



“Promises Unfold: Promise of Presence”  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
November 15, 2020

**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/podcasts/>.*

*DVD’s of the previous Sunday’s worship are available by contacting the church office at 715-479-9263.*

*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, online, through the Give+ app by Vanco, or by sending a text to 833-394-7887 (text your dollar amount and follow the prompts). Thank you for your generosity.*

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**ORDER OF SERVICE**    *The assembly speaks the bold verses*

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**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.

What do you see as worship? Are there symbols like a cross, chalice, or pitcher that help you feel more connected to a worship space? Candles? Are there objects that are connected with faith communities or people who have nurtured you: a Bible received at confirmation, a rock you've carried since a conference or Lenten worship, a gift from a mentor?

What sounds help you focus and reset? What sounds put you in a posture for worship? Sounds of nature might bring you a feeling of peace. Or, perhaps sitting in silence, noticing the sounds of the world around you in a meditative way might be a way in to contemplation.

**Threshold Moment and Silent Centering** (based on Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17)

Lord, you have been our shelter and security from generation to generation.

You breathed creation into being,

giving shape to mountains and form to the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You have the power to turn us back to dust;  
a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday to you,  
or like a brief moment in the night.

You sweep us away like a dream,  
like grass which flourishes and grows in the morning,  
but fades and withers in the evening.

Our frailty is revealed when we trust only in ourselves  
and so fail to number our days wisely.

Turn to us, O God, for you alone are our hope.

Have compassion on us, we pray.

Help us to begin day after day focused on your steadfast love,  
so that each day will be filled with joy and gladness.

By your mercy and grace, O God,  
transform our afflictions into blessings  
and our wrongful ways into goodness.

Let your work be so visible among us  
that your glory will be revealed now and for generations to come.

May your grace, O God, enrich our lives  
and give meaning and purpose to our daily activities.

**Music**        ***"God Will See Us Through"* - By Emma Ceurvels and Bryan Sirchio**

In times of brokenness, in ev'ry wilderness,  
God has seen us through.  
Times when our strength was gone,  
somehow we carried on,  
God has seen us through.

Look behind and see throughout history,  
God has never let us down.  
Lean ahead and trust,  
God is guiding us,  
God is with us here right now

God will see me through,  
God will see you through,  
God will see us through somehow.  
Step by step we'll be given all we need  
God will see us through this now

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

O God, we confess to you that we are a people of unclean lips:  
we have complained aloud;  
we have spoken harshly to others;  
we have used sarcasm.

**Forgive us, Merciful God.**

**We know that our lips reflect our hearts.**

O God, we ask that you create us to be people of grateful hearts:  
let us rejoice aloud;  
let us speak kindly to others;  
let us use patience.

### **Thank You Merciful God**

**for your patience;**

**for your kindness;**

**for your joy. Amen.**

Where we so often fail, God has succeeded!  
You are completely forgiven of everything  
Not because of anything you've done for yourself,  
But because of God's great love for you in Jesus Christ.  
Forgiveness does not come only today, but in every moment.  
And so right now together we begin a new life again  
In the name of God our creator, ✠ lover, and sustainer.  
**Amen.**

### **Scripture    *Isaiah 6:1-8***

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." <sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" <sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

**Psalm**    ***“Open Now Our Hearts To Wisdom (Psalm 90)”*** by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan  
*(to the tune of “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”)*

Open now our hearts to wisdom  
    Keep us numbering our days  
Generations long behind us  
    Honored you, their dwelling place  
As a blink our life’s duration  
    Just a dream of yesterday  
Dust to dust our lovely lifespans  
    Age to age your perfect grace

We are children of our planet  
    We will all be quickly gone  
Though we thrive with breath and heartbeat  
    We can never know how long  
Open now our hearts to wisdom  
    Keep us numbering our days  
Gladly mindful of eternity  
    Let us live a holy pace

You have been our sanctuary,  
    Faithful God, from age to age  
Open now our hearts to wisdom  
    Keep us numbering our days  
You a haven for our forebears  
    With the promise of your grace  
Of our lives, God, make a legacy  
    For our children’s children’s faith

**Sermon**

***Pastor Andrea Fluegel***

**Visio Divina**            ***“Opportunities”*** by Barb Zima

Good morning, Lord, it’s me again  
It’s another day in this pandemic with all of its restrictions,  
But wait, why are we looking at the restrictions?  
Why aren’t we turning them into opportunities?  
We have been saying, we can’t for so long,  
Help us to say, I can  
I can call a friend  
I can write a note  
I can pray

Opportunities to spread love and compassion  
Opportunities to serve during our physical separation  
Opportunities to smile and find joy in each new day  
We aren't restricted from caring and loving  
We aren't restricted from sharing The Good News  
You, Oh Lord, give us each day  
You, Oh Lord, are The Good News  
You, Oh Lord, bring us Hope

**Music**            ***"Holy Is Your Name"*** - by Hannah Rand and words by Lenora Rand

You have seen me in my sorrow,  
You have heard me in my pain  
You have known me in my suff'ring,  
You have loved me in my shame

*Chorus:*

And I sing holy, holy, holy is Your name.  
And I say glory, glory, glory to Your name.  
The angels and the heavens sing of the new day that You bring.  
They sing glory, glory, glory to Your name.

You have held me in my questions,  
You have heard me when I pray.  
You have looked on me with favor,  
You have never looked away.

*Chorus*

The proud will fall, the poor will see  
That all hope's not lost, and grace flows free.

