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 18, 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 Christ, all things are made new. Gentiles once spurned from the promises of God are baptized and made recipients of forgiveness and eternal life. They are no longer alien to God. Former things, antiquated caste systems, are null and void. New things are imminent. The resurrection of Jesus deprives mourning, crying, and dying of their power. The unleashing of the Holy Spirit changes lingering sorrow into joy, ensuring the newness of all things in heaven and on earth.

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

Opening Hymn **756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me**

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

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

Introit *Psalm 98:2–6; antiphon: v. 1*

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.
The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, 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.
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

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.
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 **Amen.**

Sit

First Reading: Acts 11:1–18

Acts 11:1–18

[1]Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. [2]So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, [3]"You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." [4]But Peter began and explained it to them in order: [5]"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. [6]Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. [7]And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' [8]But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' [9]But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, do not call common.' [10]This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. [11]And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. [12]And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. [13]And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; [14]he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' [15]As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. [16]And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' [17]If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" [18]When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

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 21:1–7 *Revelation 21:1–7*

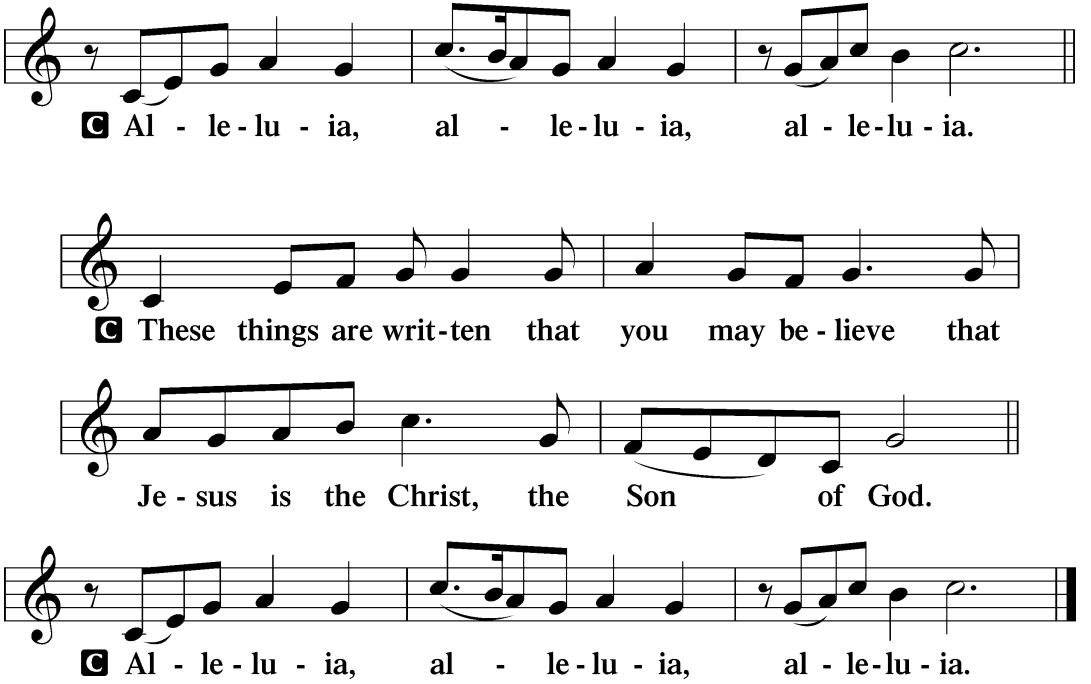
[1]Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth
had passed away, and the sea was no more. [2]And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
[3]And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is
with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be
with them as their God. [4]He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall
be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the
former things have passed away."

