

# Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

“Gathered by Grace - Sent to Serve”

## Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

### WELCOME

*Thank you for worshipping with us today!*

*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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### SCRIPTURE SUMMARY

*Today's scripture takes place again in the Temple, days after Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and after he turned over the tables in the Temple courtyard. A traditional question by a scribe or a disciple to a rabbi would have been, "Which commandment is the first of all?" With all 613 commandments in the Old Testament, people wanted to know from their rabbis what was the most important one to follow. Jesus expands on Deuteronomy 6:4-5 and Leviticus 19:18. What does it mean to love the Lord and your neighbor? Why is it the greatest commandment of all?*

**PRELUDE**

Linda Brainard

**WELCOME**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

**#733**

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

***Refrain:***

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (*Refrain*)**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*Refrain*)**

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**INVOCATION**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection and individual confession.*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us.**  
**We confess that we have turned from you**  
**and given ourselves into the power of sin.**  
**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**  
**In your compassion forgive us our sins,**  
**known and unknown, things we have done**  
**and things we have failed to do.**  
**Turn us again to you,**  
**and uphold us by your Spirit,**  
**so that we may live and serve you in newness of life**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

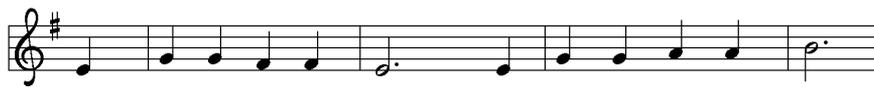
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us  
 even when we were dead in sin,  
 and made us alive together with Christ.  
 By grace you have been saved.  
 In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
 Almighty God strengthen you with power  
 through the Holy Spirit,  
 that Christ may live in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

## GREETING

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

## KYRIE

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- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of love, you have taught us that love is your greatest commandment. Teach us to love as unconditionally as you love us. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

## GOSPEL READING

*Mark 12:28-44*

<sup>28</sup> One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup> you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' <sup>31</sup> The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." <sup>32</sup> Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; <sup>33</sup> and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." <sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

<sup>35</sup> While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Messiah is the son of David? <sup>36</sup> David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet."' <sup>37</sup> David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?" And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup> They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

<sup>41</sup> He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup> Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are

contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup> For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

This is the Word of our Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE**

**Pastor Andrea Fluegel**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Great God, Your Love  
Has Called Us”*

**#358**

**Great God, your love has called us here  
as we, by love, for love were made.  
Your living likeness still we bear,  
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.  
We come, with all our heart and mind  
your call to hear, your love to find.**

**We come with self-inflicted pains  
of broken trust and chosen wrong,  
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,  
by social forces swept along,  
by powers and systems close confined  
yet seeking hope for humankind.**

**Great God, in Christ you call our name  
and then receive us as your own  
not through some merit, right, or claim,  
but by your gracious love alone.  
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat  
and find you kneeling at our feet.**

**Then take the towel, and break the bread,  
and humble us, and call us friends.  
Suffer and serve till all are fed,  
and show how grandly love intends  
to work till all creation sings,  
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.**

**Great God, in Christ you set us free  
your life to live, your joy to share.  
Give us your Spirit's liberty  
to turn from guilt and dull despair,  
and offer all that faith can do  
while love is making all things new.**

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## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you have made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, together we pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us  
with Your Love”*

#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 near us 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)***

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## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

Linda Brainard

*Thank you to Dr. Pamalyn Lee for accompanying us on the hymns  
with her voice.*

# Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

“Gathered by Grace ~ Sent to Serve”

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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.*