*Chorus*

**Prayers of the People**

***(Music from "Leaning In: A Prayer of Intention" by Christopher Grundy)***

**We pray for the lonely ones  
knowing that some of us are lonely  
and we pray for the heartbroken ones  
knowing that some of us are heartbroken**

**All our hearts and minds  
are leaning in with clear intention  
joining in your way  
of love in the world**

O Lord, open our lips and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
Your faithful servants bless you. They make known the glory of your kingdom.  
Remind us often, Lord that we are chosen to share the good news, and point the way to you.  
Remind us often, Lord that in our labors we can show your love in everything we do.  
Remind us often, Lord that through your power we can do all things, your Spirit sets us free.  
Remind us often, Lord that we are chosen to live by your Word and reveal your glory!

**We pray for the wounded  
knowing that some of us are wounded  
and we pray for the regretful ones  
knowing that some of us are regretful**

**All our hearts and minds  
are leaning in with clear intention  
joining in your way  
of love in the healing**

For those weighed down by ill health, bring wholeness to body, mind and spirit.  
For those weighed down by worry, bring wisdom, peace and reassurance.  
For those weighed down by fear, bring freedom, release and liberation.  
For those weighed down by sadness, bring comfort, strength and joy.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be. Protect and guide their families while they are away.

Compassionate Lord, we are thankful for all those who have served our nation in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and National Guard. God, the journey for them while away or at home has been filled with intense struggle and joy. While sometimes they may not feel welcomed at home, help them to know that you will always be there to welcome them home to your loving embrace. Mend any wounds they may have mentally, spiritually, and emotionally. Thank you, Lord, for the gifts of service that you give to them and to all people.

We pray for all people, places and circumstances that are on our hearts and minds . . .

**We pray for the starving ones  
knowing that some of us are starving  
and we pray for the imprisoned ones  
knowing that some of us are imprisoned**

**All our hearts and minds  
are leaning in with clear intention  
joining in your way  
of justice in the world**

Gracious God, take from us any anxiety we might face as this day, with its baggage, opens the door and enters in. May we see opportunities that yesterday were missed, blessings in the little things we might normally walk past; time enough to set aside a space to read your Word, say a prayer, sing a song, strengthen faith and know you're there, always there, whatever this new day might bring.

**We pray for the dying ones knowing  
that some of us are dying  
and we pray for the newly born ones  
knowing that some of us are arriving**

**All our hearts and minds  
are leaning in with clear intention  
joining in your way  
of love in the world. 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 "Traveling Mercies" - Words & Music by Bryan Sirchio & Marques Bovre**

*Chorus:*

Traveling mercies, love the journey  
God is with us on every road  
Traveling mercies, love the journey  
God is with us all the way home

A simple blessing that's often spoken  
When it is time to take to the road  
A benediction to send us forward  
Trusting the Spirit will lead us home

*Chorus*

Christ goes before us, Christ walks behind us  
Christ all around us, Christ deep inside  
Christ in our laughter and in our sorrow  
Christ in our darkness burning with Light

*Chorus*

Sometimes our feet take two good steps forward  
Only to fall back ten steps behind  
God's walking with us, we're being guided  
Grace often writes straight with crooked lines

*Chorus*

### **Benediction and Sending**

Sisters and brothers, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?

### **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit these servants into one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in the commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Gathered by Grace.

Sent to Serve.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Copyright**

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Confession and forgiveness based on Isaiah 61, Augsburg Fortress Press, 2015.  
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## Announcements

### \* Love Lights

Prince of Peace has the Advent tradition of lighting a Love Lights Tree. The Love Lights Tree provides an opportunity for individuals to honor their loved ones by making a donation to the Prince of Peace Endowment Fund. Donors may sponsor an ornament on the Love Lights Tree as a memorial or tribute to an individual who has touched their life. Traditionally, the Love Light Tree has been placed in the sanctuary and lit at the end of worship during Advent. This year the ornaments will be hung in the windows of the Fellowship Hall and will be lit up at night. We encourage you to drop by to view the Love Light ornaments from the parking lot. [Go to https://princeofpeace-er.org/love-lights/](https://princeofpeace-er.org/love-lights/) to donate or call the church office at 715-479-9263 and leave a message.

\* Snow shoveling is **still needed** this winter even though there is no public worship. Please call 715-479-9263 to sign up or go to our website <https://princeofpeace-er.org/signups/>. Thank you!

\* Please check out and subscribe to the Prince of Peace Lutheran YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX-J0LsbtcqzMljC959hj7Q>). Share it with family and friends on email and through Facebook and other social media.

### \* Gathered and Sent Podcasts

We are happy to announce that our "Gathered and Sent" podcasts are now available on iTunes and Apple Podcasts, in addition to being available at [www.princeofpeace-er.org/podcast](http://www.princeofpeace-er.org/podcast). Comment, Like and Share. In the next few weeks "Gathered and Sent" podcasts will become available on additional podcasting platforms. If you have a platform that you would like to see the podcasts on let us know by sending us an email to [admin@princeofpeace-er.org](mailto:admin@princeofpeace-er.org). Share it with family and friends on email and through Facebook and other social media.

## CURRENT PHASE: 1

- Fully digital worship and fellowship
- Critical staff and volunteers by invitation-only access to building
- All in-person activities suspended and moved to digital format where possible
- Visitors must wear a facemask and may not enter the building



### **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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[www.PrinceofPeace-ER.org](http://www.PrinceofPeace-ER.org)