

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 6, 2025



*"Touched by the Gospel, we see 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
Prayer-mail: prayer@popportage.org
Find us on Facebook: *Prince of Peace, Portage, MI-ELCA*

Welcome in the name of Christ!



Worshipping with kids?

- ❖ We love having people of all ages and abilities worshipping together!
- ❖ There is a family restroom in the Gathering Space and a changing table in the nursery to accommodate your family's needs.
- ❖ The nursery is staffed from 10-12 on Sundays. You can drop your youngster off before worship begins or at any time during the service.
- ❖ Children are invited forward during the Children's sermon, where they can hear the bible story told in words and context they can understand. Older siblings and other friends are welcome to accompany children if that would make them more comfortable.
- ❖ Children's bibles are available in the pews, and ushers can provide children's bulletins upon request.
- ❖ Wiggles and noise are welcome! If your child needs more room to move, feel free to take them to the Playground in the Gathering Space. This area is stocked with quiet activities, coloring pages, and kid-sized furniture. This is also a great spot to enjoy refreshments after the conclusion of the worship service!

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.
- ❖ Gluten free bread and 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.
- ❖ Our sabbatical pastors enjoy meeting people after worship but never wants anyone to feel pressured to talk to them. 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

Music for the Beginning of Worship

"Come, Let Us Eat"

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Pastor: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Pastor: Merciful God,

All: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

Pastor: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

All: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Come, All You People"

No. 819

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sit

The Children's Sermon

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

First Reading

Isaiah 66:10-14

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her — that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom.

For thus says the Lord: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with his servants, and his indignation is against his enemies.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 66:1-9

Reader: Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.

All: Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.

Choir Side: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

Pulpit Side: All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sings out your name."

Reader: Come now and see the works of God, how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.
 Choir Side: God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, and there we rejoiced in God.
Pulpit Side: Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations; let no rebels exalt themselves.
 Reader: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.
All: Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.

Second Reading

Galatians 6:1-16

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. or all must carry their own loads. Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised – only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule – peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' "

"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

Pastor Kate Van Valkenburg

Stand

Hymn of the Day

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

No. 659

vs. 1, 3, 5 - All, vs. 2 - High, vs. 4 - Low

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



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

*After "Generous God," worshipers respond "Pour out your love."
Repeat "Change My Heart, O God" after completion of the intercessory prayers.*

WE SHARE IN HIS MEAL

Sharing the Peace

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

All: And also with you.

*Worshipers 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



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:

build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!

rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,

feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.

Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,

shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

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*

Offering Prayer

Asst: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

Stand

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

1

You are ho-ly you are whole. You are al-ways ev-er - more than we ev-er un-der - stand.

6

— You are al-ways at hand, Bless-ed are you com-ing near. — Bless-ed are you com-ing here

12

— to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

16

2

— You are ho - ly, — you are whole - ness, — you are pre - sent. —

22

— Let the cos-mos praise you Lord! — Sing ho - san - na — in the high - est! —

28

— Sing ho - san - na! — Sing ho - san - na to our God!

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given to you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 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: If you desire to receive what God offers, come to this Table. Come with your faith and your doubt. Come with your questions and your hopes. Come with your grief and your love. Come taste the Lord's goodness. There is room for you here because this is Christ's table. You are welcome.

Sit

Holy Communion - the Lord's Supper

All are welcome at Christ's table regardless of age or membership status. All communion servers will have sanitized their hands before handling the communion elements. Ushers will direct you to come forward. The pastor and assisting minister will distribute the gluten-free bread and other servers will distribute the wine (red) or grape juice (white). Individually packaged gluten free wafers and sets of completely sealed elements (wheat wafer and grape juice) are available on stands near the bread distributors. You may pick one of those up yourself, if you prefer. You may place your empty cup in the baskets on the stands as you return to your seat.

If you prefer not to receive communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over you chest to indicate your preference to the servers.

Lamb of God

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie-dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Table Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: **Amen.**

Asst: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

All: **Amen.**

Sending of Communion

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent.

Pastor: O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger, bless those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our siblings who are *sick/homebound/imprisoned*. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 present on person and livestreaming can see and hear you, **come up the ramp to the chancel then go to the pulpit** to give your announcement.*

Stand

Final Blessing

Pastor: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

All: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

No. 535

Repeat refrain at beginning, repeat verses and then refrain twice

Dismissal

Asst: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Music for the Close of Worship

"God's Work, Our Hands"

arr. Michael Burkhardt

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This Week's Servers

July 6, 2025

Presiding Minister: Kate Van Valkenburg
Sabbatical Host: Jolaine Snyder
Worship Asst.: Jolaine Snyder
Acolytes:
Reader: Tammy Cooper
Ushers: Greg Guthrie
Technology: Mark Clyne, Paul Guthrie, Mike Whately
Prayer Station: Karen Adams
Sacristy Asst.: Laila Poisson
Communion Assts.:
Altar Guild: Dorothy Tisland
Fellowship:
Nursery: Cassie Whately
Church Lockup: Laurie Brown
Mowers: None needed

Next Week's Servers

July 13, 2025



Presiding Minister: Bob Linstrom
Sabbatical Host: Bette MacKenzie
Worship Asst.: Steve Pendziszewski
Acolytes:
Reader: Beth Whately
Ushers:
Technology: Jackson Seguin, Mike Whately
Prayer Station: Jan Ellwitz
Sacristy Asst.: Laila Poisson
Communion Assts.: Pam Timm, Randi Martin
Altar Guild: Gail MacNellis
Fellowship: Jessica Mataverde, Kristie Zimmerman
Nursery:
Church Lockup: Jenny Deming
Mowers: Steve Creed, Tom Palarz

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



Hearing Aid Compatible Assistive Listening System



1. Use this  QR code connect to the "pop_listen" Wi-fi network.
2. Use this QR  Code to download the *Listen Everywhere* app, either from the Apple Store or the Google Play Store.



3. On your phone go to your settings. Tap on Connections, tap on Wi-fi, look for the "pop_listen" network and tap on it.
4. Then find your "Listen Everywhere" app, open it and tap on "POP Service"
5. After that you should be receiving audio in your hearing aids. If you need assistance, see an Usher.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Staff

Church phone: 269/343-3453

Staff

Pastor: Rachel Laughlin
Administrative Asst: Tamara Preston
Accountant: Marilyn Storch
Technology Manager: Mike Whately
Engagement: Em Witteveen

Music Director: Janet Hill
Custodian: Steve Haddix
Nursery: Melissa Copeland
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