# PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

West Salem, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist — September 21st, 2025

***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
Elders: Dan Kolander, 608-697-5458, Email: dkolander5458@gmail.com
Joe Scholze, 608-780-6771, Email: josephscholze@gmail.com
Church Office: 608-786-3938 Email: Office@WSPOP.org

Office Hours: Tue 8-11am, Wed. 10:30am-1:30pm, Thur. Noon-2:30pm *(staffed voluntarily)*

**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 yellow attendance 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:** The Scriptures for this observation of St. Mattew draw us into the traditional collect: "Blessed Lord You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for out learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mar, learn, and inwardly digest them." His Word informs the preaching and teaching of prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. His simple commands stir up an immediate, definitive response. Disciples follow. Sinners, respond. Forgiveness and salvation are made known!

**Order of Service** **Divine Service 3, p. 184 ff.**

**Opening Hymn** **LSB 518 By All Your Saints in Warfare** (stz. 1, 25, 3)

## Confession and Absolution LSB p. 184

## Service of the Word LSB p. 186-193

**Introit** *Psalm 119:137–140, 142; antiphon: v. 144*

Your testimonies are righteous forever;
**give me understanding that I may live.**
Righteous are you, O Lord,
**and right are your just decrees.**
You have appointed your testimonies in righteousness
**and in all faithfulness.**
My zeal consumes me,
**because my foes forget your words.**
Your promise is well tried,
**and your servant loves it.**
Your righteousness is righteous forever,
**and your law is true.**
**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 testimonies are righteous forever;
**give me understanding that I may live.**

**Kyrie** **LSB p. 186**

**Gloria In Excelsis** **LSB p. 187-189**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day** **LSB p. 189**

**P** Let us pray.

O Son of God, our blessed Savior Jesus Christ, You called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist. Through his faithful and inspired witness, grant that we also may follow You, leaving behind all covetous desires and love of riches; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading** **Ezekiel 2:8-3:11**

2 8"But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that
rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you." 9And when I
looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book
was in it. 10And he spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on
the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and
woe. 3 1And he said to me, "Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this
scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." 2So I opened my mouth, and he gave
me this scroll to eat. 3And he said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly with this
scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it." Then I ate it, and it was in
my mouth as sweet as honey. 4And he said to me, "Son of man, go to the house
of Israel and speak with my words to them. 5For you are not sent to a people of
foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel— 6not to many
peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot
understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. 7But the house
of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to
me. Because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart.
8Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard
as their foreheads. 9Like emery harder than flint have I made your forehead. Fear
them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house."
10Moreover, he said to me, "Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you
receive in your heart, and hear with your ears. 11And go to the exiles, to your
people, and speak to them and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God,' whether
they hear or refuse to hear."

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

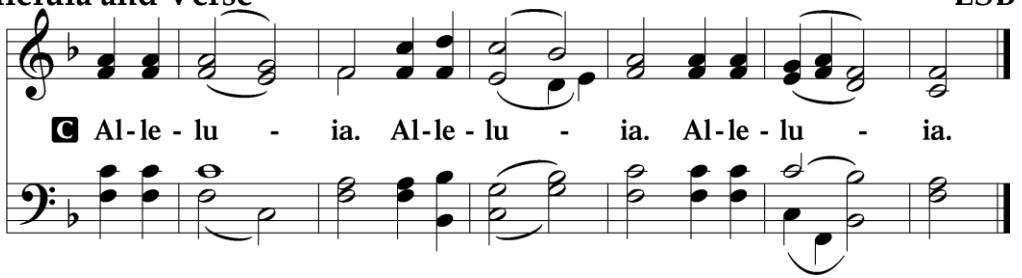
**Gradual** *Psalm 119:105, 103; 45:1a,c*

Your word is a lamp to my feet
**and a light to my path.**
How sweet are your words to my taste,
**sweeter than honey to my mouth!**
My heart overflows with a pleasing theme;
**my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.**

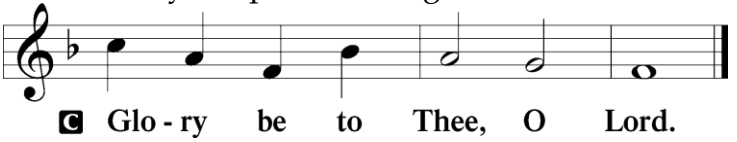
**Epistle** **Ephesians 4:7-16**

7But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.
8Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." 9(In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)
11And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, 14so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. 15Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

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

**Alleluia and Verse** **LSB p. 190**

## Holy Gospel

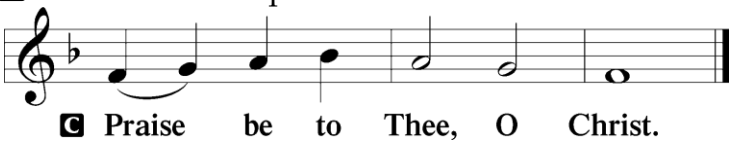
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.




