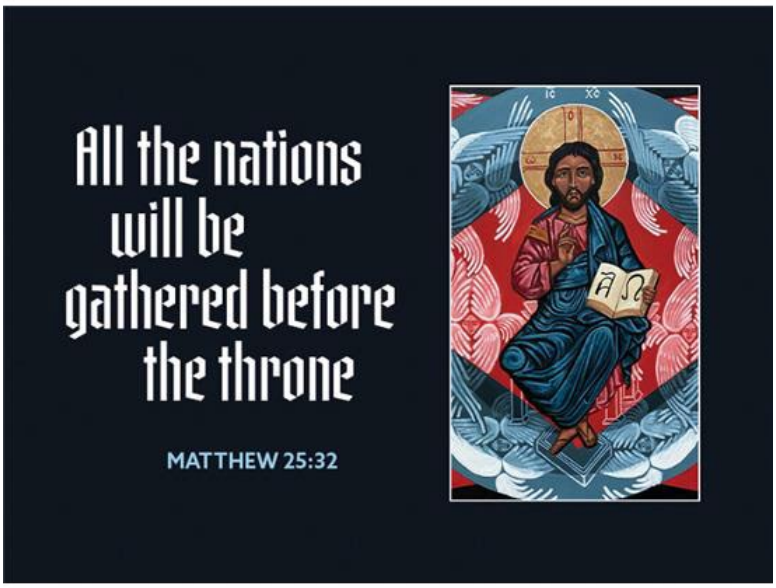
CHRIST THE KING

November 22, 2026 10:30 a.m.



"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
Prayer-mail: prayer@popportage.org
Find us on Facebook: *Prince of Peace, Portage, MI-ELCA*

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF CHRIST!

Entering Worship

- Fully accessible restrooms (men's, women's, single-stall) are located behind you as you face the altar. The women's room and nursery have changing tables.
- People of all ages and stages are encouraged to worship together. A staffed nursery is available 9 AM – Noon.
- Many people enjoy prayerful quiet in the Sanctuary before worship begins to help center themselves. By keeping conversation in the Gathering Space before worship, you are giving the gift of this peace to your neighbors.
- All are welcome to share Christ's communion regardless of age or faith tradition. The bread is gluten, nut, and dairy free. Wine and grape juice are available.

Embodying Praise

- Postures are a way in which we engage the body in worship. These movements (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross) are optional; please engage in them only as you are comfortable or able.
- Some brains need a quiet activity to help them learn. Feel free to borrow a worship bag or a fidget toy to help your brain and body stay engaged. Ask an usher for assistance.
- If your body would benefit from extra motion during worship, you are welcome to get up and move about during the service. The Prayground in front of the left pews is equipped with quiet activities and soft toys for little ones. Parents are invited to sit nearby to assist children in engaging in worship in an age-appropriate manner. The service is audible in the Gathering Space, if you need to step out for a time. For children who need a louder place to play, the staffed nursery is available to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- Hearing assistance devices direct clearer sound directly to your ears. They are available from the ushers. If you use Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids, see the back of the bulletin for instructions on connecting to the assistive listening system in our sanctuary.

Engaging in Community

- Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to be an open, welcoming place for all people. Please join us in the Gathering Space after worship for snacks, coffee, and fellowship.
- This bulletin may be recycled in the basket on the floor near the glass door to the front parking lot. We invite you to take home the *Peace Proclamations* page with announcements and upcoming events.
- If you'd like to learn more about our community you can: greet Pastor Rachel at the door by the baptismal font after worship, visit the welcome table to pick up informational brochures or staff business cards, or visit our website: www.popportage.org.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

MUSIC FOR THE BEGINNING OF WORSHIP A Joyful Alleluia by Cynthia Dobrinski
Handbell Choir

WELCOME

Stand

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

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

All: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

All: Amen.

