

Worship for the Eve of Thanksgiving



PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2330 E. Calumet St., Appleton, Wisconsin
Wednesday, November 23, 2022— 6:15 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

*Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a family of Christians
Growing in Faith and Reaching out in Love.*

POP VISION 2024

*We will be...an engaged and inclusive congregation of disciples,
transforming the lives in our community through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Welcome to **God's House** which is the spiritual home of all who worship today, wherever you may be. Part of Prince of Peace Church's mission statement says that we are "a family of Christians." Because God has made us family, we are together, even though we are physically separated, to receive the Lord's strength, comfort, and peace. Christ, our brother, is with us, and his presence will change us. As new people, we leave this time of worship to live our daily lives in the world as ambassadors for Christ. Go, but remember to come home. See you next Sunday!

We love kids in worship: young ones, old ones, squirmy ones, curious ones, crying ones, happy ones. Jesus loves them, too. In fact, one day when he was trying to explain to a bunch of adults who would enter the Kingdom of God, he plucked a child out of the crowd and said that if they wanted to enter his kingdom, they should be like this wide-eyed child! What an object lesson for us all and what hope, because we are all kids at heart, just trying to follow Jesus.

We know it is sometimes a challenge and, with our nursery closed for our youngest ones' safety during the pandemic, we have some ways to help out. We have bags of activities on the wooden kiosk near the entrance by the bathrooms that children can grab before entering the sanctuary. We have a place for kids to play in our narthex, the **PrayerGround**, which is stocked with toys and books and comfy chairs, and there are speakers projecting the service, so caregivers can keep track of what's going on in the service and can listen to and/or rejoin worship anytime. **New is a space located at the back of the sanctuary, called the PlayDeck, with a rug and some quiet toys where a child might need to hang out for a few minutes with mom or dad nearby.**

You can find changing tables in the bathrooms near the narthex **PrayerGround** for your convenience. And, finally, we have ushers and greeters who love kids, too, who were once kids themselves, and who want to help you have a great worship experience! We are glad you are here!

The **Glass Cross on the Altar** is unique. There are only 3 of these handmade crosses in the world. The other two are in congregations with whom we share our ministry. One is on the altar of Kopano Lutheran Church in Mogwase, South Africa and the other is at the Evangelische Stadtpfarrkirche Hermannstadt in Sibiu, Romania. These Lutheran churches are ministry partners with us with whom we have shared visits, resources and mutual support. Each Sunday as we gather in worship under this common cross, we are reminded of our faith in our Savior, Jesus the Christ, whose Spirit unites peoples of different countries, races, cultures and histories under His benevolent love.



A hearing loop system is installed in our sanctuary. Those with hearing aid devices may activate their T-Coil technology.

As a courtesy to others, please remember to **turn off your mobile devices** during worship.

Worship Leaders & Volunteers

Preaching Minister	Pastor Roger McQuiston
Presiding Minister	Pastor Jennifer DeNetz
Assisting Minister	Mark Steine
Musician	Sondra Joten
Ushers	Chris Howard, Al Peckham

Every gathering for worship has elements of thanksgiving. When we are nourished with God's bounty in holy communion, when we partake of Jesus' word that gives life to the world, and even when two or three of us simply join our hearts in prayer to make our requests known to God, we do so "with thanksgiving." Let us give thanks to God, who is good and whose mercy endures forever.

ELW denotes the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal
P — Pastor A — Assisting Minister C — Congregation

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME to WORSHIP

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who redeems us in Christ Jesus, whose steadfast love endures forever.

C **Amen**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen**

P Rejoice and be glad! God hears the prayers of all who cry out and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW 693

Come, ye thankful people, come;
praise the song of harvest home.

All be safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.

God, our maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come,
praise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,
fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come
and shall take his harvest home;
from his field shall in that day
all offenses purge away;
give his angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come
to thy final harvest home.
Gather then thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in thy garner to abide.
Come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

CALL TO WORSHIP, GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P We gather together in thanksgiving to God.

C **For God has made us and this earth which gives us nurture.**

P Let us gather together in gratitude to one another.

C **For we are the bearers of God's blessing and love for the earth and its people.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, our Father,

C **your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. As they bring their offerings, worshipers remember and proclaim God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

¹When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in

office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number,

and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-9

Paul urges the Christians at Philippi to rejoice, to be thankful, and to dwell on everything worthy of praise.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved,

whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"

because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"

because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks!

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HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:25-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

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

The day after he multiplies bread to feed five thousand people, Jesus is pursued by the crowds clamoring for more bread. Recalling the image of manna in the wilderness, Jesus promises to provide the true bread from heaven that will never fail. Jesus himself is that bread of life.

