



“The End of All Things – Warnings and Promises”

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021

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.

Blessing That Undoes Us - by Jan Richardson

On the day you are wearing your certainty
like a cloak
and your sureness goes before you
like a shield or like a sword,
may the sound of God's name
spill from your lips
as you have never heard it before.

May your knowing be undone.
May your mystery confound your understanding.

May the Divine rain down
in strange syllables yet with
an ancient familiarity,
a knowing borne
in the blood,
the ear,
the tongue,
bringing clarity that comes
not in stone
or in steel
but in fire, in flame.

May there come
one searing word--
enough to bare you to the bone,
enough to set your heart ablaze,
enough to make you whole again.

Opening Litany

Grace and peace to you from the One who is,
 who always was,
 and who is still to come—
the Alpha and Omega—the beginning and the end.

This is our God—
the One who loves us, and who gave himself for us;
 who gathers us together in this place,
 and bids us seek his face.
Let's worship God together!

Music *“Come and Worship Christ the King”* - Chris Juby

Come and worship Christ the King,
come and bow before
Christ the author of all things,
every heart adore
Christ the everlasting God.
Reigning at the Father’s side
from eternity,
wrapped in everlasting light,
clothed in majesty,
the beginning and the end.

*Christ our savior,
King of glory and of grace,
reign for ever,
you are worthy of our hearts’ unending praise.*

When our hearts were far away,
still he came for us,
left his glory, took our place,
suffered on the cross;
through his death he won our peace.
Now no condemnation stands,
we are truly free;
we were crucified with Christ,
we will surely be
raised in everlasting life.
He will come again in power
with authority,
sin and death will be destroyed
in his victory,
we will see him face to face.
Every tongue will cry in awe,
every bended knee
will acknowledge he is Lord,
then our hearts will be
lost in everlasting praise.

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

Merciful God, we say that we want you to come and be among us. And yet we acknowledge that you already are among us, fully and completely at all times. We say that we want Jesus to return and we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus." And yet, we confess our fears and uncertainty about the return of Christ and what it will mean for us and for the world. Jesus prayed that we might be one with you and with each other. And yet, so often, if we are honest, we wish to remain separate from you, maintaining our independence and control. We resist the burden of being unified with those around us, especially when those around us want different things than we do or pull us in directions we do not wish to go. Soften our resistance, gracious Lord, and draw us into an authentic relationship with you and true community with one another. We pray this in the name of your Son, who prayed and still prays for us. **Amen.**

Music "God Known and Unknown" - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Verse 1:

God, known and unknown in whom we live and move
Uncontained, unrestrained by old and new
God, known and unknown

Refrain:

Breaking any image we portray, stirring us always to change
Beyond all models, words and imagery:
You, fascinating mystery

Verse 2:

God, named and unnamed of which we speak and hush
Clean unbounded, turning 'round our every thought
God, named and unnamed

Verse 3:

God, sought and unsought inhabiting our blood
Enfolding, unfolding: a Springtime bud
God, sought and unsought

Verse 4:

God, here and absent with whom we glee and moan
Sought, unsought; named, unnamed; and known, unknown
God, here and absent

Reading Revelation 2:1-7; 3:14-22

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands:

² "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them to be false. ³ I also know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place,

unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.

¹⁴ “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin of God’s creation:

¹⁵ “I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ For you say, ‘I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing.’ You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. ¹⁸ Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich; and white robes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen; and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. ¹⁹ I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. ²⁰ Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. ²¹ To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.”

Message

Pastor Andrea Fluegel

Music ***“By the Stream” - Christopher Grundy***

**Blessed are those who trust in God.
They will be like a tree planted by the water,
Planted by the water
and sending out its roots by the stream.**

Prayers of the People

From our homes and our assemblies, indoors and outside, we join together in prayer, responding to each petition with words, “We put our trust in you.”

Jesus, Lamb of God, Savior of the nations, together across the world we pray:
For the church around the world,
For congregations, communities and families that are struggling financially and emotionally,
For pastors and deacons, staff, councils, and team members, as they make plans for the autumn and upcoming winter seasons,
And for strength for the baptized to resist the evil powers of this world,

A brief silence for individual petitions and prayers.

O supreme Savior, receive our prayer:
We put our trust in you.

For the earth that you created,
For the restoration of the areas devastated by wildfires, earthquakes and flooding waters,
For a lowering of high temperatures and replenishment of water sources,
And for the will to preserve your creation,

A brief silence for individual petitions and prayers.

O majestic Maker, receive our prayer:

We put our trust in you.

