PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

West Salem, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles
Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 29, 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

God chooses all those who hear the Word of the Gospel and believe. God's choice for the Gentiles cannot be refuted! Ritual does not trump grace. The Gospel fervently preached to the Jews by Peter is just as effective, truthful, and life changing as the Gospel preached by Paul to the Gentiles. It's the same Gospel—it's all about Jesus! He is the Christ, the Son of the living God. And this is the confession for those who believe.

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

Opening Hymn **518 "By All Your Saints in Warfare" (Stz. 1, 19, 3)**

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

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

Introit *Psalm 89:1, 5, 15–16; antiphon: Psalm 119:46*

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.
I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!
Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who exult in your name all the day
and in your righteousness are exalted.
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 will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

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.
Merciful and eternal God, Your holy apostles Peter and Paul received grace and strength to lay down their lives for the sake of Your Son. Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit that we may confess Your truth and at all times be ready to lay down our lives for Him who laid down His life for us, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

First Reading Acts 15:1-12

[1]But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." [2]And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. [3]So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. [4]When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. [5]But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses."

[6]The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. [7]And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. [8]And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, [9]and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith. [10]Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? [11]But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

[12]And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Romans 10:15b, 18b; Isaiah 52:7b, alt.*

How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news,
who publish peace and bring good news of salvation.
Their voice has gone out to all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.

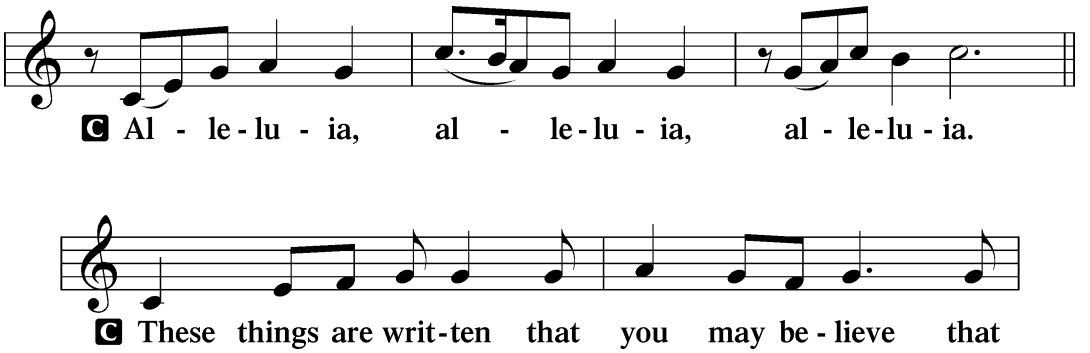
Epistle: Galatians 2:1-10

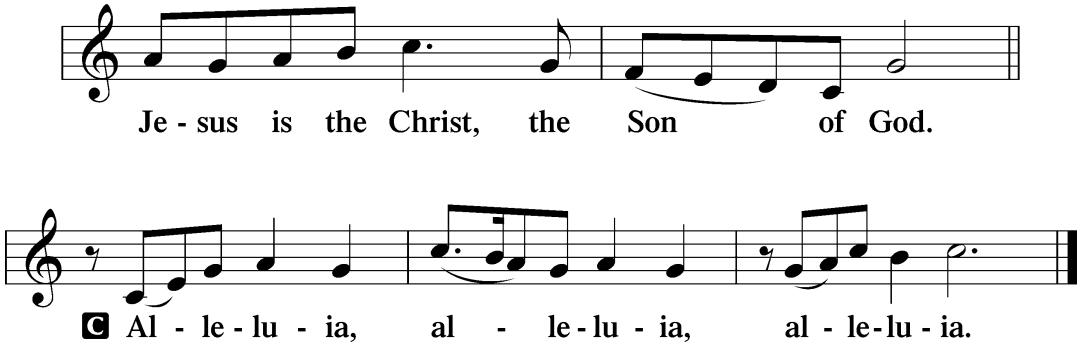
[1]Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus
along with me. [2]I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though
privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the
Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. [3]But even
Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek.
[4]Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our
freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery— [5]to
them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the
gospel might be preserved for you. [6]And from those who seemed to be influential
(what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say,
who seemed influential added nothing to me. [7]On the contrary, when they saw that I
had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been
entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised [8](for he who worked through Peter for
his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the
Gentiles), [9]and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived
the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and
me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. [10]Only, they asked
us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse





Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19

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

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

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples,
"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the
Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to
them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the
Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah!
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.
18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of
hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and
whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on
earth shall be loosed in heaven.".

