

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

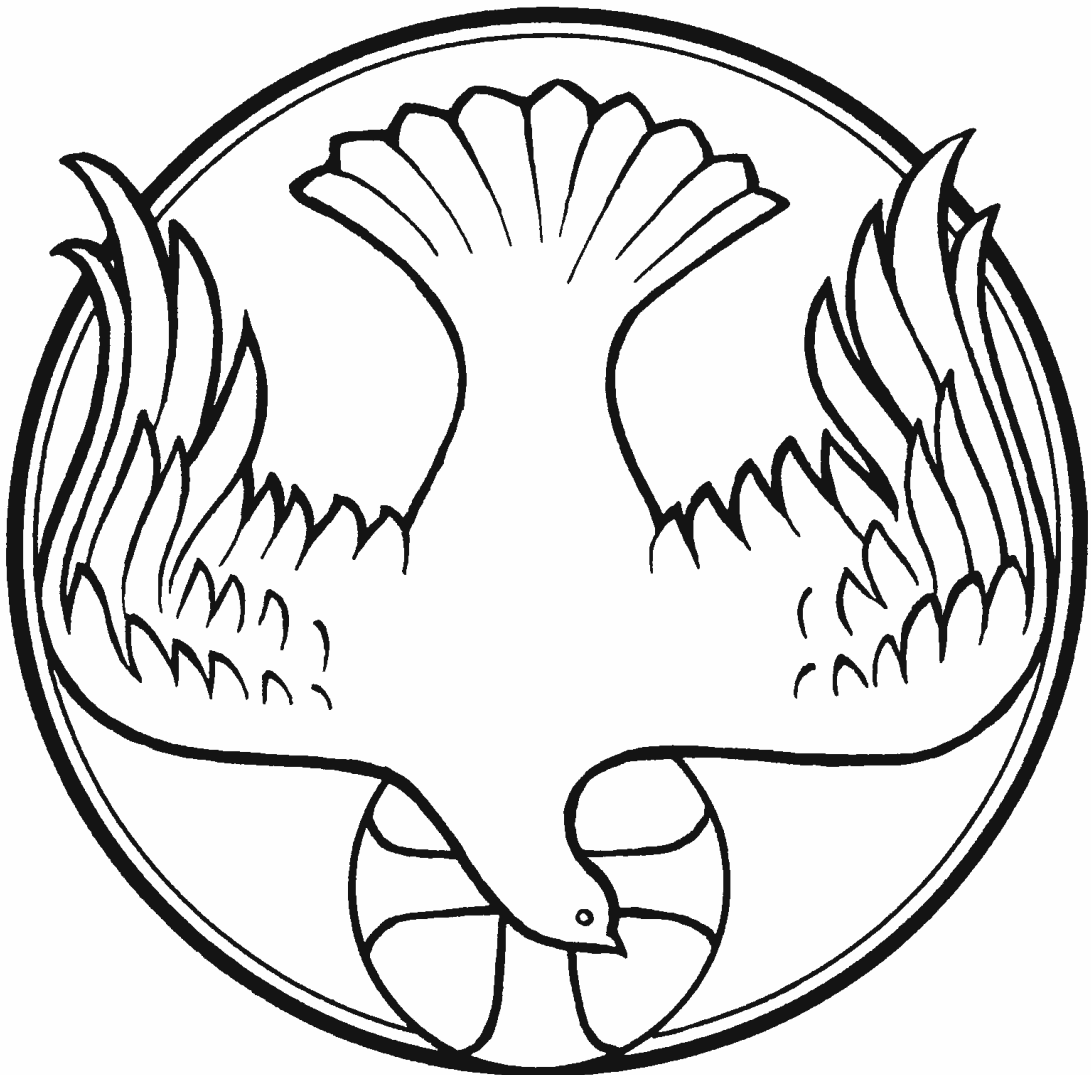
"A Disciple Making Community"

"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 10th, 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 - 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: Paul unmasks an entire culture of religious idolatry where objects of worship are rubbish and religious assertions are merely fabricated in the minds of men. In the midst of the ungodly, he preaches the counsels of God, tells of the need for repentance, and confirms the resurrection of the dead. The resurrected Christ is the one we worship. His commandments are divine assertions. By Baptism, we are believers in all these things, loved by god and enabled to love.

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

Hymn of Invocation: 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice *sts. 1-5*

Confession and Absolution

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 119:89-93; antiphon: v. 105

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

Forever, O LORD, your word
is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

By your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are your servants.