**Holy Gospel Reading** **Luke 16:1-15**

1[Jesus] also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager,
and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions.
2And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in
the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' 3And the
manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the
management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed
to beg. 4I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from
management, people may receive me into their houses.' 5So, summoning his
master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my
master?' 6He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill,
and sit down quickly and write fifty.' 7Then he said to another, 'And how much
do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take
your bill, and write eighty.' 8The master commended the dishonest manager for
his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their
own generation than the sons of light. 9And I tell you, make friends for
yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may
receive you into the eternal dwellings. 10"One who is faithful in a very little is
also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in
much. 11If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will
entrust to you the true riches? 12And if you have not been faithful in that which is
another's, who will give you that which is your own? 13No servant can serve two
masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted
to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

14The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they
ridiculed him. 15And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves
before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an
abomination in the sight of God."

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Apostles' Creed** **LSB p. 192**

**Teaching the Faith from the Catechism, The Third Article of the Creed**

℗ I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
What does this mean?

℃ **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.**

**Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day** **LSB 743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure**

**Sermon** **"Faithful and Shrewd"** (Luke 16:1-15)

**Offering** *Special Music: POP Small Group "Seek Ye First"*

**Offertory** **LSB p. 192-193**

**Prayer of the Church**
*Following each prayer read aloud ending "Lord in Your Mercy," the congregation may respond "Hear our prayer."*

**Service of the Sacrament** **LSB p. 194-202**

**Distribution Hymns**
**LSB 738 Lord of All Hopefulness**
**LSB 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness**
**LSB 536 One Thing's Needful (stanzas 1, 3-5)**

**Post-Communion Canticle Nunc Dimittis** **LSB p. 199**

**Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Collect** **LSB p. 200**

**Salutation, Benedicamus and Benediction** **LSB p. 201-202**

**Closing Hymn** **LSB 730 What is the World to Me**

**Announcements**

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

## Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

Sunday Mornings after Fellowship: Join us for adult Bible Study today as we continue in continue our study on Proverbs*! "Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him."* Proverbs 30:5

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: All welcome at 9:30am as we continue our study on the Gospel of John. Join anytime! Martin Luther regarded the Gospel of John as a cornerstone of Christian faith, placing it among the most important books of the New Testament.

Men's Bible Study: All men are invited to our study on Timothy and Titus. The next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 30th at 5:00pm at Features.

Women's Bible Study – The focus of the study is writings by Sharla Fritz, and it's called "Measured By Grace." In the Bible, you'll find people with no lack of sinfulness, shortcomings, rejections, and brokenness. They can be marked with failure. Explore instead how they are transformed. *Note, this group meets online on Saturdays.* See Ginny Emmons or Debbie Dunnum about how to join in online.

# Prince of Peace News and Notes for September 21, 2025

**Serving the Lord and One Another Today:** *Accompanist:* Deb Dunnum, *Song Leader:* Sarah Kolander; *Ushers:* Mike & Carolyn Dosland; *Greeters:* POP Family; *Money Counters*: Barb Alsobrooks, Lori Peters; *Altar Guild for September:* DeAnne Otto, Melissa Adelsen

**Serving the Lord and One Another Next Sunday:** *Song Leader:* Brooklynn Scholze; Ushers*:* Russ & Sharie Brunk; *Money Counters*: Deb Dunnum, Barb Hinds

**Our Response to God's Gifts**
Attendance last Sunday and Monday: 58
Weekly Need Original Budget: $3,868.38
Weekly Need Revised Budget: $3,225.00
Week of Sept. 14 Offering: $4,367.00

## THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

September 21 – September 28

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Today*** | **9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion** |
| | *after .....Fellowship* |
| | **10:30 am ..... Adult Bible Study** |
| | **10:30 am..... Sunday School** |
| | Noon .....Elementary Catechesis Class |
| | *4:00 pm .....Circuit Forum Zoom Meeting* |
| **Mon. Sep. 22** | **7:00 pm ..... Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion** |
| Wed. Sep. 23 | 9:30 am..... Adult Bible Study |
| | 5:00 pm ..... High School Catechesis Class |
| | 7:30 pm .....POP Choir Practice |
| Sat. Sep. 27 | 9:00 am .....Women's Bible Study (online) |
| **Sun. Sep. 28** | **9:00 am..... Divine Service with Holy Communion** |

**LOCAL OPENING RALLY, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, AT NOON**
**NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH, 1300 CALEDONIA STREET LA CROSSE**

***40 Days for Life***, Sept. 24th through Nov. 2nd You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion. Ramona Trevino will be the guest speaker at the Opening Rally in LaCrosse. Ramona once managed a Planned Parenthood facility in Sherman, Texas, but helped by the prayers of people outside the clinic, she experienced conversion and now works as outreach director for 40 Days for Life.

