



“Lost and Found – Unexpected Love”
5th Sunday in Lent
March 21, 2021

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

If you have an email address and want to be on POP’s weekly announcement list, please let the church office know. You can find worship each week at <https://princeofpeace-er.org/worship/>.

If you would like to support the mission of Prince of Peace so that we can continue worship, community outreach, and other ministries, you can give any amount by cash, check, or online.

Thank you for your generosity.

ORDER OF SERVICE *The assembly speaks the bold verses*

Preparing for Worship

Begin worship with a moment of silence.

Take this time to set up your worship space. Your space will be unique to who you are and what is meaningful to you. Ultimately, you are preparing space that helps you slow down and connect with God through Jesus.

You are invited to light a candle. We light candles in worship to signify the presence of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, with us.

Take a few deep breaths. Breathe in the breath of God through the Holy Spirit.

Call to Worship (inspired by Luke 19: 1-10)

Come, let us worship the God who came to seek and save the lost!
Let us worship the God who came to seek and save each of us!
Let us welcome God into our homes and our hearts.
Let us give of ourselves in this worship time that we may know God.
Let us joyfully and with gratitude worship God!

Music *“O Great Lover Who Pursues Us” - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan*

O Great Lover who pursues us, come delight to stir our hearts
Call us back with full devotion Kindle now your fire in us
Let us scent you, taste your sweetness Carry us away to thrive
Let us love you ever deeper Let us hasten to your side

Bounding o'er the hills you beckon, “Rise, my love and come away”.
Winter's past and Spring is blooming Now has come the time to sing
Wake the winds upon this garden Waft the fragrance all around
We with joy to you belonging dance within your perfect love

Who is like our great Beloved now appearing as the dawn?
All of heav'n in grand procession praise Love's beauty bright as the sun
Set us as a seal upon you Troubled hearts will find their rest
Yours is love to stand harsh waters, love that lives as strong as death

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
Who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for individual confession and self-reflection.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin

And cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,

By what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ☩ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Greeting

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Lord of the lost,

We are quick to judge and slow to accept those whom we consider lower than ourselves. But you show us the way of acceptance, forgiveness, and peace. We honor your name for teaching us to love, for the sake of the one who is the essence of love itself, Jesus Christ our loving Lord.

Amen.

Music *"The Broken Body of Christ" - The Many*

We are the wand'ring
We are the seeking
We are the ones left out to dry
We are the bleeding
Our hearts are weeping
We are the broken body of Christ.

Chorus:

And when we eat, we are fed
The love that God has given
And when we drink
We take it in
This love, this earthly heaven.

We are the thirsty
Looking for mercy
We have all been kicked aside
We are the stumbling
Our hands are fumbling
We are the broken body of Christ.

Chorus

Bridge:

We are loved just as we are
Taste and see, loved as we are
Beautifully different,
Loved as we are,
just as we are.

Chorus

We are the wandering
We are the seeking
We are the broken body of Christ.

Gospel Reading *Luke 18:31—19:10*

³¹Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³²For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. ³³After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.” ³⁴But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

³⁵As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” ³⁸Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ³⁹Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁰Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹“What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me see again.” ⁴²Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.” ⁴³Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

^{19:1}He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” ⁹Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Message

Pastor Andrea Fluegel

Music *“O Lord Hear My Prayer” (ELW 751) - Sung by Rachel Kurtz*

**O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer
O Lord, hear my prayer:
Come and listen to me.**

Prayers of the People

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You fill the earth—from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder—with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve. We give to you, O merciful Lord, all the people, places, and circumstances on our hearts and minds . . . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O Lord, hear my prayer,

O Lord, hear my prayer:

When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer:

Come and listen to me.

Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip youth and adults in being curious learners for your sake, Jesus. Help guide our ministry of Gathered and Sent podcast and other Bible study and faith exploration opportunities. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you. With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

O Lord, hear my prayer,

O Lord, hear my prayer:

When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer:

Come and listen to me.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Music *"Something Beautiful For God"* - Bryan Sirchio

Know this one thing above all else
We are loved, loved by God
Let this be how we see ourselves
As people loved, loved by God
And once we know the love of Christ
Feel God's healing in our lives
Loving service is how we give our love back to God

Chorus:

Today let us do something beautiful for God
Do something small, but do it with great love
Do what we can, where we are, with what we've got
Today let us do something beautiful for God

Everyone who we meet today
Is God's child, God's own child
May our lives help them hear God say
You are my child, God's own child
A smile can radiate God's love
Let them see the Christ in us
Let our lives be the cheerfulness of God in this world

Chorus

Jesus will visit us today
In disguise, in disguise
Poor and weak, Christ will come our way
Jesus Christ, in disguise
The lonely, poor, the victimized
Love for them is love for Christ
Love is water to quench the thirst of Christ on the cross

Chorus

Blessing

Christ Jesus dwell in our hearts through faith,
as we are being rooted and grounded in love,
strengthened by the Spirit,
and filled with all the fullness of God. **Amen.**

Sending

Gathered by Grace.

Sent to Serve.

Thanks be to God!

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Call to Worship, posted on Waiting for Water: Liturgy for The Easter Journey 2013

<http://storage.cloversites.com/waitingforwater/documents/Liturgical%20resources%202013%2010%2018%2012.pdf>, and on
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Limited in-person worship is now being held. Pre-registration is required each week to attend in-person. We will be following social distancing guidelines as well, and masks will be required. Online or on-demand worship will continue to be available. Please register online or call the church office and leave a voicemail message. We will call you back to confirm. Sanctuary doors will be unlocked 10 minutes prior to worship.

Upcoming Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Worship Opportunities

Palm Sunday, March 28 – 9 a.m. in-person worship (*online also available*)

Maundy Thursday, April 1 – 5:30 p.m. ***in-person only***

Good Friday, April 2 – ***online only***

Easter Sunday, April 4 – 9 a.m. in-person worship (*50 person limit*) (*online also available*)

Gathered and Sent Bible Discussion Available By Phone

The weekly Gathered and Sent Bible discussion recording (podcast) is now available by phone. Just call **978-599-7887** and stay on the line to listen to the recording that discusses the upcoming Sunday scripture reading. A new recording is posted every Monday. Gathered and Sent podcasts can also be found on the church website, Spotify, Pandora, Alexa, Audible, iTunes, Apple Podcast, Google Podcasts, and more. Listen, invite, and participate in God's Word.

Mountain of Love

Each Lenten season, Prince of Peace has a Mountain of Love to support the Weekend Backpack Program, Caritas, and the Vilas Food Pantry as a spiritual practice of generosity and almsgiving. This year, we are asking for ***monetary donations***, or you can donate specific items needed such as spices, plastic spoons, cooking oil, oatmeal packets or cups, apple cider packets, or dry soup packets. These are much needed items, but rarely donated.

Attention Thrivent members, did you know that you can direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Prince of Peace? Also, did you know that you need to intentionally make this election every year and the deadline is March 31st? If you would like to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to Prince of Peace, please call Thrivent at 800-847-4836 to make your elections or Thrivent representative Nathan Musolff at 715-350-4125 to assist you.

CURRENT PHASE: 2

- **Limited in-person worship.** Pre-registration is required to attend in-person. Online or on-demand worship will continue to be available. Please **sign up** on the church website at <https://princeofpeace-er.org/signups/> or by calling the church office. **Please sign up each household individual.** Again, use the sanctuary doors to enter the building. Doors will be unlocked 10 minutes prior to worship.
- Critical staff and volunteers by invitation-only access to building.
- Visitors must wear a facemask and keep to social distancing guidelines.



MISSION STATEMENT

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a community who believes in God's love, knows Jesus as Savior, and is blessed by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Thankful for these gifts, we gather to pray and praise, explore God's Word and its meaning for our lives, strengthen each other in our witness, and serve each other and our neighbors in the world.

VISION STATEMENT

Gathered by Grace ~ Sent to serve.
*Core Values: Spirituality, Community,
Grace, Helping Others, Creativity.*

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 5030 Highway 70 West, Eagle River, WI 54521
www.PrinceofPeace-ER.org