PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"
"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025

Our Mission:
"Prince of Peace exists to be a disciple making community for the Lord Jesus Christ"

Our Message:
"We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ"

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Holy Communion at Prince of Peace, LCMS

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod practices "Close Communion" as an expression of unity in doctrine (1 Corinthians 10:16-17; Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 1:10). When a person partakes of the Sacrament at the Altar he is also confessing his unreserved agreement with that church body's doctrine. Because of doctrinal differences existing between the Missouri Synod and other Lutheran bodies, and also with other denominations, we cannot expect their members to make that kind of confession at our altar, nor do we desire anyone to compromise his own convictions and his church body's teachings. Therefore, our practice of "Close Communion" admits only those in doctrinal agreement who are members of congregations of the Missouri Synod.

The Holy Sacrament requires a mature participation which includes self-examination (1 Corinthians 11:28). Scripture also warns against "unworthy" reception (impenitence or unbelief) which would bring God's judgment on the recipient: 1 Corinthians 11:27; 1 Corinthians 11:29. Thus, out of loving concern for all, and commitment to the Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, we practice "Close Communion". We thank you for your cooperation and respect for our practice.

Those who will not be communing, but would like to receive a blessing are invited to come forward. Please cross your arms on your chest to indicate that you are requesting a blessing. May the Holy Spirit bless us all as we "Search the Scriptures" (John 5:39), and humbly strive to "Continue in His Word." (John 8:31) Please speak to an elder if you have questions concerning communion.

Theme

In the aftermath of the resurrection, Jesus impacts, equips, and authorizes the effective ministry of the apostles. Having received Jesus' word of peace, disciples believe, confess, and preach the name of the risen Christ, healing disease and casting out demons in His holy name. The entire counsels of God proceed only from the Alpha and Omega, whose suffering, death, resurrection, ascension, and judgment define the confessions and proclamation that establish truth in His holy church.

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

Opening Hymn **487 Come, You Faithful Raise the Strain**

Confession and Absolution **(LSB p. 151)**

Service of the Word **(LSB p.152-160)**

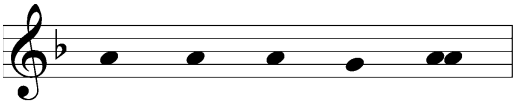
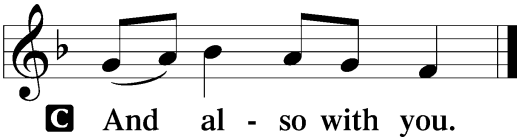
Introit *Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3*

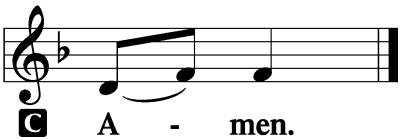
Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!
Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!
Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.
He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.
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.
Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Kyrie **(LSB p. 152)**

Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast **(LSB p. 155)**

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray.
Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sit

First Reading: Acts 5:12–32 *Acts 5:12–32*

12 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the
hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. 13 None of the
rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. 14 And more than ever
believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 15 so that they
even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter
came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. 16 The people also gathered
from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean
spirits, and they were all healed.

17 But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the
Sadducees), and filled with jealousy 18 they arrested the apostles and put them in the
public prison. 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and
brought them out, and said, 20 "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all
the words of this Life." 21 And when they heard this, they entered the temple at
daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together
the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought.
22 But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned
and reported, 23 "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the
doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." 24 Now when the captain

of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. [25]And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." [26]Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

[27]And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, [28]saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." [29]But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. [30]The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. [31]God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. [32]And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn **469 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

Epistle: Revelation 1:4–18 *Revelation 1:4–18*

[4]John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, [5]and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood [6]and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. [7]Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

[8]"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

[9]I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. [10]I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet [11]saying, "Write what you see in a book

and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw
seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man,
clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. 14 The hairs of his
head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, 15 his
feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of
many waters. 16 In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp
two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me,
saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I
am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

