PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"

"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 20th, 2026

Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

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

Elder: Dan Kolander, 608-697-5458 Email: dkolander5458@gmail.com

Elder: Joe Scholze, 608-780-6771 Email: josephscholze@gmail.com

Church Office: 608-786-3938 Email: Office@WSPOP.org

(staffed voluntarily – office hours vary widely)

Accompanist: Deb Dunnum Choral Director: Sarah Kolander

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 about 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 Connection 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. *Thank you!*

Theme for Today's Service: Christ's compassion and pardon embrace, console, and encourage believers. Sinners will abandon wickedness, confess transgressions, and receive the Lord's forgiveness. Prisoners of the faith will remain steadfast in conflict, endure hardship, and yet be confident in the Gospel of Christ. God's kingdom is revealed to us by a continuum of generous, undeserved grace for all those who seek Christ.

Order of Service: Divine Service 3, pp. 184 ff.

Welcome

Hymn of Invocation: 555 Salvation Unto Us Has Come *Sts. 1–5*

Confession of Sins and Absolution *LSB 184 & 185*

Service of the Word

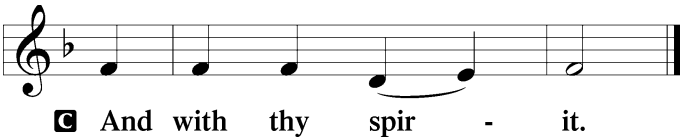
Introit *Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17*

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.
What shall I render | to the LORD*
for all his bene- | fits to me?
I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation*
and call on the name | of the LORD.
Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.
O LORD, I am your | servant;*
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have | loosed my bonds.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

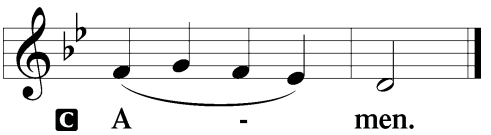
Kyrie *LSB 186*

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 55:6–9*

6 "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;
7 let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and
to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts are not
your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. 9 For
as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than
your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

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

Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle *Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30*

[12]I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, [13]so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. [14]And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

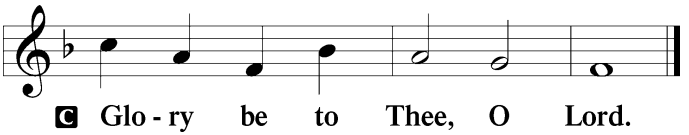
[19]for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, [20]as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. [21]For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. [22]If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. [23]I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. [24]But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. [25]Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, [26]so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again. [27]Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, [28]and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. [29]For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, [30]engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Alleluia *LSB 190*

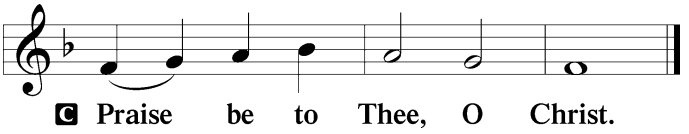
Holy Gospel *Matthew 20:1–16*

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



[1][Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house
who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.
[2]After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them
into his vineyard. [3]And going out about the third hour he saw
others standing idle in the marketplace, [4]and to them he said, ‘You
go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ [5]So
they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth
hour, he did the same. [6]And about the eleventh hour he went out
and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand
here idle all day?’ [7]They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’
He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ [8]And when evening
came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the
laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to
the first.’ [9]And when those hired about the eleventh hour came,
each of them received a denarius. [10]Now when those hired first
came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also
received a denarius. [11]And on receiving it they grumbled at the
master of the house, [12]saying, ‘These last worked only one hour,
and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of
the day and the scorching heat.’ [13]But he replied to one of them,
‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a
denarius? [14]Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to
this last worker as I give to you. [15]Am I not allowed to do what I
choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my
generosity?’ [16]So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed *LSB 192*

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 555 Salvation Unto Us Has Come *Sts. 6–10*

Sermon: "God's Reign of Grace" *Matthew 20:1-16*

Prayer of the Church

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

Offering

Special Music: "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"
Emma Ford, Holly Ford, and Sarah Kolander

Offertory *LSB 192*

Service of the Sacrament *LSB 194-202*

Distribution Hymn: 738 Lord of All Hopefulness
Distribution Hymn: 680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise
Distribution Hymn: 712 Seek Ye First

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

Salutation and Benedicamus *LSB 201*

Benediction *LSB 202*

Hymn to Depart: 566 By Grace I'm Saved

Announcements

Go in peace, Service the Lord! Thanks be to God!