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed **(LSB p. 207)**

Teaching the Faith from the Catechism: The Fourth Commandment

Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Sit

Children's Sermon

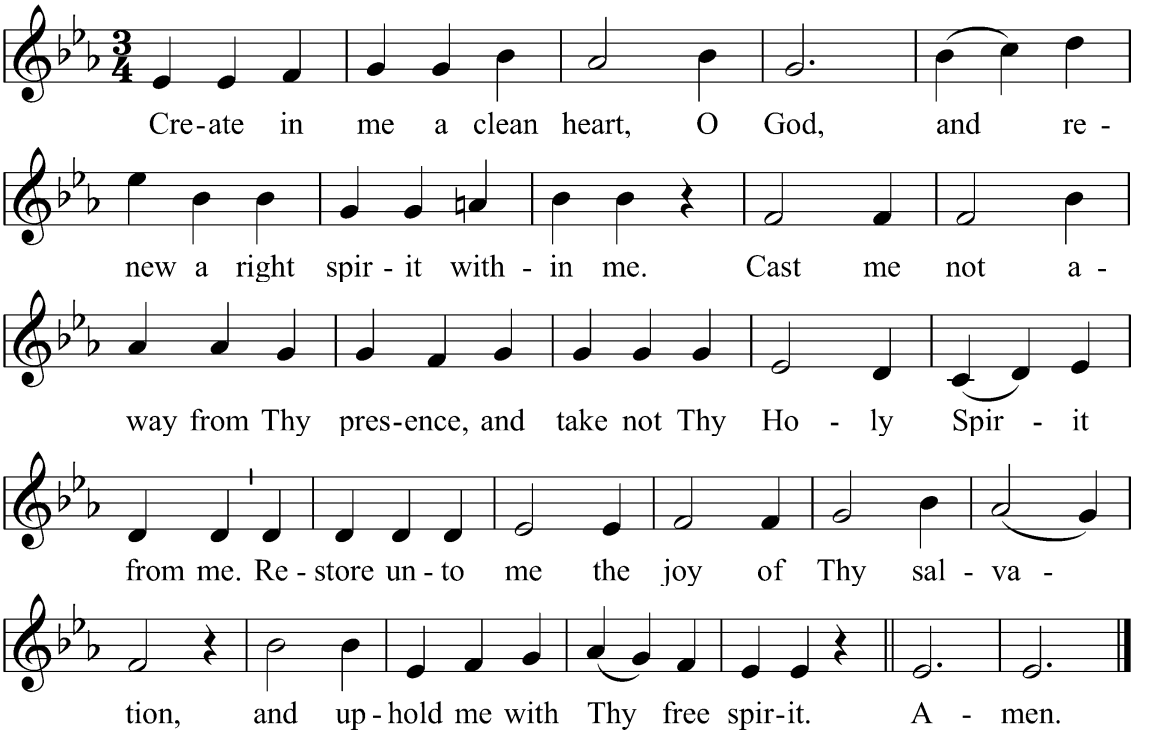
Hymn of the Day **LSB 645 Built on that Rock**

Sermon **"The Great Confession of Faith" Matthew 16:13-19**

Prayer of the Church

Offering

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



Service of the Sacrament (p. 208-212)

Distribution Hymns

575 My Hope is Built on Nothings Less
662 Onward Christian Soldiers
647 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head

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

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

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

Closing Hymn **644 The Church's One Foundation**