PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

West Salem, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 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

"Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Christ alone secures salvation for believing Jews and Gentiles. He temporally and eternally anchors those persecuted for believing, asserting, and preaching divine truths. In the midst of strife, sin, disease, and death, God shepherds His people into eternity. As His sheepish people, we listen to His voice. So also we receive the living waters of Holy Baptism where He asserts His claim on us forever.

Order of Service: **Divine Service 4, p. 203 ff.**

Opening Hymn **711 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

Confession and Absolution **(LSB p. 203)**

Service of the Word **(LSB p.204-207)**

Introit *Psalm 78:70–72; 79:13; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b*

I am the good shepherd.
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.
He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds;
from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance.
With upright heart he shepherded them
and guided them with his skillful hand.
But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever;
from generation to generation we will recount your praise.
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.
I am the good shepherd.
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Kyrie **(LSB p. 204)**

Hymn of Praise: Gloria In Excelsis **(LSB p. 204)**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; 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 **Amen.**

Sit

First Reading: Acts 20:17–35

17 Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to
come to him. 18 And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that
I set foot in Asia, 19 serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that
happened to me through the plots of the Jews; 20 how I did not shrink from declaring
to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to
house, 21 testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith
in our Lord Jesus Christ. 22 And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by
the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, 23 except that the Holy Spirit
testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. 24 But I do not
account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course
and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the
grace of God. 25 And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone
about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. 26 Therefore I testify to you this
day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, 27 for I did not shrink from declaring
to you the whole counsel of God. 28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the
flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God,
which he obtained with his own blood. 29 I know that after my departure fierce wolves
will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will
arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31 Therefore
be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish
everyone with tears. 32 And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace,
which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are
sanctified. 33 I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. 34 You yourselves know that
these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. 35 In all
things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and
remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give
than to receive.'"

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: Revelation 7:9–17 *Revelation 7:9–17*

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from
every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne
and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and
crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and
to the Lamb!" 11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the
elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and
worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and
honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

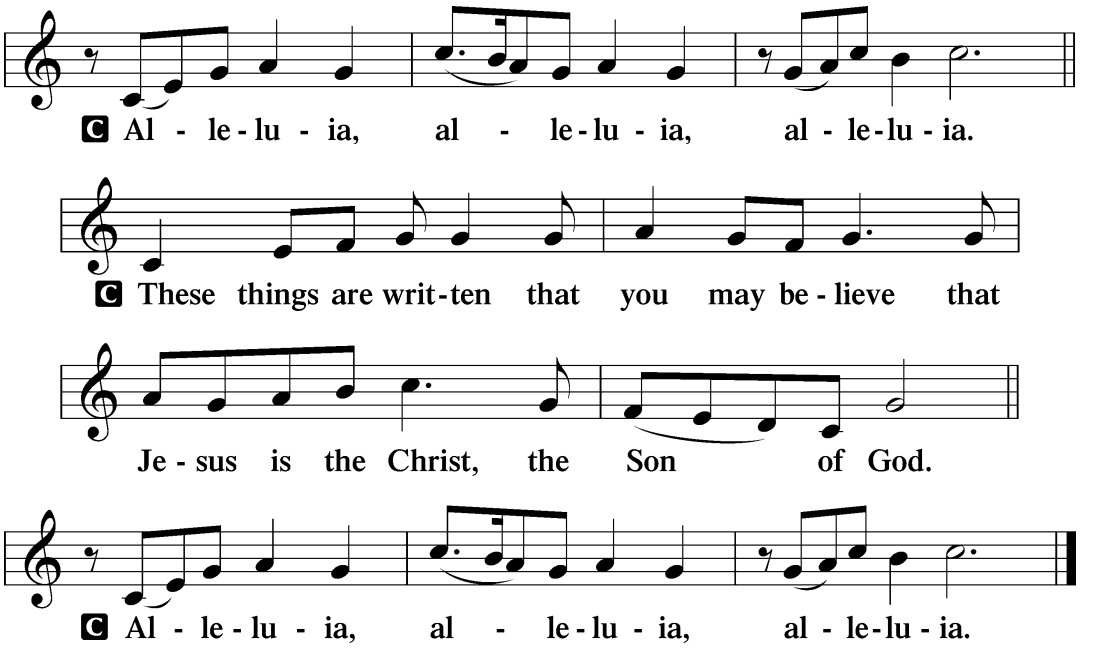
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white
robes, and from where have they come?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said
to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed
their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 "Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.
16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.
17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel: John 10:22–30 *John 10:22–30*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

22 At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, 23 and
Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. 24 So the Jews gathered
around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the
Christ, tell us plainly." 25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The
works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, 26 but you do not believe
because you are not part of my flock. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and
they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will
snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than
all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are
one."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed **(p. 206)**

Sit

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day **709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

Sermon **"The Marks of Christ's Sheep" John 10:22-30**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Holy Spirit in rich measure, that hearing and following Christ, our Shepherd, we would pass through every tribulation to our eternal heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faithful men to pastor the Church of God, that in the face of fierce opposition and twisted speech, they would not shrink from proclaiming the kingdom of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of mothers who raise their children in all things good, a mirror of God's love, that they may be strengthened in their calling and sustained through weary and difficult times, 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 Josh and Faith and Peter Leyh. 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.**