²⁵When [the disciples] found [Jesus] on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may

see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

"A Value-Added Feast!"

Pastor Roger McQuiston

HYMN

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 818

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

APOSTLES CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.
Petitions end: Lord, in your mercy,
Response: **receive our prayer.**

P Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen**

OFFERING

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are Yours,
We are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are,
All that we hope to be,
We give to You, We give to You.
We lift our voices, We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You:
We are an offering, we are an offering.

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OFFERING PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Holy God,
C **we dedicate our lives and all that we have to the work of life, of love, of peace. Receive our gifts and lead us in wisdom and courage. Amen**

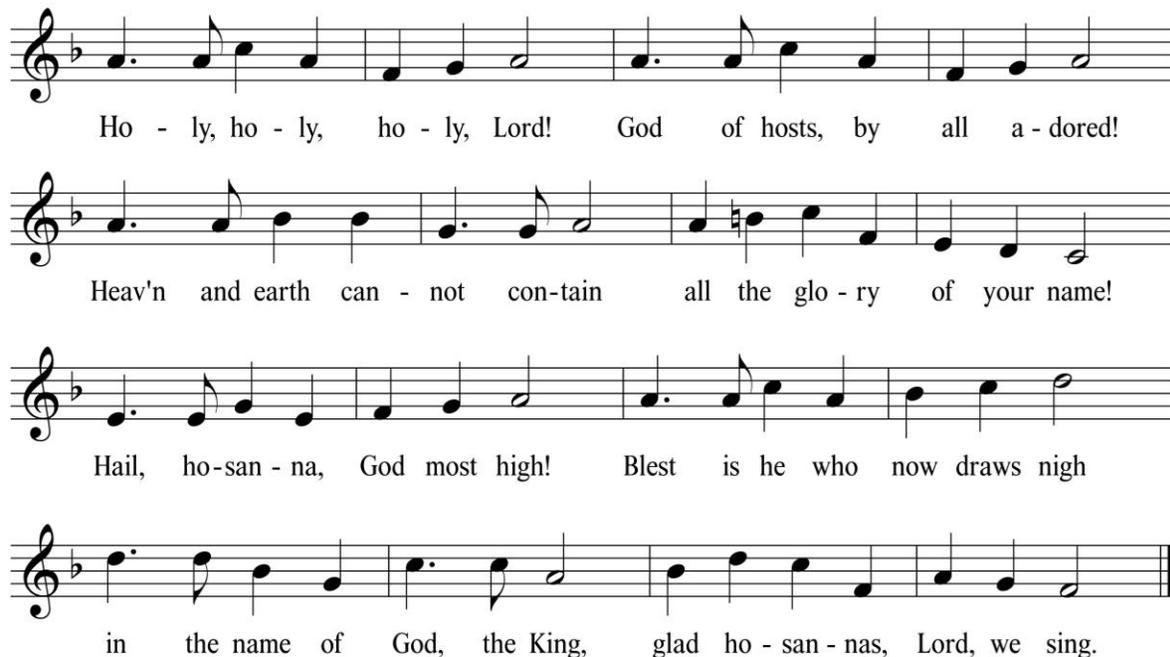
~ O Give Thanks ~

[Adapted from a Hymn Setting of Holy Communion for Thanksgiving]

THE DIALOG

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up our hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord! God of hosts, by all a - dored!
Heav'n and earth can - not con-tain all the glo - ry of your name!
Hail, ho-san - na, God most high! Blest is he who now draws nigh
in the name of God, the King, glad ho - san - nas, Lord, we sing.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



Our heav - 'nly Fa - ther, hear your faith - ful chil - dren's prayer:
 The bread for which we yearn each day, O Fa - ther, give.
 For you, O Lord, are King: all pow'r is yours, we own;

Your name, di - vine and dear, be hal - lowed ev - 'ry -
 For - give us, as in turn our debt - ors we for -
 Your glo - ry now we sing, the glo - ry yours a -

where! Your king - dom come! Your heav - 'nly will a -
 give. Your peo - ple lead in tri - al's hours. From
 lone. So shall it be; your king - dom, might, And

mong us, still, on earth be done!
 Sa - tan's pow'r let us be freed.
 glo - ry bright, e - ter - nal - ly!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints and give thanks!
Please bring donations for the Food Pantry to the front as you proceed forward to the altar.



