrooks & Debbie Dunnum

Song Leaders

May 4-Patty & Nancy Horstmann
May 11-Holly Ford
May 18-Sarah Kolander
May 25-Brooklynn Scholze

Altar Guild

Ona Childs
Jodi Soto

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Pastor's day off First Friday Fellowship	3 LWML 9 a.m.
4 Divine Service: 9 a.m. Bible study for all: 10:30 Elders: 11:30 a.m.	5	6	7	8	9 Pastor's day off	10 Women's Bible Study: 9a.m.
11 Divine Service: 9 a.m. Bible study for all: 10:30 Council: 11:30 a.m.	12 Divine Service: 7 p.m. Pastor's Conference May 12-14	13	14	15	16 Pastor's day off	17 Women's Bible Study: 9a.m.
18 Divine Service: 9 a.m. End of Sunday School year party 10:30	19 Divine Service: 7 p.m.	20 Men's Bible Study: 5 p.m. at Features, West Salem	21 Bible study: 9:30 a.m.	22	23 Pastor's day off	24 Women's Bible Study: 9a.m.
25 Divine Service: 9 a.m. Bible study for all: 10:30	Memorial Day 26 Divine Service: 7 p.m.	27	28 Bible study: 9:30 a.m.	Ascension Day 29 Divine Service: 7 p.m. Potluck: 6 p.m.	30 Pastor's day off	31 Women's Bible Study: 9a.m.

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