

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*"A Disciple Making Community"*

*"KNOW, GROW, and GO"*

West Salem, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Fifth Sunday of Easter — May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026



Jesus: "I AM the Way"

***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 - Noon (*staffed voluntarily*)

Accompanist: Deb Dunnum

Choral Director: Sarah Kolander

**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:** People can be obstinate, impervious even to the workings of the Holy Spirit. Faithful apostles, prophets and preachers can become martyrs because they earnestly believe in Jesus. But for us, Jesus becomes the martyr – the sacrifice – the cornerstone, so that we may be His people, basking in the light, shrouded in mercy. Christ ushers us, His precious, chosen, and holy ones, into His eternal realm that we may reside in the heavenly mansion prepared by God the Father.

**Order of Service: Divine Service 1, pp. 151ff**

**Hymn of Invocation: 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

**Confession & Absolution**

*LSB 151*

**Service of the Word**

*LSB 151*

**Introit**

*Psalm 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1*

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,  
**his praise in the assembly of the godly!**

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up  
**and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,  
**and you have healed me.**

O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;  
**you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,  
**and give thanks to his holy name.**

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

**Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**  
**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.**

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,  
**his praise in the assembly of the godly!**

Kyrie

LSB 152

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154

Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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.

**First Reading**

*Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60*

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their

hands on them. <sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. <sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

<sup>2</sup>And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Christ has risen from the dead.

**[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.**

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

**he has put all things under his feet.**

## Epistle

1 Peter 2:2–10

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation – <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

<sup>8</sup>and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the". The second staff continues with the lyrics: "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final double bar line at the end of the second staff.

## Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” <sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Nicene Creed**

**Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day: 646 Church of God, Elect and Glorious**

**Sermon: "Chosen as God's People"**

*1 Peter 2:2-10*

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

*LSB 159*

**Service of the Sacrament**

*LSB p. 160 ff.*

Distribution Hymn: 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Distribution Hymn: 645 Built on the Rock

Distribution Hymn: 726 Evening and Morning

**Thank the Lord**

*LSB 164*

**Post-Communion Collect**

**Benediction**

*LSB 166*

**Hymn to Depart: 526 You Are the Way; through You Alone**

**Announcements**

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

**Acknowledgments**

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## Serving Our Lord and One Another

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Song Leader	H. Ford	L. Danielson	B. Scholze	S. Kolander	H. Ford
Ushers	Hinds & Leis	Brunk	Dosland	Moen	Otto
Counters	E. Schmidt & D. Dunnun	B. Hinds O. Childs	C. Leis L. Peters	B. Alsobrooks E. Schmidt	B. Hinds D. Dunnun
Acolyte	B. Greydanus	C. Kolander	E. Sheffer	B. Greydanus	C. Kolander
Altar Guild	Barb Hinds, Carolyn Dosland				

### Our Response to God's Gifts

Last Week's Sun. & Mon. Attendance: 53

Weekly Need 2026 Budget: \$3,172.46

Week of April 26<sup>th</sup> Offering: \$2,441.10

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

### THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

<i>Today</i>	<b>9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion</b> <i>after ..... Fellowship Time</i>
	10:30 am..... Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am..... Sunday School
	11:30 pm ..... Catechesis Class
<b>Mon. May 4</b>	<b>7:00 pm ..... Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion</b>
Wed. May 6	9:30 am..... Adult Bible Study
Sat. May 9	9:00 am..... LWML at Prince of Peace
<b>Sun. May 10</b>	<b>9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion</b> <i>and Wisconsin Pro-Life Mother's Day Rose Sale</i>

## Prince of Peace News and Notes for May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

**SUN. MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> ROSE SALE:** Prince of Peace in partnership with the local Pro-Life Wisconsin chapter will be part of the annual Mother's Day Rose Sale on Mother's Day. Single stem roses will be available for purchase at a suggested price of \$3 each. All proceeds go directly back to Pro-Life Wisconsin to support moms and families in need.