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SERVING OUR LORD AND ONE ANOTHER

	Today	Next Week	October 4th
Song Leader	Holly F.	Sara K.	Brooklynn S.
Ushers	Otto	Dosland	Women of the LWML
Counters	B. Hinds O. Childs	E. Schmidt C. Leis	O Child D. Dunnum
Acolyte	Sheffer	Greydanus	Kolander
Altar Guild for September: Barb Hinds & Ginny Emmons			

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFTS

Last Week's Sun. & Mon. Attendance: 45
Weekly Need 2026 Budget: $3,172.46
Week of Sep. 13th Offering: $1,957.15
(Full Financials are posted on the kiosk in the lobby.)

THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

Today	**9:00 am**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**
	after	*Fellowship time*
	10:30 am	Adult Bible Study
	11:30 am	Youth Catechesis Class
Mon. Sep. 21	**7:00 pm**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**
Wed. Sep. 23	9:30 am	Adult Bible Study
	7:30 pm	POP Choir
Sat. Sep. 26	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study (meets online)
Sun. Sep 27	**9:00 am**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**

Prince of Peace News and Notes for September 20th, 2026

Small Group Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

Sunday Mornings after Fellowship: Augsburg Confession - The Augsburg Confession remains the basic confession not just for Lutherans, but for every Christian. Join us!

Wednesday Mornings (9:30 a.m.) The Book of Isaiah: In the pages of Isaiah, the prophet brings comfort and hope in the coming of the Savior.

Selected Tuesday Evenings, at Features (5:00pm), Men's Bible Study Focusing on: Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephania The people of Assyria were notoriously brutal. They believed that their kingdom would last forever. Those who feared this cruel nation needed to do so no longer for the Lord would protect and deliver His people.

Saturday's – Online, Women's Bible Study (9:00am) Ruth: More Than A Love Story. Embedded in the historical narrative of this short Old Testament book are connections to God's fulfilled promise of a Messiah and how God loves us and cares for us in Christ. See the wonderful picture of how God watches carefully over every little detail so His grace may come to fruition and fully abound. See Carrie Horstman about how to join online.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Catechesis at Prince of Peace, Early Communion & Youth Confirmation classes have resumed. See Pastor for follow up.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Adult **Information/New Member Class** for any adults interested in learning more about the Lutheran Church or would like to seek membership to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Adelsen. (There are no obligations on membership.)

PRINCE OF PEACE PRAYER CHAIN: We have received the gift of prayer from God to receive gifts from God in prayer. We pray to receive the gifts that God has for us and others. And best of all, prayer itself is a gift! If you have prayer requests for the email prayer chain, send them to Pastor Adelsen at Pastor@WSPOP.org If you would like to be added to receive prayer request to pray for others, email Pastor at Pastor@WSPOP.org

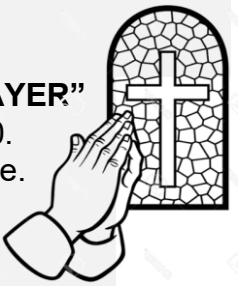
Women of POP LWML would like to share that everyone is invited to this year's

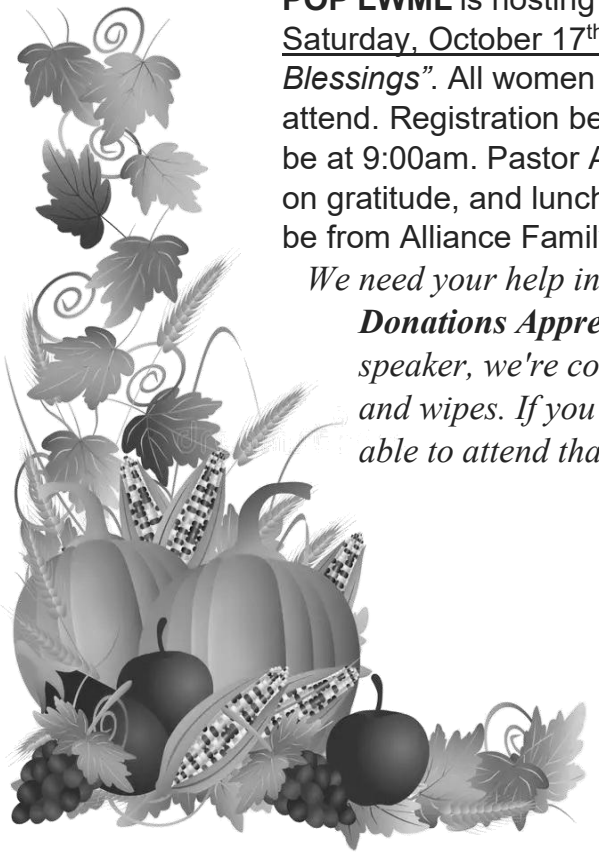
Prayer Service at Prince of Peace on
Saturday, October 3rd

this year's theme is

"Praise, Remember, Ask, Yield, Excitement, Rejoice" = PRAYER"

Refreshments will be served at 9:30am then program at 10.
Pastor Adelsen and Pastor Weber will be leading the service.
No one is asked to pray in front of the group.
It's a time for learning and renewal.





