



“Grace-Filled Way of Life – The Dividing Wall”
9th Sunday after Pentecost
July 25, 2021

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with 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.

“Even when we were dead, Paul writes.
Even when we turned away from the One who had created us.
Even when we lived in the grip of what drew our gaze from God.
Even when we were oblivious.
Even when we followed a path fashioned of nothing
but our own desires.
Even when we wandered far and willfully away.
Even when we forgot to look past our own feet and to see
the wonders not of our making.
Even when we failed to stand in awe, to breathe thanks,
to lean into the love that had waited long for us.
Even when, Paul writes.
Even when,
even then:
grace.”

A Summer Prayer for Grace

God of gentle rains and warm sun, God who encourages growth;
**we are creatures who sometimes grow quickly,
and sometimes get stuck.**
God of freedom, of liberation, of binding ropes being cut;
we are bound in ways we don't always understand or recognize.
God of exodus and exile and homecoming,
God who calls us to leave where we are and come home;
**help us to have the courage to make the journey
and to trust in the path.**
God of health and healing,
God who wants us to be made whole;
**we come as people who are wounded in body and in spirit,
people who seek healing.**
God who has laid out a way for us to live,
who has given us rules for living in community;
**we come as people who sometimes go astray,
people who stretch the rules.**

God of Grace,
we come as people who live through that Grace.
**And so we praise you for the growth,
we rejoice in being set free,
we dance along the path that leads us home,
we give thanks for the healing we have received,
we relax in the knowledge that we are forgiven
and we live as people of Grace. Amen.**

Music

“Come As You Are” - The Many

*“Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads,
and I will give you rest.” - Matthew 11:28*

Verse

Come you who've been wounded
All you who've lost hope
Come you are longing for what you do not know.
Come you hungry for justice
Aching for heaven on earth
Come you who've been tossed aside
Don't remember what you're worth

Chorus

Come as you are
Come you weary
Come and lay your burdens down
Come as you are
Bring your hopes
Bring your doubts and your scars
Come as you are

Verse

Come you who've been cast out
All you who've been shamed come you who are looking
for that mystery you can't name
Come you crying for mercy
Hoping for peace on earth
Come you carrying questions
All you who've been so hurt

Chorus

Bridge

Oh you misfits and prophets and you sinners and saints
Oh you broken and needy, weird and weary and faint
All who seek to simply open their eyes
All who need to find a safe place to cry

Chorus

Repeat Chorus

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin
to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept 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 neighbors 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **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

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Help us to see your presence burning in the hearts of others; grant that we may be united in a fellowship of love and prayer; give us the courage to respond to the needs of the world, give us the stamina to follow you, to be your hands and heart in the world; enable us to witness to your grace and mercy. We pray all this through the love of your son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Music *"Heaven and Earth" (Psalm 85) - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan*

Refrain:

Heaven and earth will meet and marry
Heaven and earth together

Verse 1:

Pure justice kissing peace
Oh, finally harmony
Sky reaches, touching ground
Oh, all things in unity

Verse 2:

Pure goodness pours like rain
Oh, faithfulness sprouts and thrives
Revive the people's joy
Oh, healing for every tribe

Verse 3:

All things in harmony
Oh, sky reaches, touching ground
Wherever there are two
Oh, may only love be done

Reading *Ephesians 2:11-22*

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Message

Pastor Andrea Fluegel

Music *“Here in This Place” - Christopher Grundy*

HOLY ONE, may your presence here open our minds,
may your Spirit among us help us to find
you are rising up now like a fountain of grace
from the holy ground
here in this place,
here in this place.

Descant:

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty
the whole universe speaks of your glory
from the holy ground
here in this place,
here in this place.

Prayers of the People

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice. Loving God, in your abundant grace, **hear our prayers.**

Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters and protect coastlands threatened by rising oceans. Loving God, in your abundant grace, **hear our prayers.**

**HOLY ONE, may your presence here open our minds,
may your Spirit among us help us to find
you are rising up now like a fountain of grace
from the holy ground
here in this place,
here in this place.**

Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions. Loving God, in your abundant grace, **hear our prayers.**

Loving God, you have reconciled us in Christ Jesus and have given us the ministry of reconciliation. We pray for all those from whom we are estranged. Bring healing to strained or broken relationships. Forgive us for the times we have wronged others, whether by ignorance, neglect, or intention. Grant us the courage and the grace to seek their forgiveness and opportunity to make amends. Where others have wronged us, grant us a gracious spirit, that we might forgive even as we have been forgiven in Jesus Christ. Loving God, in your abundant grace, **hear our prayers.**

Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill. We lift before you, Gracious Lord, all the people, places and circumstances on our hearts and minds that we now name silently or aloud . . . Loving God, in your abundant grace, **hear our prayers.**

**HOLY ONE, may your presence here open our minds,
may your Spirit among us help us to find
you are rising up now like a fountain of grace
from the holy ground
here in this place,
here in this place.**

Nourish this congregation, O God. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungering spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and revitalize our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors. Loving God, in your abundant grace, **hear our prayers.**

You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints. As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Loving God, in your abundant grace, **hear our prayers.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love and grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 ***"God of the Movements and Martyrs" - The Many***

Verse 1:

God of the movements and martyrs
God of the powerless child
God of the hurt and the hopeless
And unreconciled
God of the just and the faithful
God of the night and the day
God of the whole of creation
In your name we pray
Many have followed the savior
Into the face of the storm
Strengthened by long generations
By love they were formed
In basements of tall-steepled churches
In shadows of fences and walls
In alleys and hallways of power
They answered your call

Verse 2:

Now it's our turn to do justice
Humbly we rise to the day
Give us the strength and the wisdom
To walk in your way
Gather the loaves and fishes,
Share until all have been fed
Walk in compassion and mercy
By love we'll be led
Standing in circles surrounding
All holding hands while we pray
When powers bear down on the helpless
We'll stand in the way

God of the worn and the wounded
Let us be healed by the truth
When doorways are blocked we will lower
Our friends through the roof

Verse 3:

God of the circle that holds us
God of the ones pushed away
We will reach out to our neighbors
In your name we'll say:
No matter your creed or your country
No matter the hue of your skin
Your age, who you love, or the body
Your soul was born in
No matter the places you're broken
No matter the things you have done
Lay down that weight on the altar
A new day's begun
You are a child of the maker
You are beloved and known
Join us in work of the kin-dom
We welcome you home
Join us in work of the kin-dom
We welcome you home

Blessing

God, who created you in the divine image, sends you forth:
**we go, to reflect the presence of our Creator
to everyone we meet.**

Jesus, who has redeemed you,
has established the reign of God in our midst:
we go, to bring healing to the broken of the world.

The Holy Spirit, who calls you to be God's people,
goes with you to many places:
**we go, to tear down the walls that divide us,
and to build lives of hope for all of God's children.**

And now, may the peace of the rolling waves,
the peace of the silent mountains,
the peace of the singing stars,
and the deep, deep peace of the Prince of Peace,
be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending

Gathered by Grace.
Sent to Serve.
Thanks be to God!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Andrea Out of Office

Pastor Andrea Fluegel will be out of the office from **Wednesday, July 21, through Wednesday, July 28** for a youth trip. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Pastor Rich Likeness of Ascension Lutheran Church (Minocqua) on his cell phone at 1-815-713-3431. Yes, the area code is 815, so please dial carefully if you need to call him!

Home Communion and Visits

If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home (indoor or outside), or have the pastor or someone from the congregation come to visit with you, please contact Pastor Andrea Fluegel at 715.479.9263 or at pastor@princeofpeace-er.org to schedule a time.

Greeters Needed

Each Sunday, two greeters are needed to welcome members and guests to worship. Please arrive between 8:30 and 8:40 a.m. Greeters will welcome people with their voices rather than handshakes at this time. Please sign up on our website.

Sunday Morning Coffee Hour Hosts

Prince of Peace has resumed Coffee Hour following worship. Coffee hour will be held outside, weather permitting. If you would like to host a Coffee Hour, please sign up online. You will be contacted with details about setting up, serving, and cleaning up. Currently, food will need to be store bought and as individualized as possible. For more information contact Barb Zima.

Bible Study On-The-Go

Did you know that Prince of Peace has an on-demand Bible study each week? You can access the Gathered and Sent podcast on the upcoming Sunday's scripture. Pastor Andrea and a member of the congregation (and sometimes special guests) discuss scripture and its relevance in our lives. This podcast will prepare you for Sunday morning worship and help to grow your faith life. Currently, we are in a six-week series on the Holy Spirit. You can access it on your favorite podcast platform such as Spotify, Apple Play, Siri, Audible, Pandora, etc.; on the church website; or by calling the church office at 715.479.9263 - Option 5.

New: Prayer Requests on POP Website

If you have a prayer request, you can now go to <https://princeofpeace-er.org/prayers/> to fill out a form, or you can go there to pray for the requests already posted. If you post a request, you have the opportunity to remain anonymous.



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.*

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