

# PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*“A Disciple Making Community”*

*“KNOW, GROW, and GO”*

West Salem, Wisconsin  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024



## Our Mission:

“Prince of Peace exists to be a disciple making community for the Lord Jesus Christ”

## Our Message:

“We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”

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## **Holy Communion at Prince of Peace, LCMS**

*The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod practices “Close Communion” as an expression of unity in doctrine (1 Corinthians 10:16-17; Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 1:10). When a person partakes of the Sacrament at the Altar he is also confessing his unreserved agreement with that church body’s doctrine. Because of doctrinal differences existing between the Missouri Synod and other Lutheran bodies, and also with other denominations, we cannot expect their members to make that kind of confession at our altar, nor do we desire anyone to compromise his own convictions and his church body’s teachings. Therefore, our practice of “Close Communion” admits only those in doctrinal agreement who are members of congregations of the Missouri Synod.*

*The Holy Sacrament requires a mature participation which includes self-examination (1 Corinthians 11:28). Scripture also warns against “unworthy” reception (impenitence or unbelief) which would bring God’s judgment on the recipient: 1 Corinthians 11:27; 1 Corinthians 11:29. Thus, out of loving concern for all, and commitment to the Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, we practice “Close Communion”. We thank you for your cooperation and respect for our practice.*

*Those who will not be communing, but would like to receive a blessing are invited to come forward. Please cross your arms on your chest to indicate that you are requesting a blessing. May the Holy Spirit bless us all as we “Search the Scriptures” (John 5:39), and humbly strive to “Continue in His Word.” (John 8:31) Please speak to an elder if you have questions concerning communion.*

### **Theme**

Believers in Christ receive the forgiveness of sins through His name. As baptized believers, we are called to love one another, clinging to God’s promises and bound by His commands. Our love for God is marked by obedience to His will. God’s love for us is marked by Christ’s obedience on the cross. In Christ, we have a faith that grasps, believes, and confesses Him to be the Son of God. This is our victory in overcoming the world.

**Order of Service:**

**Divine Service I, page 151ff**

**Opening Hymn**

**556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (1-4)**

**Confession and Absolution**

**(LSB p. 151)**

## Service of the Word

(LSB p.152-160)

### Introit

*Psalm 66:1-2, 8-9, 20; antiphon: v. 16*

Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
**and I will tell what he has done for my soul.**

Shout for joy to God, all the earth;  
**sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!**

Bless our God, O peoples;  
**let the sound of his praise be heard,**  
who has kept our soul among the living  
**and has not let our feet slip.**

Blessèd be God,  
**because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**  
**and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
**and I will tell what he has done for my soul.**

### Kyrie

(LSB p.152)

Hymn of Praise      “Gloria in Excelsis”

(LSB p.154)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

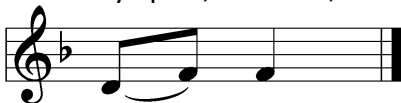
(LSB p. 156)

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## First Reading: Acts 10:34–48

Acts 10:34–48

<sup>34</sup>Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Christ has risen from the dead.

**[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.**

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

**he has put all things under his feet.**

## Epistle: 1 John 5:1–8

1 John 5:1–8

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel: John 15:9–17

John 15:9–17



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup>[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.  
<sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my  
Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you,  
that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.  
<sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends.  
<sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants,  
for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends,  
for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not  
choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and  
that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may  
give it to you. <sup>17</sup>These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children’s Sermon

Hymn of the Day            556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (5-10)

Sermon            “Life in the Vine”            John 15:9-17

Nicene Creed            (LSB p. 158/ Inside back cover of LSB)

## Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all who come and hear God’s Word, that they would rightly fear God and  
learn what He has done for their souls, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the work of our missionaries, that in every nation there would be people who fear God, do what is right and, believing in Jesus, receive forgiveness of sins through His name, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the people of God, that like our Lord Jesus who loved the world and laid down His life for all, they also may lay down their lives for others in love, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our nation's leaders, that God would cause them to serve wisely for our good in accord with His revealed order; and though we do not always know what the Master is doing by the authorities He gives, that we would make ample use of the freedom Jesus has given in His name to ask the Father for everything as friends and fellow sons, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that they would receive from God all His good gifts of healing for the body, grace to bear the cross, and finally a blessed end and the gift of eternal life in His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who come to the Holy Supper, that having received the testimony of God in the water of Baptism, they may also receive it in the body and blood of Jesus and so overcome the world by faith in Him, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

**(LSB p.159)**

**Service of the Sacrament**

**(LSB p. 160-166)**

**Distribution Hymns**

**655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word**

**683 Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me**

**779 Come, My Soul, with Every Care**

**Thank the Lord**

**(LSB p. 164)**

**Post-Communion Collect**

**(LSB p. 166)**

**Benediction**

**(LSB p. 166)**

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**Closing Hymn**

**829 Christ the Eternal Lord**

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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