P For all peoples, nations and tribes, that under God's rule, they may faithfully promote good and punish evil, and that God would reform them when necessary, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick, the suffering and the dying, *[especially _____,]* that the Lord would deliver and comfort them, guard them against despair, and grant them patience in the days of our trouble as we await His perfect healing, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who grieve *[for _____]*, that they would be strengthened in faith to see those they mourn in the light of the resurrection of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who come to the Lord's Supper this day, that our Good Shepherd would calm all fears in this valley of the shadow of death through the holy table here prepared in the presence of our enemies; that He would give us repentance and an increase of faith; and that in every tribulation or besetting sin, He would lead us to find comfort and strength in the overflowing mercy given to us in this Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faith to endure the tribulations of this life and pass through death to join the saints in the ceaseless praises of heaven, let us pray to the Lord:

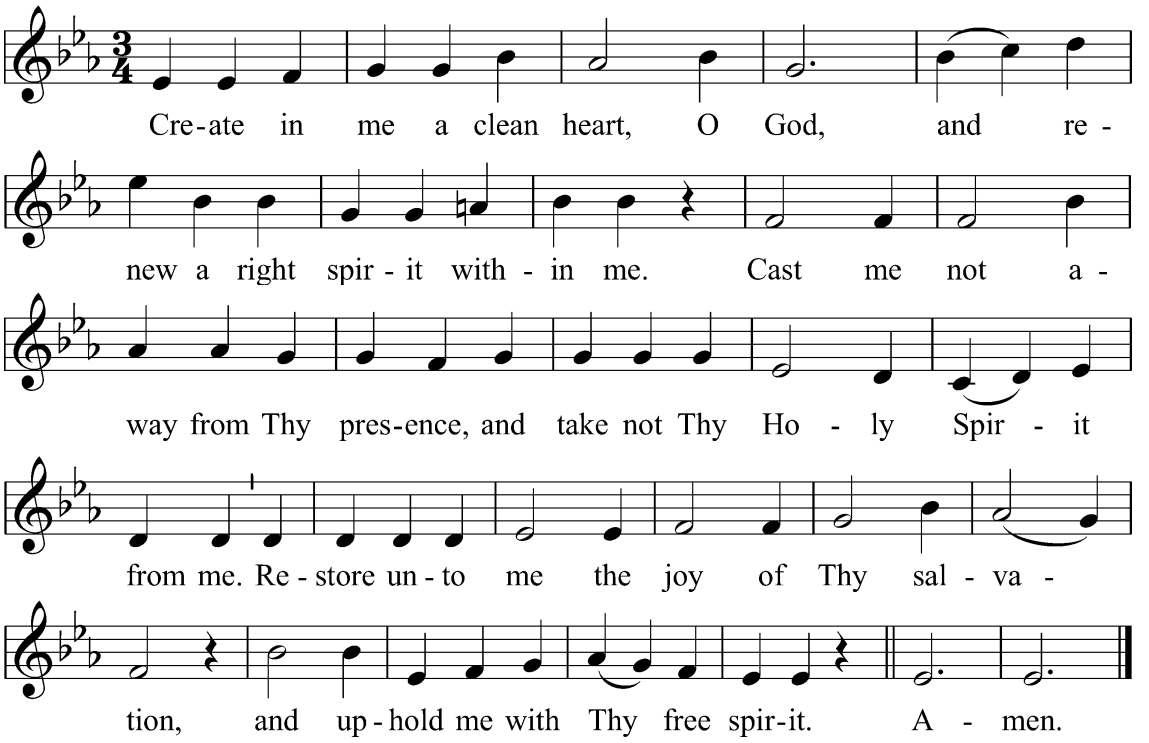
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O Lord, You promised to raise up a shepherd to deliver Your sheep from all their enemies. We give You thanks for giving us Your own Son to be our Good Shepherd. Grant us to hear His voice, know Him by faith and follow where He leads, that He may deliver us into Your arms forever; 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 **Amen.**

Offering

Offertory **366 Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**



Service of the Sacrament (p. 208-212)

Distribution Hymns

710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want
735 Have No Fear, Little Flock
666 O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe

Post-Communion Canticle **Nunc Dimittis** **(LSB p. 211)**

Post-Communion Collect **(LSB p. 212)**

Benedicamus and Benediction **(LSB p. 212)**

Closing Hymn **740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb**

Prince of Peace News and Notes for May 11, 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:* Chris Leis & Elaine Schmidt; *Greeters:* POP Family; *Song leader:* Holly Ford*; Money Counters*: Ona Childs & Lori Peters.

Serving the Lord and One Another Next Sunday: *Ushers:* Willie & Leatta Danielson; *Greeters*: Mike & Carolyn Dosland; *Song leader:* Sarah Kolander*; Money Counters*: Elaine Schmidt & Debbie Dunnum.

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: 40
Weekly Budget Need: $3868.38
May 4 offering: $2080.00
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 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 12. Monday night services resume on May 19.

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.

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!

We have two priority projects this year: 1) Replace the most problematic furnace. Timing: August or September. Cost: about $4250 with fundraising. 2) Repaint the storage shed. Requires stripping old paint, prime coat and finish coat. We need volunteers, ladders and equipment. We plan to start as weather permits.

Shepherd of the Hills has invited the ladies to a women's event at their church on May 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. "The Ultimate Royal Spa invites you to a Faith Lift in the Spa of God's Love"—a presentation by Wanda Emerson. If you plan to go, talk with Carrie Horstman.

Life Thought from Lutherans for Life: with motherly tenacity and tenderness, Jesus insists none of His little ones perish (John 10:28). Each one comes from the Heavenly Father's own almighty hand (John 10:29), no matter size or skills or circumstances (Revelation 7:9). He desires the whole human community to share His delight in caring for them all (Acts 10:28), even in surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis.

Roses are available today to support the Wisconsin Right to Life group. A $2 donation per rose allows for the cost to be covered and also provides funds for educational activities.