

**Third Sunday after Epiphany**  
Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:00 a.m.



was teaching in  
their synagogues,  
and everyone  
praised him.

—*Luke 4:15, NIV*—



*“Touched by the Gospel, we seek to be instruments of God’s Peace,  
for the sake of the World.”*

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**  
1747 W. Milham Avenue ♦ Portage, MI 49024  
Pastor Rachel Laughlin  
Church phone: 269/343-3453 ♦ fax: 269/343-2025  
Website: [popportage.org](http://popportage.org)  
Find us on Facebook: *Prince of Peace, Portage, MI-ELCA*



## Welcome in the name of Christ!

### Worshiping with kids?

- ❖ We love having people of all ages and abilities worshiping together!
- ❖ Wiggles and noise are welcome!
- ❖ Coloring materials are available. Just ask an usher.

### Wondering about communion?

- ❖ We believe Christ is fully present in the meal and it is Christ who invites us to share it.
- ❖ All are welcome to share communion with us regardless of age or faith tradition.
- ❖ Wheat bread, gluten free wafers, wine, and grape juice are available.

### Want to know more about our community?

- ❖ We strive to be an open, welcoming place for all people.
- ❖ Pastor Rachel enjoys meeting people after worship but never wants anyone to feel pressured to talk to her. Come say hi!
- ❖ Visit the welcome table in the gathering space if you have questions about Lutherans, the Christian faith, or Prince of Peace; if you have a specific prayer request, or want to share your contact information so we can get back to you about something in particular.

Thank you for joining us for worship today. May God bless you and give you peace this week.

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

*Worshippers responses in bold. Stand, as directed, if able.*

*Sit*

#### **Welcome**

#### **Music for the Beginning of Worship**

*“The Rice of Life”  
Worship Team*

I-to Loh

*Stand*

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

*“Your Heart, O God, Is Grieved”*

No. 602

#### **Gathering Song**

*“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”*

No. 519

#### **Greeting**

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

**All: And also with you.**

#### **Prayer of the Day**

**All: Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Sit*

#### **The Children’s Sermon**

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

**First Reading**

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

Psalm 19

Reader: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork. One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another. Although they have no words or language and their voices are not heard, their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

*Low: It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.*

High: It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

*Low: The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.*

High: The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

*Low: The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.*

High: More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

*Low: By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.*

Reader: Who can detect one's own offenses?

**All: Cleanse me from my secret faults. Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

**Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

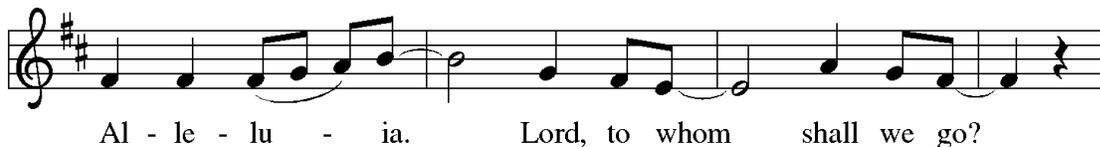
Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel Reading**

Luke 4:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Stand  
Hymn of the Day

“When Our Song Says Peace”

No. 709

**Apostles’ Creed**

Asst: Joining the saints of every time and place, we confess our faith:

All: **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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 Church**

5 Christ, our peace. You break down the walls that di - vide us;  
Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod - y in you.

After “Generous God,” worshipers respond “**Pour out your Love.**”  
Sing “**Christ, Our Peace**” after the completion of the intercessory prayers.

**WE SHARE IN HIS MEAL**

**Sharing of the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

Worshippers share a sign of God’s peace with one another, greeting each other with words like  
“Peace be with you. . . And also with you.”

Sit  
Offering

Please **date** and complete the fellowship registration pad.

**Offering Music**

“Rejoice in the Mission”

Appalachian Traditional, adapt. & arr. Dori Erwin

Worship Team

*Oh, the Lord came down from heav’n, tiny baby, great physician,  
gave his body and his blood to live out a holy mission.  
His disciples, they went out to fulfill the great commission;  
with a seed of faith so small, learned a diff’rent kind of fishin’.  
Will we go?*

Refrain

*And we’ll all share the vision, who in Christ we all shall be.  
Come, rejoice in the mission of a new community.  
In this place where we gather, Jesus, still our restless souls;  
to your Spirit we will listen. We will go.*

*As we ponder and we plan in this age of great transition,  
we will keep the word of God at the heart of each decision.  
Praise the Father, Lord of love; praise the Christ, in glory risen;  
praise the Spirit, by whose pow'r we will share the gifts we're given— as we go.*

Refrain

*And we'll all share the vision, who in Christ we all shall be.  
Come, rejoice in the mission of a new community.  
In this place where we gather, Jesus, still our restless souls;  
to your Spirit we will listen. We will go.*

Stand

### Offering Response



1 In my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;  
2 In our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;  
3 In your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;  
4 In your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;



in my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.  
in our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.  
in your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.  
in your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.

### Liturgical Hand Washing

*I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord, singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,  
and telling all your wondrous deeds. – Psalm 26:6-7*

Since the early days of the Church, washing with water has been a custom that symbolizes separation from sin. We are returning to this ancient practice to ensure leaders have clean hands before they handle the elements. Fun fact: the bowl for holding the water is called a *lavabo*.

### Offering Prayer

Asst: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.

All: Amen.

### Great Thanksgiving - Grace Before the Meal

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

### The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### Invitation to the Meal

Pastor: No matter the church of your membership, the form of your baptism, or where you are on the journey with God, a place has been prepared for you at this table, God's table. So come and eat, for all is ready and all are welcome.