[5]And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."
Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." [6]And he
said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To
the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. [7]The one
who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel: John 16:12–22 *John 16:12–22*

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

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

12 [Jesus said:] "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.
13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not
speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare
to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine
and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take
what is mine and declare it to you.
16 "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will
see me." 17 So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to
us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see
me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" 18 So they were saying, "What does he
mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." 19 Jesus knew that
they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves,
what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while
and you will see me'? 20 Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the
world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. 21 When a
woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has
delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being
has been born into the world. 22 So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again
and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed **(p. 206)**

Sit

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day **633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing**

Sermon **"In A Little While…"** **John 16:12-22**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For calm hearts and strong faith in the midst of our sorrows, that we who celebrate the resurrection of our Lord would trust in the promise of our own resurrection, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P For faithful pastors who will teach us God's Word, devoted church workers who will serve us in His name, and those now preparing for church work vocations, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P For all mothers with child and those with young children, that God would bless them in their trials; and that He would bless His Holy Church, the mother of all the children of God, 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 Matt and Erin, Wesley and Carson Luethe. 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 our president, our governor, the Congress and legislature, judges and magistrates, and those in the armed forces, that the Lord would guide them to serve according to His will and for the common good of all, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P For *[_____ and all]* those now in tribulation, that God, who will at last banish all sorrow, sin and death, would increase their faith and see them through their trials, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

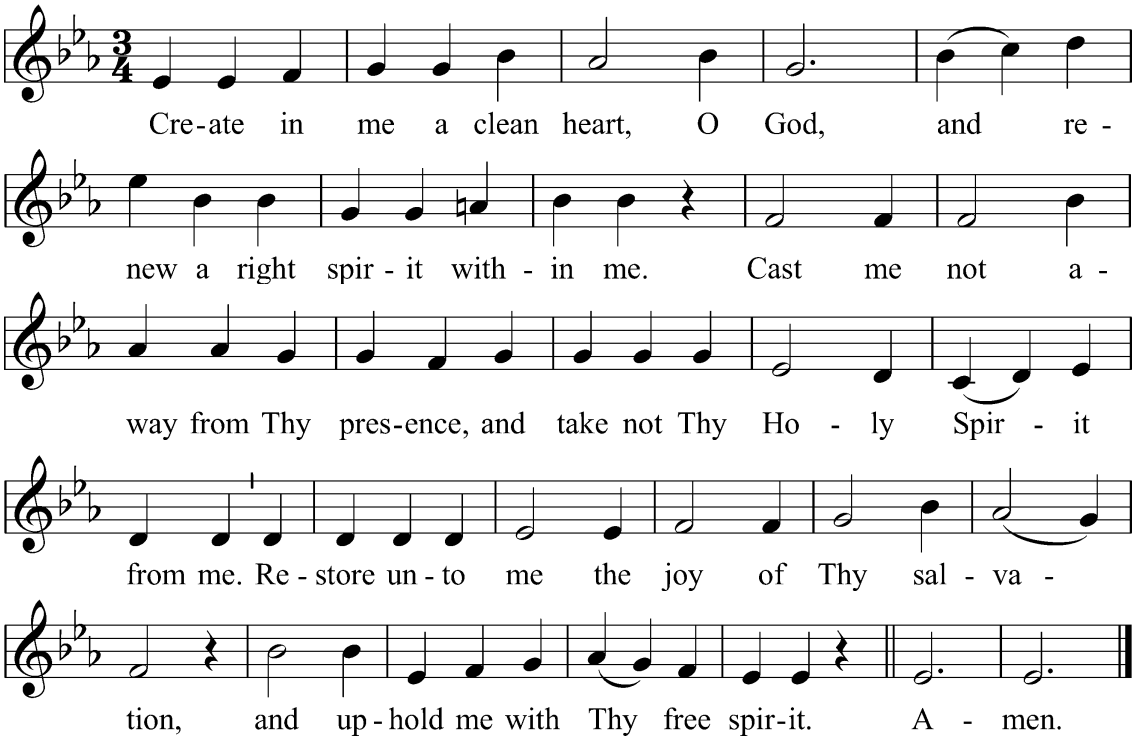
P For those who prepare to receive with faith and thanksgiving Christ's flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from sin, that He would unite us to believe and confess one faith and bring us to that day when we shall be one people together at His table, let us pray to the Lord: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and 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

641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart
685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus
708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

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

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

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

Closing Hymn **818 In Thee Is Gladness**