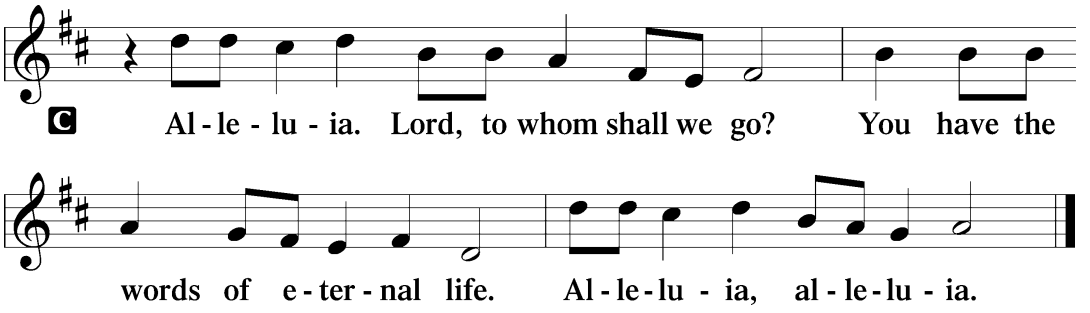
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

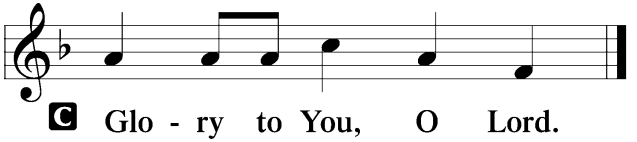
Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



Holy Gospel: John 20:19–31

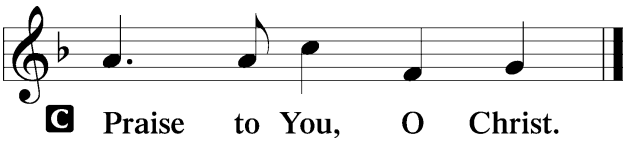
John 20:19–31

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

[19]On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked
where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and
said to them, “Peace be with you.” [20]When he had said this, he showed them his
hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. [21]Jesus said
to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending
you.” [22]And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive
the Holy Spirit. [23]If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold
forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

[24]Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus
came. [25]So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them,
“Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of
the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

[26]Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them.
Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace
be with you.” [27]Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and
put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” [28]Thomas
answered him, “My Lord and my God!” [29]Jesus said to him, “Have you believed
because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have
believed.”

[30]Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not
written in this book; [31]but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the
Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Apostles’ Creed **(p. 159)**

Sit

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day **470 O Sons and Daughters of the King**

Sermon **"From Unbelief to Faith" John 20:19-31**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For strength to praise our God aright, that our hearts and mouths would be filled with joy at the death and resurrection of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the forgiveness of our sins and the blessing of pastors who serve in Christ's name, that the Church would be built up in our time and in the ages to come, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who have wandered from the household of faith, that faithful to His promises God would work all things in their lives to remind them of their need for His unending grace and steadfast love; and that they would return to the faith and delight in Christ, crucified and raised for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church of God, that the holy angels would minister to those imprisoned on account of the testimony of Jesus; and that the whole Church would be emboldened in her witness, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the homes in which Your people dwell, that God would keep all harm and danger far from them, especially the Kolander family-Daniel, Sarah, Caleb and Cadence. Grant that we may dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels, sharing eternally in Your blessings. Let us pray to the Lord: C **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ For our president; Congress; our governor; the legislature of our state; all who make, administer and judge our laws; and those who respond in emergency and disaster and guard our liberty, that the Lord would guide and protect them, let us pray to the Lord:

℃ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ For the servants of the Lord afflicted among us, *[especially _____,]* that God, the Great Physician, would grant them healing under the shadow of His wings, let us pray to the Lord:

℃ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ For confidence in the mercy of Christ and glad hearts as He greets us with peace, that we would be forgiven, renewed and strengthened by His body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:

℃ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ Alpha and Omega, almighty God, who was and is and is to come, with You all the souls of the faithful rest in safety and in the assurance of the resurrection of all flesh. Make safe our way to join them, and bring us with John and all the saints into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

℃ **Amen.**

Offering

Offertory **(LSB p.159)**

Service of the Sacrament (p. 160-166)

Distribution Hymns

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia
467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness

Post-Communion Canticle **Thank the Lord** **(LSB p. 164)**

Post-Communion Collect **(LSB p. 166)**

Benediction **(LSB p. 166)**

Closing Hymn **Peace Be Yours**

Peace be yours, May the Lord be with you,
As we gather now and your whole life through,
Blessing and mercy and wholeness, too.
May God's peace be yours.