If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have given me life.

**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.**

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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 17:16–31

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities” – because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who

lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for

"In him we live and move and have our being';

as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we are indeed his offspring.'

²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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 3:13–22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?
¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

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 simple eighth and quarter notes.

Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

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



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁵[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

sts. 6-10

Sermon: "The Divine Mystery: Revealed"

Acts 17:16-31

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Offertory

LSB 159

Service of the Sacrament

LSB p. 160 ff.

Distribution Hymn: 855 For All the Faithful Women

sts, 1,8, 3–4

Distribution Hymn: 725 Children of the Heavenly Father

Distribution Hymn: 834 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

LSB 166

Hymn to Depart: 645 Built on the Rock

Announcements

Buy a rose today for a great cause!

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

Acknowledgments

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SERVING OUR LORD AND ONE ANOTHER

	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Song Leader	L. Danielson	S. Kolander	B. Scholze	H. Ford
Ushers	Brunk	Dosland	Moen	Otto
Counters	B. Hinds O. Childs	C. Leis L. Peters	B. Alsobrooks E. Schmidt	B. Hinds D. Dunnum
Acolyte	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: 58

Weekly Need 2026 Budget: \$3,172.46

Week of May 3rd Offering: \$1,857.00

(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 am.....	Church Council
	12:00 pm	Catechesis Class
Mon. May 11	7:00 pm	Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion
Tue. May 12	5:00 pm	Men’s Bible Study at Features
Wed. May 13	9:30 am.....	Adult Bible Study
Thur. May 14	7:00 pm @Faith on Main in La Crosse...	Ascension Worship Service
Sat. May 16	9:00 am.....	LWML at Prince of Peace
Sun. May 17	9:00 am.....	Divine Service with Holy Communion

Prince of Peace News and Notes for May 3rd, 2026

THURSDAY MAY 14TH, ASCENSION DAY: On Thursday, May 14th 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 St., La Crosse.

SUNDAY MAY 31ST: Holy Trinity Sunday is also a Fifth Sunday! Weather permitting, the Divine Service will be held outside on the church lawn followed by a church picnic. Please bring your favorite lawn chair, and if you forget, POP will have some chairs available. A sign-up for food and drink is in the Narthex.

SATURDAY JUNE 6TH: 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!

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you would like to provide altar flowers for a Divine Service, there is a sign-up poster on the bulletin board. Flowers can be in honor of someone in memory or in celebration of a birthday, anniversary or other milestone. Fresh flowers only please. You may bring in your own purchased florist bouquet or cut flowers of your own in vases. If you leave a note in the church office, your dedication can be printed in the worship bulletin.

PRINCE OF PEACE CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Update: A few more people would be nice for this team!

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! 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! 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.

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 12th.
- 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 - Like Athens at the time of the Apostle Paul’s preaching (Acts 17:16), this world is full of idols. Today’s idols may take on a different shape, but they are just as deadly. These idols craftily disguise themselves with practical-sounding words and phrases, such as “reproductive health care” and “death with dignity.” The One True God, the Lord of Life, offers a better way. Jesus says, “Because I live, you will also live” (John 14:19). Though in this life we may be tested and tried like silver, and what may appear to be a crushing burden is laid on our backs, the Lord God has promised to bring us into a place of abundance (Psalm 66:10-12). We have been given the Helper, the Spirit of Truth, who dwells in us (John 14:16-17), that we may serve God in our various vocations as Gospel-motivated voices for Life, always being ready to make a defense for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15).

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 66 – Psalm 66 is a psalm of thanks for general blessing that God often delivers and protects His people out of the hand of the enemies, as He did at the Red Sea. The histories in the books of Judges and kings are full of these deliverances, which He also does daily for us, delivering and keeping his own in the true faith against the devil, spirits and sins. [FROM: READING THE PSALMS WITH LUTHER].

THIS WEEK'S DAILY READINGS

Sunday	Num 3:1–16, 39–48	Luke 14:25—15:10	Num 4:1—8:4
Monday	Num 8:5–26	Luke 15:11–32	
Tuesday	Num 9:1–23	Luke 16:1–18	
Wednesday	Num 10:11–36	Luke 16:19–31	
Ascension Day	Num 11:1–23, 31–35	Luke 17:1–19	
Friday	Num 11:24–29; 12:1–16	Luke 17:20–37	
Saturday	Num 13:1–3, 17–33	Luke 18:1–17	

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 John 16:33b: *Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. 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 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53