

# Sixth Sunday after EASTER



**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
Appleton, Wisconsin**

**May 5, 2024**

**8:00 & 9:40 a.m. Services**

## **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.*

**W**elcome 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!

**W**e 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 so, we have some ways to help you 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. The 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!

**T**he 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.**

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## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

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ELW denotes the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal

P—Pastor A—Assisting Minister C—Congregation

*This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC

*Almost Home*

M. & L. Papa | M. Boswell

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**Leader:** Oh, peo-ple of God, the Lord be with you. **People:** And may the  
Lord be with you too. **Leader:** The Spir-it calls us to re -  
mem - ber. **People:** Oh Lord we lift our hearts to you.  
**All:** We fail to love you with our whole hearts or love our  
You bid us come out from the sha - dows in - to the  
neigh - bors as we should. And so we're ask - ing for for -  
light by which we see. Our sins for - giv - en and for -  
give-ness. Oh, set us free and make us good.  
got - ten for Je - sus' sake we're clear and free.

Words & Music: Steve Thompson; © 2006 Steve Thompson. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,  
 God of glory, Lord of love!  
 Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,  
 praising thee, their sun above.  
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
 drive the gloom of doubt away.  
 Giver of immortal gladness,  
 fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,  
 earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
 stars and angels sing around thee,  
 center of unbroken praise.  
 Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
 flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
 chanting bird, and flowing fountain  
 call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
 ever blessing, ever blest,  
 wellspring of the joy of living,  
 ocean-depth of happy rest!  
 Thou our Father, Christ our brother,  
 all who live in love are thine;  
 teach us how to love each other,  
 lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922

#### GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God,

C **you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

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#### WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song.*

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#### FIRST READING

Acts 10:44-48

*While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

## SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-6

*God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world.

A Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING

John 15:9-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

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

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you.

<sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Roger McQuiston

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

ELW 708

*Refrain*

Jesu, Jesu,

fill us with your love,

show us how to serve

the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends,

silently washes their feet,

master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain*

Neighbors are wealthy and poor,

varied in color and race,

neighbors are nearby and far away. *Refrain*

These are the ones we will serve,

these are the ones we will love;

all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain*

Kneel at the feet of our friends,

silently washing their feet:

this is the way we will live with you. *Refrain*

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt.; Text © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-703841. All rights reserved.



SHARING THE PEACE

P May the peace of Jesus Christ, the risen Lamb of God, be with you now and always.  
 C **And also with you!**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

OFFERING SONG

From vine-yard and field, gifts gath-ered to share,  
 You give us all. We re-turn some.

<sup>2</sup>  
 this plate of bread, and this cup of  
 Our of - fring as, we gath - er

wine. \_\_\_\_\_ Com - mon this ta - ble,  
 round, \_\_\_\_\_ tast - ing just some, \_\_\_\_\_

and sim - ple this fare; \_\_\_\_\_ but  
 of the feast to come, \_\_\_\_\_

we see a sa - cred \_\_\_\_\_ sign. \_\_\_\_\_  
 in heav-en's lost \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ found. \_\_\_\_\_

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OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. Risen One,  
 C **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.  
Petitions end: God of grace,  
Response: ...**hear our prayer.**
- P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C **Amen.**

## 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

- P Jesus' disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us how to pray." He said to them, "When you pray, say":
- C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

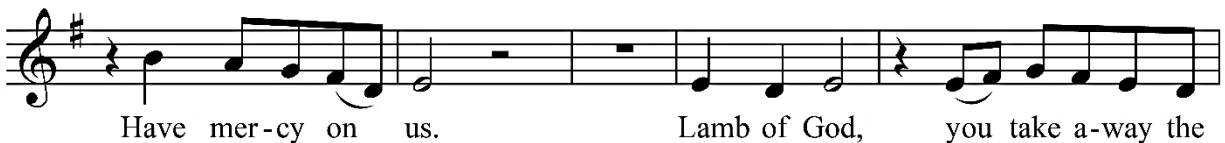
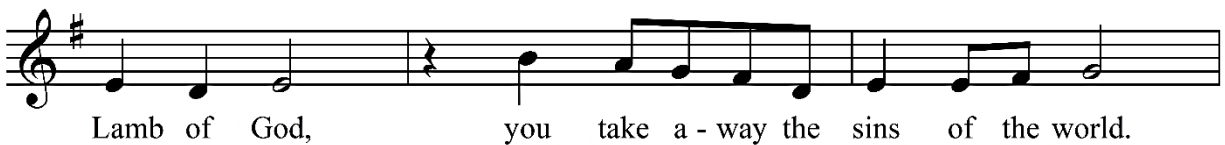
- P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.



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.



## LAMB OF GOD



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## COMMUNION SONG

### *Down to the River to Pray*

#### REFRAIN

(First time solo)

As I went down in the river to pray,  
studying about that good old way  
and who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way!

(Women sing)

Oh sisters, let's go down,  
let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, sisters, let's go down, down in the river to pray. REFRAIN

As I went down in the river to pray,  
studying about that good old way  
and who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way!

(Men sing)

Oh brothers, let's go down,  
let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, brothers, let's go down,  
down in the river to pray. REFRAIN

As I went down in the river to pray,  
studying about that good old way  
and who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way!

(ALL sing)

Oh mothers, let's go down,  
let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, mothers, let's go down,  
down in the river to pray. REFRAIN

(All sing)

Oh fathers, let's go down,  
let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, fathers, let's go down,  
down in the river to pray. REFRAIN

(All sing)

Oh sinners, let's go down,  
let's go down, come on down.  
Oh, sinners, let's go down,  
down in the river to pray. REFRAIN

American folk song attr. to George H. Allan, fr. *Slave Songs of the United States*, 1867.

#### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

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

C **Amen.**

P Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

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### SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### FINAL BLESSING

P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.

C **Amen.**

#### SENDING SONG

#### *I Shall Not Be Moved*

#### REFRAIN

I shall not be, I shall not be moved.  
I shall not be, I shall not be moved;  
like a tree planted by the water,  
I shall not be moved.

When my cross is heavy, I shall not be moved,  
when my cross is heavy, I shall not be moved;  
like a tree planted by the water,  
I shall not be moved. REFRAIN

The church of God is marching, I shall not be moved,  
the church of God is marching, I shall not be moved;  
like a tree planted by the water,  
I shall not be moved. REFRAIN

Jesus is our captain, I shall not be moved,  
Jesus is our captain, I shall not be moved;  
like a tree planted by the water,  
I shall not be moved. REFRAIN

Fighting sin and Satan, I shall not be moved,  
fighting sin and Satan, I shall not be moved;  
like a tree planted by the water,  
I shall not be moved. REFRAIN

Text African American spiritual

## DISMISSAL

- A Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
A Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!  
C **Thanks be to God! ALLELUIA!**

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## WORSHIP LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Preaching Minister	Pastor Roger McQuiston
Presiding Minister	Pastor Jennifer DeNetz
Assisting Minister	Lois Hilger
Musicians	Colleen Perrine, Karen Bultman Janice Evers, Erik Larson Beth McQuiston, Laurie Rowinsky Stu Schrottky, Jeff Sheffler Charlie Sosinski, Michelle Wiesman
Projection Prep/Sunday A/V	Tom Richmond/Andy Palmbach
Ushers	(8:00) Al Peckham, Dave Rades (9:40) Chad Ekern, Scott Perrine

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