POP LWML is hosting this year's **Zone Fall Rally** on Saturday, October 17th with the theme *"Harvest of Blessings"*. All women from the congregation are invited to attend. Registration begins at 8:30am, and the program will be at 9:00am. Pastor Adelsen will be leading a Bible study on gratitude, and lunch will be served. Our guest speaker will be from Alliance Family Services.

We need your help in support of this event!

Donations Appreciated: *In support of our guest speaker, we're collecting baby items such as diapers and wipes. If you would like to donate, but aren't able to attend that day, bring your items to church.*

Donations Appreciated: *We will need breakfast items like muffins, breads and fresh fruit. We will also need items for lunch such as salads and desserts. A sign-up sheet is located in the kitchen if you would like to bring food items for our guests that day.*

The Zone Rally is a big regional event hosted by the Prince of Peace women of the LWML anticipating an attendance of about 40-50 people. See Deb D. or Sharie B. for follow-up questions.

40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil.

40 Days for Life – La Crosse Area Opening Rally!
Sunday, September 27 at 1:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall
130 Losey Blvd. S., La Crosse (use the Losey Blvd. doors)

Come and hear Tallulah Caulfield from the Pro-Life Wisconsin Speakers Bureau share her personal experience. Connect with others who share your passion for life and learn how you can make a difference during this campaign. Followed by a free soup lunch. For more information, go to https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/lacrosse

PRAYER & FASTING: Prayer keeps us rooted in the fact that it is our desire to carry out God's will. Fasting is a sacrifice that helps us reach beyond our own limitations with God's help. Each day during 40 Days for Life, individuals, churches, families, and groups will be asked to join together in prayer for a specific request so the entire Body of Christ can unite around a common focus. People of faith are also invited to fast throughout 40 Days for Life.

CONSTANT VIGIL: The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a focused, 40-day, non-stop, round-the-clock prayer vigil outside a single Planned Parenthood center or other abortion business in your community. It is a peaceful and educational presence.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: During 40 Days for Life, the message is taken proactively to every corner of your community. Media outreach is conducted through carefully targeted news stories, talk shows, and editorials. Church involvement begins by meeting with local pastors, other church leaders, and members of different congregations.

This Week's Life Thought from Lutherans for Life: *Thanks be to God for faithful servants of God who have lifted up the truth of God's Word in their times. Believers who recognize the difficulties of this life often yearn to be with the Lord as Paul says, "…for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21). So, today, we need not fear death or any enemy, but we can rejoice and stand firm in the Holy Spirit, speaking the truth about God's gifts of life, eternity, and forgiveness. The Lord's Word makes clear that He wants people everywhere to repent and be cleansed of their sins that they may dwell with Him forever (Psalm 27:4).*

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 103 Martin Luther called Psalm 103 a "proper master and doctor of Scripture" because it purely encapsulates the gospel and the praise of God. Luther also designated Psalm 103 as a specific prayer useful "for thanking God for all his goodness." See how the opening line ("Bless the Lord, O my soul") reflects how believers must actively remind and urge their own hearts to remember God's grace rather than forgetting His benefits. Keeping in mind too the emphasis that God's mercy, starting with the forgiveness of sins, towers over human weakness and our temporary nature.

THIS WEEK'S DAILY READINGS

20 Sept	Neh 4:7–23	1 Tim 3:1–16	
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	

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

- The Leyh family, Josh and Faith, and their pre-school age son Peter currently attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- Shepherd of the Hills, in calling a faithful Pastor
- Faith Lutheran Church, in calling a faithful pastor
- Pray for: Gary & Marietta Adelsen, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Bill & Sal Stichman, Tom Schran, Jeff Schmidt, Jeramy Schaub, Anna Wachholz (niece of the Kolanders); Deb Dunnum

LEARN BY HEART Ephesians 2:8 "By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." Alleluia.

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: Ezekiel 18:1-4; 25-32; Phil. 2:1-4, 14-18; Matt. 21:23-32