In the bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present. Much more than a sign, story or symbol of God's love, it is an event where God reaches down to us through common earthly elements and invites us into the mystery and miracle of a relationship with him, the Word made flesh for us. All, who have been baptized, are invited to this experience of God's love, where He is our host and we are his guests, who will take the message of his love into the world.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

I Am the Bread of Life

Setting by John Carter

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
 C **Amen**

THE THANKSGIVING



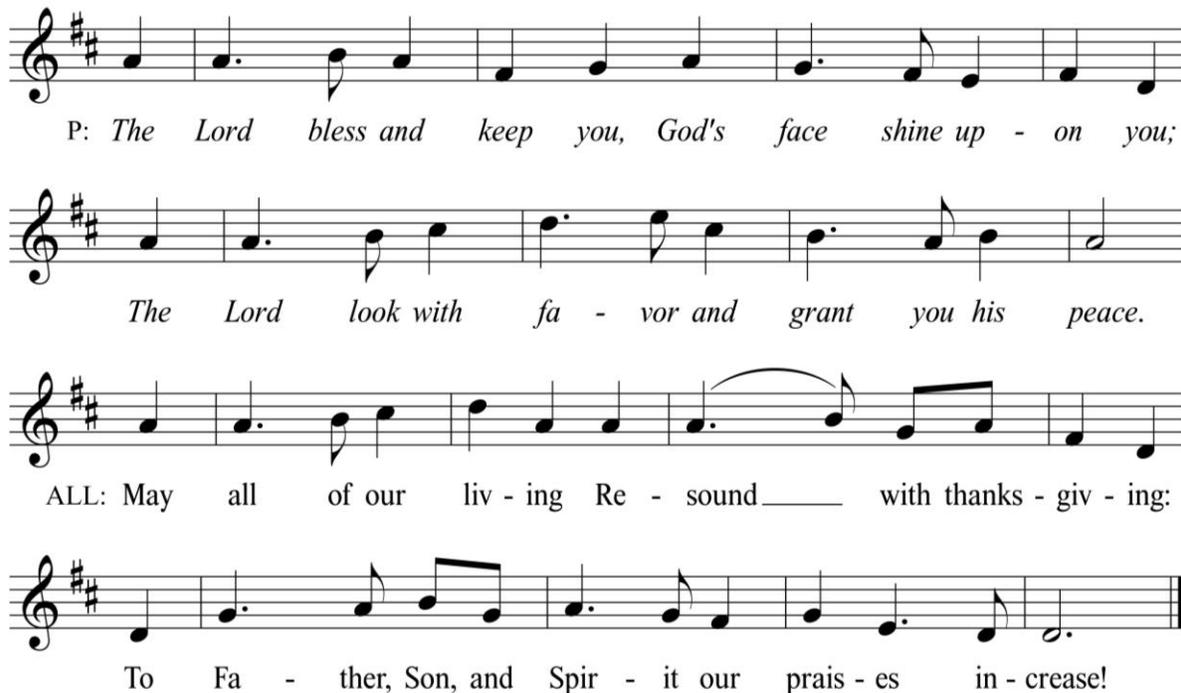
Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices. Who
Lord, let your ser-vant go with peace and ex-ul-ta-tion, for
won-drous things has done, in whom his world re-joic-es. Let
my own eyes have seen your man-i-fest sal-va-tion, light
all who seek the Lord God's faith-ful-ness pro-claim: He
for the dark-ened world and Is-ra-el's glo-ry true! To
leads them forth in joy who proud-ly bear his name.
Fa-ther, Spir-it, Son be prais-es ev-er due!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

THE BENEDICTION



P: *The Lord bless and keep you, God's face shine up-on you;*
The Lord look with fa-vor and grant you his peace.
ALL: May all of our liv-ing Re-sound with thanks-giv-ing:
To Fa-ther, Son, and Spir-it our prais-es in-crease!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

Let All Things Now Living

ELW 881

Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

God rules all the forces:
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

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DISMISSAL

- A We are a family of Christians
- C **...growing in faith and reaching out in love.**
- A Go in peace, be thankful and share God's bounty. Be a blessing in the world.
- C **Thanks be to God!**

SHARING THE PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C **And also with you.**





Thanks to Megumi Lawler for providing the beautiful fall display in the sanctuary for both last Sunday and this evening.

Also, a huge THANK YOU to all who made pies along with those who assisted with setup and cleanup for tonight's pie social.

And, of course, a special shoutout to Nan Bunnow and Nancy Scheverman for organizing the social!

Midweek Advent Worship

During our Advent Midweek services (at 6:15 p.m.) we will use our traditional “Joyous Light” liturgy. The THEME for this year is “Images of Hope”: Water, Light, Pathway, and Healing—images from the prophet Isaiah. We will examine these images and then, meditate on them using “Visio Divina,” a way of seeing, reflecting and responding to an image.

Nov. 30 – **Water**
Dec. 7 – **Light**

Dec 14 – **Pathway**
Dec. 22 – **Healing**

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