

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"

"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Second Sunday after Christmas – Jan. 4th, 2026



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: Only twelve years old, Jesus, the boy in the temple, is already full of the wisdom of God. As Solomon prayed for wisdom as God's greatest gift, today we are given a glimpse into God's wisdom: that a person is not and cannot be saved by his own works or actions but solely by faith in the gift of Jesus Christ. We become God's children and his own family by God's action of adopting us.

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

Opening Hymn **LSB 388 Go Tell It On the Mountain**

Confession and Absolution **LSB p. 151**

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

Introit *Psalm 147:1, 5, 11-12; antiphon: John 1:14*

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God;

for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

his understanding is beyond measure.

But the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,

in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

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 Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,

glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4-15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” ¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

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 Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the

mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB p. 156



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

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40-52

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up

according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB p. 158

Hymn of the Day

LSB 410 Within the Father's House

Sermon

"God's Obedient Son" (Luke 2:40-52)

Installation and Recognition of Congregational Officers

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

Special Music: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (POP Choir)

Service of the Sacrament

LSB p. 160 ff.

Distribution Hymns

LSB 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB 365 Away in a Manger

LSB 393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Post-Communion Canticle – *Nunc Dimittis*

LSB p. 165

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction

LSB p. 166

Closing Hymn

LSB 392 God Loves Me Dearly

Announcements

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



Prince of Peace News and Notes for January 4th, 2026

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

Serving the Lord and One Another Next Sunday: *Song Leader:* Sarah Kolander; *Ushers:* Dan & Kari Moem; *Money Counters:* Elaine Schmidt, Ona Childs; *Acolyte:* Caleb Kolander

Our Response to God's Gifts

Last Week's Attendance: Sun & Mon 56
Weekly Need Original Budget: \$3,868.38
Weekly Need Revised Budget: \$3,225.00
Week of December 28 Offering: \$6,749.85
(Full Financials are posted on the kiosk in the lobby.)

THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

January 4 through January 11th

<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. Jan. 5	7:00 pmDivine Worship Service with Holy Communion
Wed. Jan. 7	<i>Note:No Adult Bible Study</i>
Sun. Jan. 11	9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion

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.

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 - God used Joseph, who adopted Jesus as his own son (Luke 2:41), to care for our Lord as He (Jesus) mysteriously lived a perfectly human life as our substitute. Through Jesus, God has now adopted us as His own children and has promised us an eternal inheritance in His kingdom (Ephesians 1:5, 11). Christians should be encouraged to likewise consider and promote adoption as a godly way to preserve and care for the lives of God's precious children and bring them into His kingdom.

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

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

Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

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

THE APOCRYPHA As Lutherans, how should we regard the Apocrypha? You know, those “books not held equal to the Scriptures but useful and good to read,” as Martin Luther says. Oddly enough, and contrary to popular belief, Luther did include the apocryphal books in his German Luther Bible. But Luther did move them to a separate section from where they were previously placed. So, what should we, as Lutherans, think about the Apocryphal Books? Are they really useful and good to read as Luther says? This study begins on January 11.

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

ISAIAH: Like Israel of old, we, too, sometimes look to other “gods” for help in time of need. We obey God’s Law – when it’s convenient and when we’re afraid of getting caught. Our love is halfhearted, and our other sins, many. The Law thunders from Isaiah’s pages as the Prophet reminds us that we can’t fool God. But Isaiah’s message does not end there. We can’t fool God, but we don’t have to! God has had mercy on us. From all eternity, He planned to send a Savior for us! Perhaps, more than any other Old Testament prophet, Isaiah brings comfort and hope, especially as he describes the coming Savior. This study begins on January 14.

Men’s Bible Study (5 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 13) 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.

Women’s Bible Study (Meets online on Saturdays, 9:00am)

Promised Rest by Michelle Diercks topic of study continues. Explore who God is, what He does, and what He promises in this Bible study. Each chapter draws the reader closer to God's real and present peace in His word and Sacraments. Promised Rest encourages you to rest your heart in the promises of God, who chose you and gives you peace, for now and forever. See Debbie Dunnun or Carrie Horstman about how to join in online.

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 119 –

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

4 Jan	Is 63:15 – 65:2	Luke 2:41–52
5 Jan	Is 65:8–25	Luke 3:1–20
6 Jan	Is 66:1–20	Luke 3:21–38
7 Jan	Ezek 1:1–14, 22–28	Rom 1:1–17
8 Jan	Ezek 2:1 – 3:11	Rom 1:18–32
9 Jan	Ezek 3:12–28	Rom 2:1–16
10 Jan	Ezek 18:1–4, 19–32	Rom 2:17–290

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: Gary Adelsen, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Lyle Anderson, Bill & Sal Stichman, Tom Schran

LEARN BY HEART Luke 2:40 *“And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on 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 42:1-9, Romans 6:1-11, Matthew 3:13-17