GATHERING SONG Now the Feast and Celebration ELW 167

GREETING

P: 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

P: Let us pray,

All: O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, *verse 1* ELW 634

SECTION 1: ADVENT

Reading: Isaiah 11:1-3, 10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Commentary written by Bette Stemaly

HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, *verse 2* ELW 634

SECTION 2: CHRISTMAS

Reading: Luke 2: 4-7

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Commentary written by Kaya Ottesen

SECTION 3: EPIPHANY AND THE SEASON AFTER EPIPHANY

Reading: Matt. 2:9-12

When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Commentary written by Duran Cooper

HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, *verse 3* ELW 634

SECTION 4: LENT

Reading: Matt. 26: 1-5, 14-16

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, "You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the courtyard of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

Commentary written by Elijah Deming

HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, *verse 4* ELW 634

SECTION 5: EASTER

Reading: Matt. 28: 1-10

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Commentary written by Alex Zimmerman

HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, *verse 5* ELW 634

SECTION 6: PENTECOST

Reading: Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Commentary written by Gabe Carlson

HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, *verse 6* ELW 634

SECTION 7: ORDINARY

Reading: Matthew 13:10-17

Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?"
He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven,
but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given,
and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing,
even what they have will be taken away. The reason I speak to them in parables
is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.'
With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy
of Isaiah that says:
'You will indeed listen but never understand,
and you will indeed look but never perceive.
For this people's heart has grown dull,
and their ears are hard of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
so that they might not look with their eyes,
and hear with their ears
and understand with their heart and turn—
and I would heal them.'
"But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.
Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see
but did not see it and to hear what you hear
but did not hear it.

