

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"

"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 15th, 2026



YAHWEH'S BLIND SERVANT

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: Tue 8-11am, Wed. 10:30am-1:30pm, Thur. Noon-2:30pm (*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: Believers saturate themselves in fervent prayer and the breaking of bread. Believers empty themselves of possessions, giving belongings to the underprivileged. Suffering is endured, and this is the very nature of Christ. By His wounds, we are healed. He is the one true Shepherd without blemish, fault, or sin. Yet He was unjustly threatened, despised, and condemned. But He is also the One who opens the door, unbars the gates, and welcomes His sheep eternally.

Order of Service

Divine Service 3, p. 184 ff.

Opening Hymn

LSB 545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth

Confession and Absolution

LSB p. 184

Service of the Word

LSB p. 186-193

Introit

Psalm 27:4-6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

My eyes are ever toward the Lord,

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

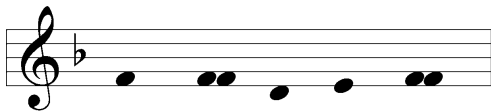
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

My eyes are ever toward the Lord,

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Kyrie

LSB p. 186



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through 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

Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the

things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,

the founder and perfecter of our faith,

who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lent Verse

Joel 2:13



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. John, the ninth chapter.

G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said,

“This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If

you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB p. 191

Teaching the Faith from the Catechism, Daily Prayers

How the head of the family should teach his household to pray:

Evening Prayer

P *In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross and say:*

C **In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

P *Then kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you choose, you may also say this little prayer:*

C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

P *Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.*

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

LSB 744 Amazing Grace

Sermon

"Yahweh's Blind Servant" (Isaiah 42:14-21)

Offering, Offertory

LSB p. 192-193

Prayer of the Church

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

Service of the Sacrament

LSB p. 194-202

Distribution Hymns

LSB 425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

LSB 559 Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion

LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Post-Communion Canticle Nunc Dimittis

LSB p. 199

Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Collect

LSB p. 200

Salutation, Benedicamus and Benediction

LSB p. 201-202

Closing Hymn

LSB 571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

Announcements

Go in peace and serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

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

THE APOCRYPHA

Join us as we will explore what we, as Lutherans, think about the Apocryphal Books.

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

ISAIAH

Selected Tuesdays, at Features (5:00pm), Men's Bible Study

Three Major Prophets: NAHUM, HABAKKUK AND ZEPHANIA

Meets again in April after Easter

Saturday's Online, Women's Bible Study (9:00am)

PROMISED HOPE

See Deb Dunnum or Carrie Horstman about how to join online.

Full descriptions of the Bible Studies are posted on the bulletin board.

Prince of Peace News and Notes for March 15th, 2026

Serving the Lord and One Another Today: *Accompanist:* Deb Dunnum, *Song Leaders:* Nancy & Patty Horstmann; *Ushers:* Russ & Sharie Brunk; *Money Counters:* Lori Peters, Chris Leis; *Acolyte:* TBD; *Altar Guild for March:* Sharie Brunk and Lizbeth Novak

Serving the Lord and One Another Next Sunday: *Song Leaders:* Brooklynn Scholze; *Ushers:* Dan & Kari Moen; *Money Counters:* Elaine Schmidt, Barb Alsobrooks; *Acolyte:* Elska Sheffer

Our Response to God’s Gifts

Last Week’s Attendance, Sun & Mon: 51

Weekly Need 2026 Budget: \$3,172.46

Week of March 8th Offering: \$3,874.01

(Full Financials are posted on the kiosk in the lobby.)

THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

<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 pm Catechesis Class
Mon. Mar. 16	7:00 pmDivine Worship Service with Holy Communion
Tue. Mar. 17	☘ 6:15 pm Lutheranism 101/New Member Class
Wed. Mar.18	9:30 am.....Bible Study
	6:00 pmSoup Supper Potluck Style
	7:00 pm Lenten Evening Prayer Service
	<i>after</i> <i>POP Choir</i>
Sat. Mar. 21	9:00 am..... Women’s Bible Study (online)
Sun. Mar. 22	9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH, at 7 p.m. (meal at 6 p.m.) is the mid-week **Lenten service** of Evening Prayer. We will consider the next pair in the Table of Duties: “To Parents & Children” Please join us! All welcome also for our **Lent Supper** at 6 p.m. before the mid-week Prayer Services! Pot-luck food sign-up on the table through the Lenten season.

NEXT WEEK, ON SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND during the Sunday School after the Divine Service, we will be having a **Christian Passover Seder meal**. Everyone is welcome! We ask that you do sign up so we can get an idea on numbers. This will be an interactive, educational meal with music, readings and of course food! There will not be Fellowship time on this Sunday as this special event will be held in the Fellowship Hall. There is also a sign-up sheet for donations. See Pastor, Carrie, Sarah, or Brooklyn with any questions.

ON SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH If you need a little help with your baked goods for Easter, check out our LWML **Bake Sale** on Sunday, March 29th. It will take place after the church service in the Fellowship Room.

ON SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH We celebrate the risen Lord together! **Easter Breakfast** between the 6am Sunrise and the 9am Divine Services. This is pot-luck style. Looking for Main Dish, Fruit, Beverages and other goodies! Sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex.

THANK YOU to those who donate items to the POP Food Pantry collection. Recently, donations were taken to the Ecumenical Food Pantry in Sparta. FYI, We need someone to step-up and take our donations out to the community distribution places on a regular basis. See Pastor Adelsen or leave a note at the church office if this is you!

BABY BOTTLES COLLECTIONS for Birthright – Bottles are on display on the table next to Pastor’s office. Your coins, dollars or checks can make a difference in a little one’s future. Life is a precious gift! See Deb Dunnun if you have follow-up questions.

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

SUPPORTING THE LEYH FAMILY AT CTSFW Josh Leyh, a member of Prince of Peace, has been studying for the Office of the Holy Ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. As he, along with his wife Faith and pre-school age son Peter, take up this task, we, as Christ’s flock at Prince of Peace, are encouraged to support the Leyhs in every possible way through prayer, encouragement, and financial support. A collection box specifically for this has been placed in the narthex. Updates from the Leyh family are shared on the bulletin board on the way into the Fellowship Hall.

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 142 – Martin Luther saw this psalm as a "little Bible" and a "manual" for prayer, encouraging Christians to honestly pour out their troubles, complaints, and fears before God, rather than relying on their own feelings. He advocated using the words of the psalms directly in prayer, as they represent the words of saints speaking to God. Remember too to approach God with honesty when faced with intense pressure or abandonment, treating God as the only refuge.

DAILY READINGS

Lent 4	Gen 41:28–57	Mark 11:20–33
Monday	Gen 42:1–34, 38	Mark 12:1–12
Tuesday	Gen 43:1–28	Mark 12:13–27
Wednesday	Gen 44:1–18, 32–34	Mark 12:28–44
Thursday	Gen 45:1–20, 24–28	Mark 13:1–23
Friday	Gen 47:1–31	Mark 13:24–37 Gen 48:1 – 49:28
Saturday	Gen 49:29 – 50:7, 14–26	Mark 14:1–11

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 & Marietta Adelsen, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Bill & Sal Stichman, Tom Schran, Jeff Schmidt, Olivia Gosset (Melissa Adelsen's cousin), Scott Roscovious

LEARN BY HEART Psalm 36:9 *"For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light."*

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: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:1-11; John 11:1-53