**THURS. MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>, ASCENSION DAY:** Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. as POP will have a joint Ascension Day service with Faith and Gift of Grace Lutheran churches hosted at Faith Lutheran Church – 1407 Main Street, La Crosse.

**SAT. JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>:** Prince of Peace will once again participate in the **JUNE DAIRY DAY PARADE** on Saturday at noon downtown West Salem. This is a great way for our church to be visible in our community. If you are interested in walking with our parade group or have questions, please reach out to any of the Evangelism Committee members: Sharie Brunk, Elaine Schmidt or Patty Horstmann.

**CLEANING OUR BUILDING:** Coverage for June is still needed. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. It takes about 2 hours a week to clean and can be broken into smaller jobs through the week. Thanks!

### PRINCE OF PEACE CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

On Jan. 20, 2027, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will celebrate 25 years of receiving God's Means of Grace at 1901 Church Road East! Prince of Peace was later officially dedicated on Feb. 10, 2002 (Transfiguration Sunday). Over these many years, the Prince of Peace – our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – has displayed His love and care to His flock in this place! This is an anniversary certainly worth celebrating! If you are interested in serving Prince of Peace in the planning for this 25th year celebration, please see Pastor Adelsen, Kurt Childs, or an Elder.

*Monthly Newsletters were distributed via email mid-week last week. Missed it in your email inbox? Let us know! If you prefer a paper copy, let us know! Office@WSPOP.org*

### **Bible Studies at Prince of Peace**

- Sunday Adult Bible Study (10:30 a.m.), 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.
- Wednesday Morning Bible Study (9:30 a.m.), 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. In the pages of Isaiah, the prophet brings comfort and hope, especially as he describes the coming Savior.
- Selected Tuesdays, at Features (5:00pm), Men’s Bible Study** Three minor prophets: Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephania is our focus. The people of Assyria were notorious for their brutality, and they believed that their kingdom would last forever. Those who feared this cruel nation needed to do so no longer for the Lord would protect and deliver His people. Meets again May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Saturday’s Online, Women’s Bible Study (9:00am), PROMISED HOPE** – Come discover what eight different names and characteristics of God say about who He is and the hope He promises. See Deb Dunnun or Carrie Horstman about how to join online.

*Weekly Life Thought from Lutherans for Life - The truth of God’s Word is not always welcomed by “stiff-necked people” who “resist the Holy Spirit,” and even become enraged at hearing the truth. Stephen faithfully proclaimed that Word even though it led to his martyrdom (Acts 7:51, 59-60). Many angry voices today demand unfettered access to abortion or physician-assisted suicide. But we must continue to sound the trumpet of truth, for only the power of God’s Word can open the eyes of the blind and execute justice for the oppressed (Psalm 146:7-8). It is the narrow road of faith in Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, that gives us access to our Father in heaven (John 14:6). Baptized into Christ, we are living stones, being built up into a spiritual house, that we may proclaim the Good News of the One who calls us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:5, 9).*

**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.

## 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 146 – Martin Luther (and the Lutheran tradition stemming from him) interprets Psalm 146 as a direct warning against trusting in human leaders ("princes" or "mortals") and a call to trust only in God. The Psalm aligns with Luther's focus on the Law's failure (human, fleeting efforts) and Grace's victory found in God's eternal, faithful righteousness.

### THIS WEEK'S DAILY READINGS

Sunday	Lev 20:1–16, 22–27	Luke 11:37–54	
Monday	Lev 21:1–24	Luke 12:1–12	
Tuesday	Lev 23:1–22	Luke 12:13–34	
Wednesday	Lev 23:23–44	Luke 12:35–53	
Thursday	Lev 24:1–23	Luke 12:54—13:17	Lev 25:1–55
Friday	Lev 26:1–20	Luke 13:18–35	
Saturday	Lev 26:21–33, 39–44	Luke 14:1–24	Num 1:1—2:346

### 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, Carl Ingle (Melissa Adelsen's uncle), Scott Roscovious, Jeremy Schaub

**LEARN BY HEART** Romans 6:9: *Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia!*

**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:** Acts 17:16-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21