Sit

### Holy Communion

All who hunger and thirst for Christ's presence in their life are invited to share the Lord's Supper with us, the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. You should have received pre-packaged elements when you arrived for worship. If you did not, please indicate to an Usher that you would like the elements and they will bring them to you. Please wait for the presiding minister to instruct the congregation when to open and receive each element. When the pastor says, "The body of Christ, given for you" and, "The blood of Christ, shed for you," you may respond by saying, "Amen."

Signal an usher or communion assistant if you need assistance opening the packaging to get the wafer or grape juice.

Please place your empty cup in the basket when the communion assistant brings it to you

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

### Communion Hymns

"Here Is Bread"  
"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

No. 483  
No. 843

### Table Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

All: Amen.

Asst.: We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

### WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

### Announcements

Worshippers are invited to share announcements not listed in the weekly Peace Proclamations:

blessings: like anniversaries, birthdays, births or new jobs, prayer concerns and answered prayers. So that all in the sanctuary and on the livestream can see and hear you, please move to the pulpit to give your announcement. You may remove your mask while you speak. Please put it back on as you return to your seat."

*Stand*

**Final Blessing**

Pastor: God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

**All: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

“Let Streams of Living Justice”

No. 710

**Dismissal**

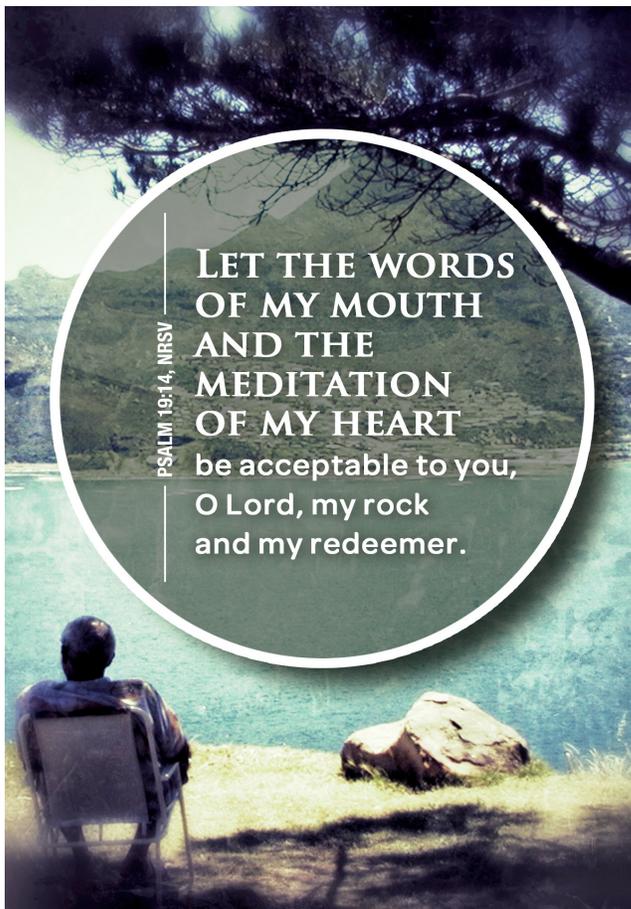
Asst: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Music for the Close of Worship**

“Be My Home”  
*Worship Team*

Handt Hanson & Paul Murakami



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**This Week's Servers**

**January 23, 2022**

Worship Asst.: Nancy Pederson  
Reader: Tom Pederson  
Ushers: Don Eklov  
Sound System: Paul Guthrie  
Video Switcher: Mark Clyne  
Technology Coor.: Michael Whately  
Greeters:  
Sacristy Asst.: Kathy Eklov  
Communion Asst.: Gail MacNellis, Marilyn Storch  
Altar Guild: Laila Poisson  
Church Lockup: Karen Clyne

**Next Week's Servers**

**January 30, 2022**

Worship Asst.: Noel Sederstrom  
Reader: Megan Floyd  
Ushers: Don Eklov  
Sound System: Bill Floyd  
Video Switcher: Mark Clyne  
Technology Coor.: Michael Whately  
Greeters:  
Sacristy Asst.: Kathy Eklov  
Communion Asst.: Claudia Lee, Duran Cooper  
Altar Guild: Linda Timm  
Church Lockup: TBD

Use this QR code to donate online to  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
and it's ministries.  
See the Peace Proclamations for more details.



**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Staff**

Church phone: 269/343-3453

**Staff**

**Pastor:** Rachel Laughlin-ext. 13  
**Youth Minister:** Megan Floyd-ext. 12  
**Administrative Asst:** Tamara Preston-ext. 10  
**Accountant:** Marilyn Storch-ext. 17  
**Volunteer Coor:** Mike Whately-ext. 15

**Technology Manager:** Mike Whately-15  
**Music Director:** Janet Hill  
**Custodian:** Steve Haddix  
**Worship Team Director:** Scott Walker  
**Nursery:** Amanda Bischof



## 1. Face Coverings are Required in the building

- To attend worship and other in person events you **MUST** wear a properly fitting mask that covers both your nose and mouth.

## 2. Keep YOURSELF safe Please consider attending remotely if:

- You have not had a COVID vaccine or booster in the past 6 months
- You have other health problems like cancer, heart disease, lung disease, kidney disease, or other problems.
- You cannot safely or comfortably wear a face covering for the duration of the worship service or event you would like to attend.

## 3. Keep OTHERS safe You must participate from home if:

- You have had a known COVID or influenza exposure in the past 10 days
- You have ANY symptoms of COVID (*fever, chills, sore throat, cough, congestion, persistent headache, muscle aches*) even if they're mild!
- You have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are still in your quarantine period