

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

“Gathered by Grace - Sent to Serve”

4th Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 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.

ORDER OF SERVICE *The assembly speaks the bold verses*

WELCOME

This is God's house, and so as we gather for worship
I greet you on behalf of the master of this house, its builder;
and the master of this house, its heir;
and the master of this house, the Spirit that fills it and warms its chambers.
In this house there are many rooms so that you –
whether you're standing on the porch this morning, looking in,
or standing in the kitchen, getting ready to bring bread and wine to the table –
might find a place you can call home.
Let the people say Amen!
Amen!

LIGHTING OUR CANDLES

Remembering that Jesus Christ is always present with us through the Holy Spirit, we light our candles.

Silence for Individual Prayer and Reflection

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (*you are invited to pour water into a bowl*)

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise, O God,
for you are the wellspring of life,
you are the author of salvation,
you are the giver of every good and perfect gift.

To this day,
you shower your people with life.

In the beginning your spirit hovered over the misty waters of creation,
and by your word you formed life and splendor.

Through the waters of the flood you renewed the face of the earth.
On Noah's ark, you sheltered the human family
along with living creatures of earth, sea, and sky.
We name some before you now.

To this day,
you shower your people with life.

In the wilderness Hagar and Ishmael discovered your well of water,
and after leading your people Israel out of bondage and through the sea,
you nourished them with water from the rock.
We name our sources of water before you now.

To this day,
you shower your people with life.

At the river Jordan
your people crossed into the land flowing with milk and honey,
Naaman washed away his leprosy,
and the valley of dry bones grew moist with breath.
We name our dead loved ones who live before you now.

To this day,
you shower your people with life.

At the wedding feast, guests celebrated with water turned into wine.
At the well, living water satisfied the thirst of the Samaritan woman.
At your seat of mercy, you bring forth a river bright as crystal,
with a tree of life for the healing of the nations.
We name villages and towns, cities and nations, before you now.

To this day,
you shower your people with life.

On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry
announces your reign of peace come near.
By Jesus' own baptism with water and the Holy Spirit,
the way of everlasting life is open to all people.
We name those to be baptized/those remembering their baptism before you now.

To this day,
you shower your people with life.

Come down, O Love divine.
Pour out your Holy Spirit.
Be our rock.
Dry our tears.
Make us one.

Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.
To you be given honor and praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

What does Baptism give or profit?

Baptism effects forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, just as the words and promises of God declare.

How can water do such great things?

It is not the water that does these things, but the Word of God which is in and with the water, and faith which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without the Word of God the water is simply water, and not baptism; but with the Word of God it is a baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says, Titus 3:5-8: “According to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior; that having been justified by His grace, we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying.” – *from Luther’s Small Catechism*

The assembly/yourself/your family may be showered (sprinkled) with water.

HYMN

“Beautiful Savior”

#838
(vs. 1-3)

**Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**

**Fair are the meadows,
fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine,
fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.**

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

DAILY EXAMEN – MY THOUGHTS, WORDS, AND DEEDS

Daily Examen – My Thoughts, Words and Deeds

1. Become aware of God’s presence.

Ask God to make Jesus’ presence known. Sense God’s presence around you and in you. Rest in God’s presence. Soak it in.

2. Review the day with gratitude.

Spend a few moments in gratitude, thanking God for blessings big and small.

3. Pay attention to your emotions.

Spend a little extra time asking God for a double dose of grace to pray this particular Examen. It is difficult because it demands that you look at some of the darker parts of your personality. You can easily fall into one of two traps: either denying that you have a problem or unlovingly condemn yourself. You need the extra grace to allow God to lead in a firm but unconditionally loving way.

4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.

Looking over your day, ask God to show you what **fears** were predominant in your heart. Try to dig deeply and see what you are really afraid of (it might not be what you expect). As soon as you name that fear, simply take note of it. Looking over your day, ask God to show you any **attachments** to which you have been clinging to lately – a person, an idea, a behavior. Take note of your attachment(s). Ask God to show you any situation in which you're trying too hard to exert **control** – people, organizations, outcomes. It's difficult to admit when you're controlling, so ask God for the courage to do so. Acknowledge where you have been controlling. Ask God to show you where you have notions of **entitlement**. When have you said, "I'm the victim here. I have a right to blow up, to pout, to be passive, to feel sorry for myself"? When have you felt you deserve something or more important than another person? Name your entitlement. Ask God to show you how these are affecting your life right now. Ask for insight and forgiveness.