For the nations of the world,
For the people of Afghanistan,
For wisdom in the deployment of our military,
For our national and state legislators and local leaders as they consider the way forward,
For an end to historic and continuing prejudices,
And for a passion for justice and equality in our land,

A brief silence for individual petitions and prayers.

O peaceful Protector, receive our prayer:

We put our trust in you.

Blessed are those who trust in God.

**They will be like a tree planted by the water,
Planted by the water
and sending out its roots by the stream.**

For travelers and vacationers,
For youth leaving home for college,
For the aged living apart from family members,
And for constancy in our care for one another,

A brief silence for individual petitions and prayers.

O gracious Guardian, receive our prayer:

We put our trust in you.

For those who are in need,
For the people of Haiti,
For all who are imprisoned,
For those contracting the coronavirus, especially the children,
For those who this week will receive a disturbing diagnosis,
And for those whom we name here before you . . .

A brief silence for individual petitions and prayers.

O holy Healer, receive our prayer:

We put our trust in you.

**Blessed are those who trust in God.
They will be like a tree planted by the water,
Planted by the water
and sending out its roots by the stream.**

For each one of us,
For our households,
And for perseverance in doing what is right,
A longer period of silence.
O faithful Friend, receive my prayer:
We put our trust in you.

In thanksgiving for all who have died in the faith,
In gladness for the life of our loved ones,
And in hope for your mercy at the end of time,

A brief silence for individual petitions and prayers.

O ceaseless Comforter, receive our prayer:
We put our trust in you.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 "Ever" - Heatherlyn

Peace ever, joy ever, following you
Light ever, Love ever, radiating through
Hope ever, faith ever, strengthening you
Life ever, breath ever, nourishing you
And everywhere you go, may you always be home.
And everyone you meet, be messengers of peace.

Let your light shine through
And your heart ever be true
Move in grace and gratitude
And walk in wisdom, sharing all that's good.

Peace ever, joy ever, following you
Light ever, Love ever, radiating through

And everywhere you go, may you always be home.
And everyone you meet, be messengers of peace.

May we choose courageously
May we hope defiantly
May we love outrageously
And walk on lightly in humility.

Beauty and Laughter, ever filling you
Friendship, affection, surrounding you

Blessing *(from Revelation 1:4-8)*

As you go from here,
may you experience God's hope and love,
and rest in the peace that comes
from the ✠ One who is,
 who was,
 and who is yet to come;
To him be glory and power,
forever and ever.

Amen.

Sending

Gathered by Grace.

Sent to Serve.

Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POP Mini Golf Classic

Pick your favorite ball color and get your team of 4-6 people ready for the POP Mini Golf Classic to be held on **Sunday, August 29, at 10:30 a.m.** at **Eagle Falls**, 1040 East Pine Street. Don't have a team or want to mix it up? No problem! Just come and a team will be put together so you can get to know more people. Cost is \$7.25 per person to be paid at Eagle Falls. Door prizes and ice cream will follow the golf event. Sign up online using the link below or at in-person worship on Sundays.

Door Prizes Needed

If you would like to assist with **door prizes** for the Mini Golf Classic, please contact Pastor Andrea at pastor@princeofpeace-er.org or at 715.479.9263. Door prizes can include (*but are not limited to*) homemade arts and crafts, gift baskets from local retailers, gift certificates, fresh flower arrangement or potted plant from your garden, or any other creative idea you may have.

Care & Share Card Volunteers Needed

Monthly volunteers are needed for the remaining months of the year to send cards to our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ who are dealing with various issues. Please sign up for a spot on our website, and contact the church office if you have any questions. You will need to contact the church office to arrange for you to pick up the box of cards. The office will also provide stamps if you like. *Thank you for helping with this very important ministry!*

Marywood Book Study - *The Gifts of Imperfection* by Brené Brown

This book study (via Zoom) will be facilitated by Pastor Andrea Fluegel of Prince of Peace and Pastor Grant Van Lishout of Marywood and will be held Sunday afternoons, **October 3 through 31, from 2 to 3:15 p.m.**

This study will actually change your outlook on life. Brown explores the psychology of releasing our definitions of an "imperfect" life and embracing living authentically. What transforms this book from words on a page to effective daily practices are the ten guideposts to wholehearted living. They not only help us understand the practices that will allow us to change our lives, they also walk us through the unattainable expectations that get in the way. Suggested offering: \$50 for five sessions. You will need to purchase your own book, currently \$6.96 on Amazon. Register through Marywood by Noon Monday, September 30.

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.

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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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