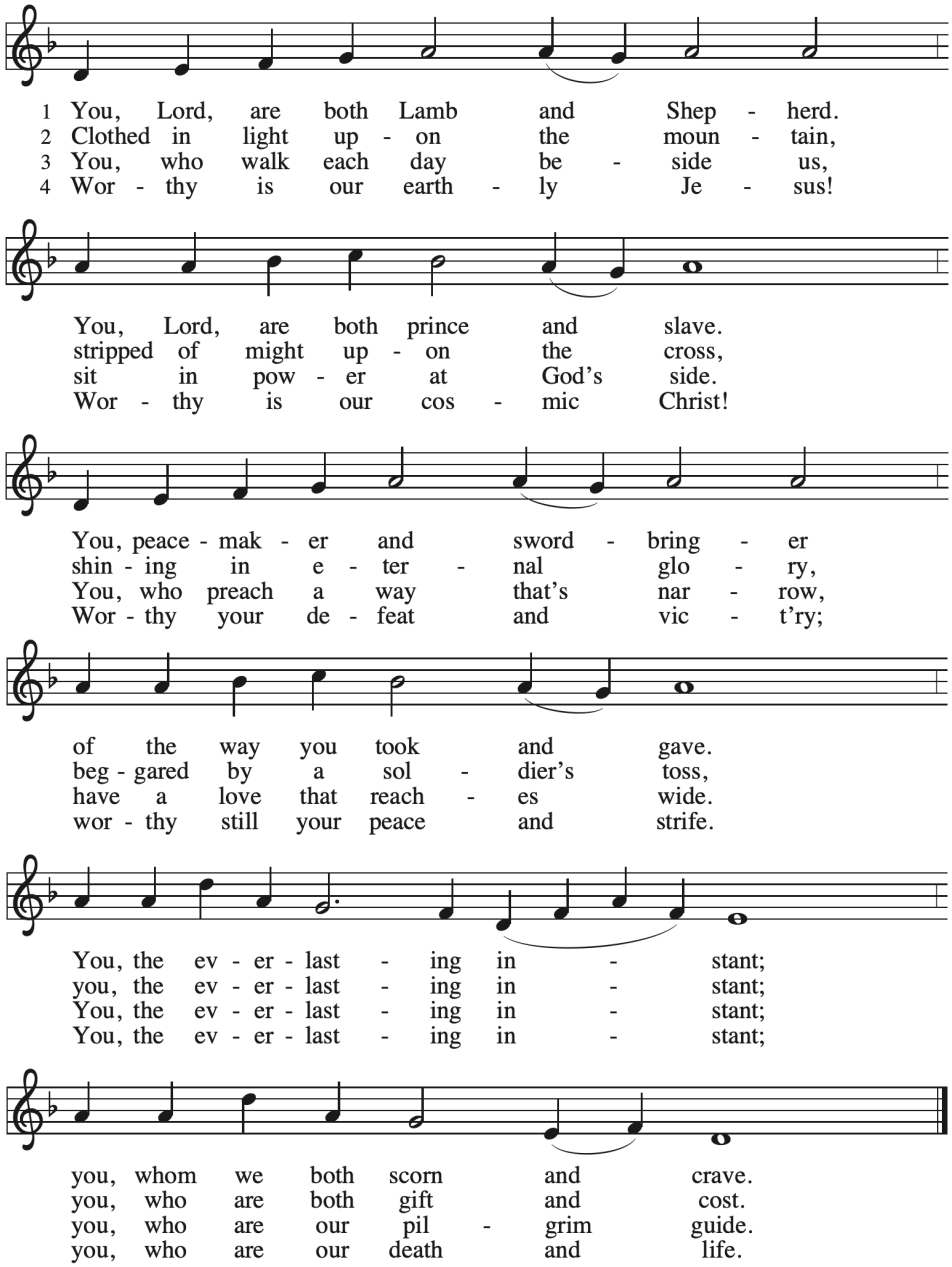
Commentary written by Pastor Rachel

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY — You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd — ACS 954

St. 1, 4 – ALL

St. 2 – High Voices St. 3 – Low Voices



APOSTLES' CREED

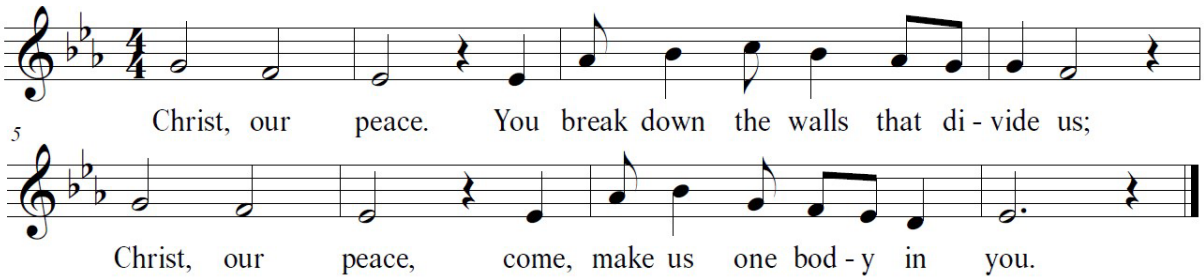
Asst: With the whole church, we confess our faith:

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 INTERCESSION



*After "Generous God" worshipers respond "**pour out your love**."*
*Repeat "**Christ, Our Peace**" after 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.

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."

OFFERING

- For members of the Prince of Peace community,
  an offering is our expression of gratitude to God,
  and a way we share God's love with the world.
- If you are visiting with us today, your presence is already a great gift!
- During this time, please date and sign the attendance registration pads.

OFFERING ANTHEM Oh, Love Elizabeth Start – Cello
Music by Elaine Hagenberg Text by George Matheson (1842-1906)