5. Look toward tomorrow.

Ask God to show you what tomorrow may look like if I didn't allow these issues to rule me. How would your emotions, thoughts, words, and actions be different? Pray, "Lord, today I wish to turn over my fear, attachments, control, entitlements (f.a.c.e.). I ask you to take over and become the Lord of my life rather than let this issue lord over me." Listen for God's voice through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

#752

(sing 3 times)

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943. Text © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DRAMATIC READING FROM ACTS 17:1-9

After leaving Philippi and passing through Amphipolis and Apollonia, our group came to Thessalonica. There was a Jewish synagogue there. As Paul had done in other cities, he attended the synagogue and presented arguments, based on the Hebrew Scriptures, that the Anointed One had to suffer and rise from the dead. He preached that the arisen Anointed One was Jesus.

Paul returned the following two Sabbaths—retelling the same story. Some of the ethnically Jewish people from the synagogue were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas.

Even more devout Greeks who had affiliated with Judaism came to believe—along with quite a few of the city's leading women.

Seeing this movement growing, the unconvinced Jewish people became protective and angry. They found some ruffians hanging out in the marketplaces and convinced them to help start a riot. Soon a mob formed, and the whole city was seething with tension. The mob went street by street, looking for Paul and Silas—who were nowhere to be found. Frustrated, the mob went to the house of a man named Jason, now known as a believer, they grabbed him and some other believers they found there and dragged them to the city officials.

The disgruntled Jewish people claimed Paul and Silas were political agitators turning the world upside down! They accused Jason of giving them sanctuary and making his house a base for their operations. Paul's real intent, they said was to start a revolt against Caesar. His followers worshipped Jesus, the new king, not Caesar.

Of course, this disturbed the city at large and the city officials especially, so they demanded bail from Jason and the others before releasing them.

MESSAGE

Pastor Andrea Fluegel

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, in reaffirmation of our baptism, I'm going to ask you to say "no" to the things that hurt you and others, and to say "yes" to God. Some of our words will be short and simple, and some will be long and complicated, but all will tell the story of God's love for you and for the whole world.

Do you say "no" to hate, "no" to violence, "no" to greed, and "no" to everything else that is the opposite of God's peace, mercy, justice, and love?

I say no to them.

Do you say "no" to rules, "no" to habits, "no" to traditions, "no" to prejudices that go against God's hopes and dreams for the world?

I say no to them.

Do you say "no" to the things you do but shouldn't, "no" to the temptation to do nothing when action is needed, "no" to everything that pulls you away from God?

I say no to them.

I ask you now to say "yes" to God with the words used by Christians at their baptism since the very earliest days of the church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Share the sign of Christ's peace with someone next to you, or by texting, calling or sending someone a note today.

OFFERING

RESPONSIVE ACTION/SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Father Richard Rohr, founder of the Center of Action and Contemplation, says that he prays for at least one humiliation a day to keep him humble. Small daily humiliations like saying something stupid, or forgetting an appointment, or tripping over our own feet can help us grow in humility. These humiliations are inner experiences and are simply a part of everyday life. We come to them by our own mistakes. They help us grow in humility, for they are constant reminders of our imperfections.

However, when humiliations come from the outside, from people who use humiliation to punish or manipulate, the virtue of humility is not fostered. Parents and teachers who intentionally humiliate children to rid them of the sin of pride, or those in authority who humiliate others for the sake of control can cause deep wounds that hamper growth and freedom. Sometimes these wounds can be healed and transformed, resulting in humility, but these are not the humiliations that Father Rohr was praying for. Theologian Carol Zaleski wrote in an article on humility in the Christian Century, "Humiliation is an affliction; humility is a gift." Remember one humiliating experience that came from within and one that came from outside. How were they different, and what effect did they have on you? Who in your life is a model of humility? How do you know that they are humble?

(from "Fully Awake and Truly Alive" by Rev. Jane E. Vennard, page 154).

HYMN

"This Is My Father's World"

#824

**This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.**

**This is my Father's world;
oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.**

**This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
God reigns, let earth be glad!**

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
you are the bread of life that nourishes and sustains us.
Since we today cannot gather to share the bread and cup,
dwell in our hearts
and reveal to us again that we are the body of Christ:
in our vulnerable flesh,
through our baptism into your death and resurrection,
and in service to the world you love.
Be for us manna in the wilderness.
Open our eyes to see you present in every meal
and in all who hunger for bread,
for human touch,
and for healing and hope.

Help us to remember
Your presence is the living impulse in all things,
the Christ deep among us,
filling Earth—land, sea, and air;
filling every element and place;
filling the grain and the grape we share as your children.

On the night of his betrayal and arrest,
Jesus taught us how to serve one another in love
with a ritual of table fellowship,
scandalous in its welcome of all people.
On that night, he took bread,
gave thanks and broke it,
giving it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat.
This is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

We pray in your name, our healer and companion. **Amen.**

*Communion will be distributed to household unit by scheduled times through the church website
or by contacting the church office.*

THE 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.**

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in
accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by
the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ✕ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

You have heard the story. Go in peace to tell and live it.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



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.*