Peace be yours, as you scatter from here.
Anywhere you go, God is always near,
Loving and calming your deepest fear.
May God's peace be yours.

Seek your strength where the Lord does abide,
When the greatest evil is at your side.
In Word and Sacrament, Christ resides.
May God's peace be yours.

Always know He has conquered the one,
Who defies your life in God's only Son.
Yours is the struggle that Christ has won.
May God's peace be yours.

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Prince of Peace News and Notes for April 27, 2025

Please fill out a registration card today and leave it on the table in the back of the sanctuary or put it in the offering plate. Thank you.

Serving the Lord and One Another Today: *Ushers:* Russ & Sharie Brunk; *Greeters:* Randy & DeAnne Otto; *Song leader:* Brooklynn Scholze*; Money Counters*: Chris Leis & Debbie Dunnum.

Serving the Lord and One Another Next Sunday: *Ushers:* Mike & Carolyn Dosland; *Greeters*: POP Family; *Song leader:* Patty & Nancy Horstmann*; Money Counters*: Barb Hinds & Barb Alsobrooks.

Do you have an announcement that you want to share with the Congregation? Send it to office@wspop.org by the end of the day on Tuesday and it will be printed in this week's bulletin. You can also publish key information in the newsletter by submitting it the same way. Newsletter information is due by the end of the day on the Wednesday before the last Sunday.

Our Response to God's Gifts

Attendance last Sunday and Monday: 73
Weekly Budget Need: $3868.38
April 20 offering: $5985.00
Special Gifts:

The Book of Proverbs: Join us Sunday after the Divine Service as we continue our Adult Bible Study on the Book of Proverbs! What is a proverb: It's a brief statement that expresses a general truth. Proverbs are designed for teaching. They cover a wide range of subjects: wisdom, righteousness, fear of God, knowledge, morality, chastity, diligence, self-control, trust in God, and more! Come and join us at 10:30!

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: There is no study on Wednesday, May 7 and 14, but will resume on May 21 at 9:30 a.m. Join us as we study the Gospel of John!

Altar Flowers – There is a sign up sheet in the narthex if you would like to bring flowers for the altar.

Monday Night Worshippers: There will be no Monday night service on May 5 and May 12. Monday night services resume on May 19.

First Friday: Come to POP on Friday, May 2 for fellowship, fun, and food! First Friday begins at 5:30 p.m.

New Member Class: Are you interested in becoming a member at Prince of Peace? If you haven't reached out to Pastor Adelsen yet, POP will be starting a new member class in the near future!

Mark Your Calendar for Ascension Day: Forty days after Christ's resurrection is when He bodily ascended into heaven. On Thursday, May 29, POP will have a potluck at 6 p.m. followed by the Divine Service at 7 p.m. Vicar Josiah Junkin of Faith Lutheran in La Crosse will be preaching.

Pastor Out of the Office: Pastor Adelsen will be out of the office Monday, May 5-Friday, May 9.

SWD Spring Pastors' Conference in La Crosse: You are welcome to attend the opening worship service for the Spring Pastors' Conference on Monday, May 12 at Faith Lutheran Church in La Crosse at 1 p.m.

Bake sale May 4! Don't miss the goodies next Sunday! 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 are planning an end of Sunday School Party for the whole church family on May 18th. Weather permitting join us during the Sunday school hour for a giant Bible Themed Board game. We are hoping to play as teams and fellowship and laugh while still engaging in Bible learning! After games join us in the new fire pit for hot dogs and s'mores. If the weather is a bit damp we will move inside still for games, fellowship, food, and fun! Food Sign Up Sheet in the Narthex! Questions talk to Brooklynn Scholze or Sarah Kolander.

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!