After the opening, there will be a free soup lunch and the opportunity to pray outside the nearby Planned Parenthood with Ramona Trevino.

**Katie Luther: Here I Stand – Friday, October 3rd** at 1 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church Homeschool Co-op in Black River Falls welcomes all interested to attend a special performance by professional storyteller Pati Katchel. Focus will be on Katharina Von Bora Luther, the beloved wife of reformer Martin Luther. This presentation is a historically accurate portrait of a Christian woman of great faith, a wife, a mother and a happy homemaker. An impressive tabletop exhibit of portraits and German artifacts will enrich this educational experience.

**Prince of Peace LWML:** Is hosting a **Prayer Service**, on **Saturday, October 4th**. The theme is "Blessed Are They", emphasizing the Beautitudes in Matthew Chapters 5-7. There will be singing, Bible reading and prayer led by Pastor Adelsen. The event begins at **9:30am** with refreshments and fellowship time. The prayer service begins at **10am**. The entire congregation is invited to attend this enriching service. Then, on **Sunday, October 5th** all are invited to stay to celebrate **LWML Sunday** with a **pie social** during fellowship time!

**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 at wstichman@charter.net. We rejoice always, pray without ceasing, giving thanks in all circumstances!

**Weekly Life Thought from Lutherans for Life** - First-century tax collectors like Matthew exploited their neighbors, their own kin, for personal profit. Yet Jesus in forgiveness and fellowship made them an illustration of how family ought to be treated (even when embryos or elderly relatives make us uncomfortable). Let us, like the repentant evangelist, proclaim how Christ crucified can release even from abortion's guilt.

# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

## What do we call the room near the sanctuary?

The room near the sanctuary is called the "sacristy." See if you can find the door to the sacristy in your church. The use of sacristies became common over 1500 years ago. In most churches you will find the sacristy beside or behind the altar area (called the chancel).

## What is it used for?

**The sacristy is the storage place for the sacred items used in God's house.** For example, the vessels and utensils used for Holy Communion are stored there, as well as extra candles, oil and banners. Keeping them in a separate room helps to ensure they are not broken, misplaced or disturbed in any way. Some churches may have two kinds of sacristies. One is the "clergy sacristy" where the pastor keeps his vestments (the clothes he wears during the service). The other is the "altar guild sacristy" where the people who help keep the chancel looking nice store their supplies.

**Parents:** Before or after the service, allow your children to go into the sacristy to get a better look. Instruct them to be careful. The items there are set aside for use in the service. Help them to remember why the church uses a sacristy.

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# 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 113 - Luther emphasizes God's transcendent glory and immanent care for the poor and barren, highlighting God's self-emptying nature to raise up the humble and give them dignity. Luther saw the psalm as a profound call to praise God not for personal gain, but for God's inherent goodness and grace, a grace exemplified in Christ's own self-emptying to save humanity.

**DAILY READINGS**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 21 Sept | Neh 5:1–16; 6:1–9, 15–16 | 1 Tim 4:1–16 | |
| 22 Sept | Neh 7:1–4; 8:1–18 | 1 Tim 5:1–16 | Ezra 1:1—10:19 |
| 23 Sept | Neh 9:1–21 | 1 Tim 5:17—6:2 | |
| 24 Sept | Neh 9:22–38 | 1 Tim 6:3–21 | Neh 10:1—13:31 |
| 25 Sept | Mal 1:1–14 | Matt 3:1–17 | |
| 26 Sept | Mal 2:1—3:5 | Matt 4:1–11 | |
| 27 Sept | Mal 3:6—4:6 | Matt 4:12–25 | |

**IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:**

- That those wandering from the Body of Christ would return to His fold
- Josh Leyh and family at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne IN
- Pray for our members: Todd Seefeldt, Jodi Soto, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Lyle Anderson, Brian Horstmann, Bill & Sal Stichman, Bryana & Corey Fravel (daughter and son-in-law of Linda Williams) and for the passing of their infant daughter Amanda Jean
- Pray for our congregation: that we would worship and fellowship.

**LEARN BY HEART** 1 Tim 2:5-6a "*For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people."*

**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**: Amos 6:1-7, 1 Timothy 6:6–19, Luke 16:19-31