

# Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

“Gathered by Grace - Sent to Serve”

“The Heart of the Matter”

Easter Sunday

April 12, 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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## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

### **EASTER PROCLAMATION**

After the events of Holy Week, the disciples are devastated. They are in the midst of full-blown grief and disbelief. Into the heart of that grief came a stunning revelation—life had overcome death. Love had won out over violence. God’s faithfulness would build them up once again. God’s love will bind them together. Is this possible in our lives? Today’s worship will say, “Yes, it can!

Come and see! Live and love!

This is the heart of the matter!” Christ is risen!

Let the people say, “Christ is risen indeed!”

**Christ is risen indeed!**

**Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
 our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
 who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
 suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
 unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
 who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
 sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
 our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
 now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!  
 where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
 praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!  
 praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!  
 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Risen Messiah,

**Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Glory be to you, whom death could not defeat. Praise to the savior of heaven and earth. Honor and glory are yours, now and forever, Christ our savior and redeemer. Amen.**

## READING

*Jeremiah 31:1-6*

At that time, declares the Lord,  
 I will be the God of all the families of Israel,  
 and they will be my people.

The Lord proclaims:  
 The people who survived the sword  
 found grace in the wilderness.  
 As Israel searched for a place of rest,  
 the Lord appeared to them from a distance:  
 I have loved you with a love that lasts forever.  
 And so with unfailing love,  
 I have drawn you to myself.

Again, I will build you up,  
and you will be rebuilt, virgin Israel.  
Again, you will play your tambourines  
and dance with joy.

Again, you will plant vineyards  
on the hills of Samaria;  
farmers will plant and then enjoy the harvests.

The time will come when  
the watchmen shout from  
the highlands of Ephraim:  
“Get ready! We’re going up to Zion  
to the Lord our God!”

## **A PRAYER**

*(based on Jeremiah 31)*

God of new dawns, new awakenings, new life,  
we hear your voice this morning saying,  
“I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love.  
With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.”

On this Easter day, you tell us we will be rebuilt and made new.  
In gratitude we hear you, Living God, and we believe you.  
And so we will celebrate the gift of new life in Christ,  
even in the midst of fear.  
You give us eyes to see through tears,  
songs to sing with throats tight with emotion.  
We know you help the weary rise up out of the ashes.  
Give us the courage to be your light and hope in this world today.  
**Amen.**

## **SONG AND SIGNS OF LOVE**

### **“WORRY STONE” INVITATION**

#### **GOSPEL**

*Matthew 28:1-10*

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb. Look, there was a great earthquake, for an angel from the Lord came down from heaven. Coming to the stone, he rolled it away and sat on it. Now his face was like lightning and his clothes as white as snow.

The guards were so terrified of him that they shook with fear and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He isn't here, because he's been raised from the dead, just as he said. Come, see the place where they laid him. Now hurry, go and tell his disciples, 'He's been raised from the dead. He's going on ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there.' I've given the message to you."

With great fear and excitement, they hurried away from the tomb and ran to tell his disciples. But Jesus met them and greeted them. They came and grabbed his feet and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid. Go and tell my brothers that I am going into Galilee. They will see me there."

## MESSAGE

**HYMN**            *"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*            **#367**

**Now all the vault of heav'n resounds  
in praise of love that still abounds:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Eternal is the gift he brings,  
therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Now still he comes to give us life  
and by his presence stills all strife.  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
set heart and will on things above  
that we conquer through your triumph;  
grant grace sufficient for life's day  
that by our lives we truly say:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Adoring praises now we bring  
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
Be to the Father, and our Lord,  
to Spirit blest, most holy God,  
all the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt. Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **COMFORT FOOD – A FEAST OF LOVE**

### **PRAYER**

Holy Comforter

**Holy Comforter**

We gather in your name...

**We gather in your name...**

invited by Jesus...

**invited by Jesus...**

bound together with your Spirit...

**bound together with your Spirit...**

in union with each other...

**in union with each other.**

Feed our bodies and our spirits...

**Feed our bodies and our spirits...**

with your comforting presence...

**with your comforting presence...**

so that we might be your comfort to others...

**so that we might be your comfort to others...**

Bless this food...

**Bless this food...**

and break open our hearts...

**and break open our hearts...**

Bless this drink...

**Bless this drink...**

and pour out your love...

**and pour out your love...**

Amen...

**Amen!**

## SHARING THE PEACE

And now may you shelter not only in place, but in peace. May the peace and comfort of Christ be present with you now and forevermore. **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.**

## INVITATION TO THE EASTER SEASON

### EASTER PRAYER

We know Jesus is present among us...  
**We know Jesus is present among us...**  
even in this very home...  
**even in this very home...**  
We will not let fear be louder than love...  
**We will not let fear be louder than love...**  
but with glad hearts and rejoicing souls...  
**but with glad hearts and rejoicing souls...**  
we will sing God's praise...  
**we will sing God's praise...**  
for we are Easter People...!  
**for we are Easter People!**

## **Benediction**

*(based on Psalm 16)*

As we close this time together, remember:

God is always with you. No matter what you face,  
no matter what trials or hardships come your way,  
God is right beside you, raising your very life from death,  
guiding and directing your path.

So, acknowledge your fear and your worry  
and know it is as true and holy as any feeling,  
including joy and hope and love.

Take heart, my friends! This is the heart of the matter.

Let the people say, **Amen!**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*“Thine Is the Glory”*

**#376**

**Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!  
Angels in bright raiment  
rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes  
where thy body lay.**

*Refrain:*

**Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!**

**Lo, Jesus meets thee,  
risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly he greets thee,  
scatters fear and gloom;  
let his church with gladness  
hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth;  
death hath lost its sting! (*Refrain*)**



**No more we doubt thee,  
glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee;  
aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conqu'rors,  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan  
to thy home above. (*Refrain*)**

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939

## **DISMISSAL**

**Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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# 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.*