

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

“Gathered by Grace - Sent to Serve”

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 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

Just as God’s work of creation never ends,
so the gifts we receive in baptism are renewed every day.
Let’s give thanks together for the life given us in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:
for water to bathe in, water to drink,
for waters to play in and waters of beauty,
for water that inspires wonder, and water that gives life to our planet.
We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place:
for water from our tap, for rain and snow,
for the Great Lakes, the Wisconsin River, the Chain, our many lakes and streams.
We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.

We give you thanks for your salvation through water:
for delivering Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,
for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom,
for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought,
for healing your servant Naaman from his leprosy,
for guiding your people across the river Jordan into new beginnings,
for quenching the thirst of the Samaritan woman with living water.
We give you thanks, O God, for your salvation through water.

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized:
for all who gather here,
for our godparents and baptismal sponsors,
for children and grandchildren, and those whose baptismal promises we hold,
for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.
We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

We give you thanks for life in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit:
for our entry into Christ's death through these waters,
for our new birth into a life of freedom and service,
for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.
We give you thanks, Holy Trinity, now and forever.
Amen.

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

HYMN

"God Is Here!"

#526
(vs. 1 & 4)

**God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.**

**Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!**

DAILY EXAMEN – MY THOUGHTS, WORDS AND DEEDS

“Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” – Matthew 25:40

1. **Become aware of God’s presence.**

Begin by quieting yourself and turning down the volume on random thoughts, your to-do list, and anything that may preoccupy you. Ask God to make Jesus’ presence known. Sense God’s presence around you and in you.

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.**

Ask God, “Of the people I encountered today, who was the most outcast? The weakest and most fragile? The most difficult for me to be around? Replay the moment when you encountered this person. Ask God for forgiveness for any thoughts, words, or actions that were unkind or uncharitable to this person. Thank God for the moments when you seemed to have the right disposition.

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

Ask God, “What do you see when you see this person? What do you have to say to me, O God, about this person?”

5. **Look toward tomorrow.**

Ask God, “What am I called to do for this person? Who am I called to be for this person?” Get more specific, “God, what, if anything, am I called to do or be for this person tomorrow?” Ask God to give you the ability to do these things. Listen for God’s voice through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

#726

**Light dawns on a weary world
when eyes begin to see
all people's dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world:
the promised day of justice comes.**

Refrain

**The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.**

**Love grows in a weary world
when hungry hearts find bread
and children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world:
the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain***

**Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn,
find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain***

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READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

The Hebrew word, *hineni*, translated, "here I am," is found in multiple places in the Hebrew scriptures. Rabbis of the Talmud taught that we respond to God, to the highest call in the universe, when we are present to those whom we love. I think presence is the word we might use today to describe this highest calling to first respond to God and from there to respond to others, "Here I am, present to you."

Our gifts are constantly being called forth. When we are present to the needs of others and offer our gifts to individuals, groups, or the wider world, we are practicing service. Sometimes our gifts are being called forth in a clear request. Other times our gifts are needed in places and by people who do not ask. Recognizing those needs when we return to the world with our hearts open, we are able to respond to others with integrity. Presbyterian Pastor Fredrick Buechner put it this way: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's hunger meet."

Sharing our gifts from a loving and generous heart helps us become fully alive. If our practice of service makes us feel resentful or beholden, we are not sharing our gifts as a genuine response to the needs of the world. When we become aware of those feelings, it is time to withdraw for a while and look closely at what we are doing. Sometimes we have said yes to a request out of guilt or with the hope of being liked and appreciated. Other times we may become attached to specific outcomes, and our service becomes controlling or forced. It could be that the need we have responded to does not use our gifts or we have discovered we don't really have the gifts required for the task. Paying attention to our feelings evoked by our acts of service can guide us in our practice.

(from "Fully Awake and Truly Alive" by Rev. Jane E. Vennard, pages 124-125).

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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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

Announcements

* We are offering outside communion under the portico. The portico will protect us from the elements so that we can still have communion if it rains. Note that this is not “drive up” communion. You will need to park your car near the portico and then walk to it. Communion will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please call the church office and leave a voicemail message with the day and time you prefer. We will contact you.

* DVD’s of the previous Sunday’s worship are now available at POP! Please contact the church office via telephone (715-479-9263) if you would like one.

*Hand-made **Mask Extension Bands** are now available at POP. (*You can pick one or more up when you come for outdoor Communion!*) This is a woven band with a button on each end that allows you to connect your facemask elastic to the buttons and **NOT** over your ears. This is especially helpful for people who wear glasses and/or hearing aids!

* A note of thanks for you from Rollin Siegfried:

I would like to thank the members and friends of Prince of Peace who noted and sent sympathy cards following the passing of my daughter, Jennifer Keller. She was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. A memorial service was held on June 27, 2020. All thoughts and prayers were greatly appreciated.

* Please see the attached flyer from the ADRC (Aging Disability Resource Center) of Vilas County regarding their upcoming online **Powerful Tools for Caregivers** class. Please contact them for more information.

* Lawn care is **still needed** this summer even though there is no public worship. Please call 715-479-9263 to sign up. Thank you to those who have signed up to help.

* Thank you so much for thinking about the Northland Pines School District students and families. There will be a green tote outside the main doors of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (*under the portico*) for food drop-off from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays**. Please do not drop off expired food or items passed their sell-by dates. We are unable to use them.

* We would appreciate your support of the mission of Prince of Peace so that we can continue worship and other ministries. You can give any amount by mailing a check to us at P.O. Box 535, Eagle River, WI 54521.

CURRENT PHASE: 1

- Fully digital worship and fellowship
- Individually scheduled communion under portico available
- 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.*