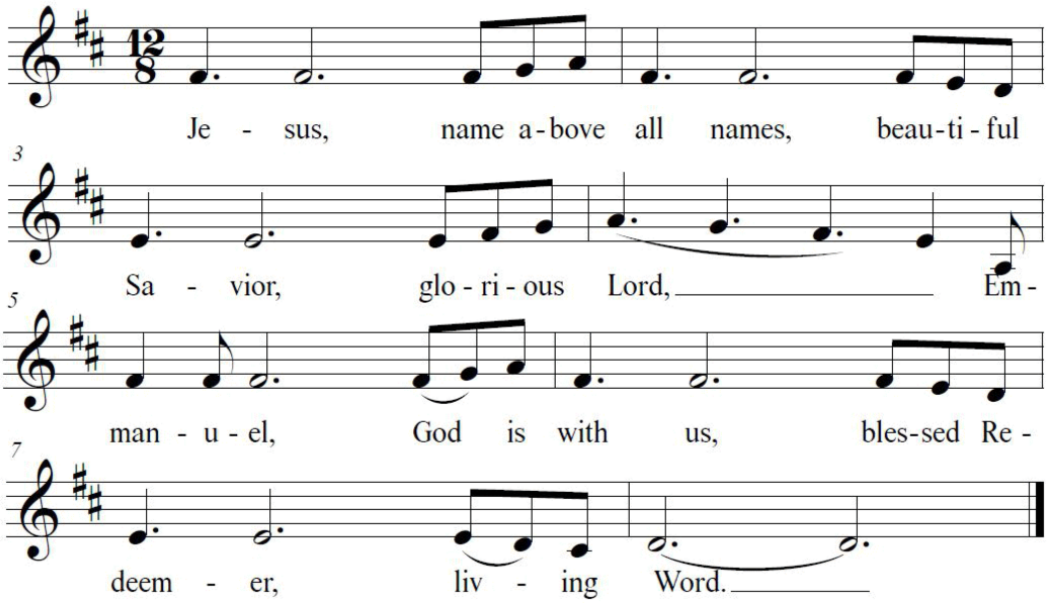
O Love that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall fearless be.

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe and in Thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be,
that morn shall tearless be. O love that will not let me go.

Stand

OFFERING RESPONSE Jesus, Name Above All Names W&P 677



LITURGICAL HAND WASHING

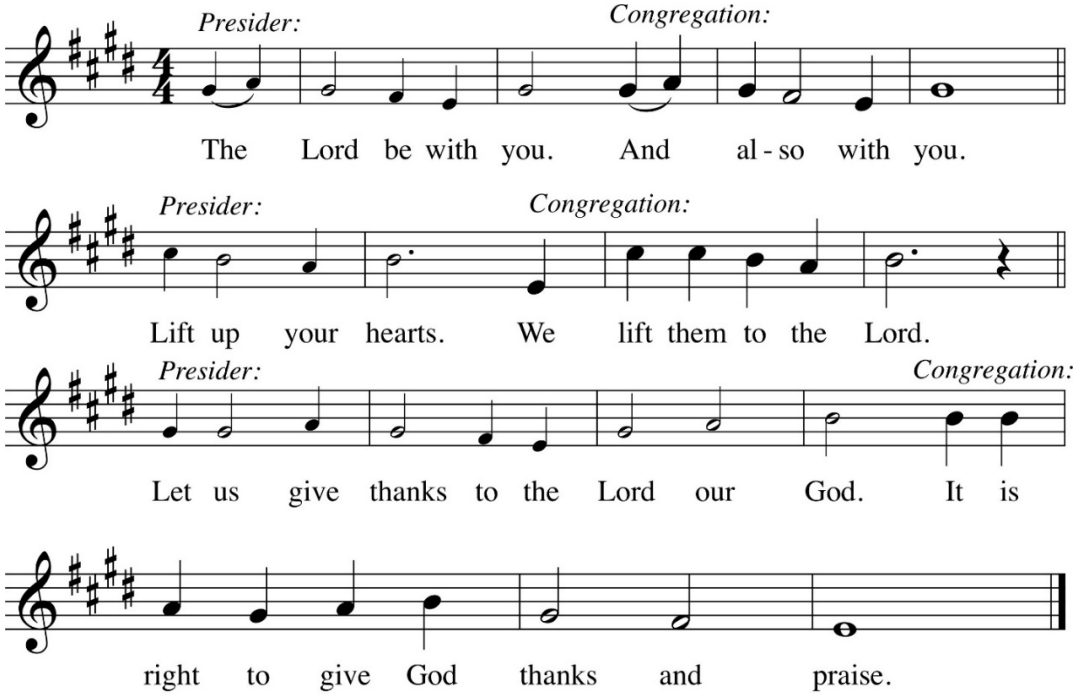
I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord,
singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds. Psalm 26:6-7

OFFERING PRAYER

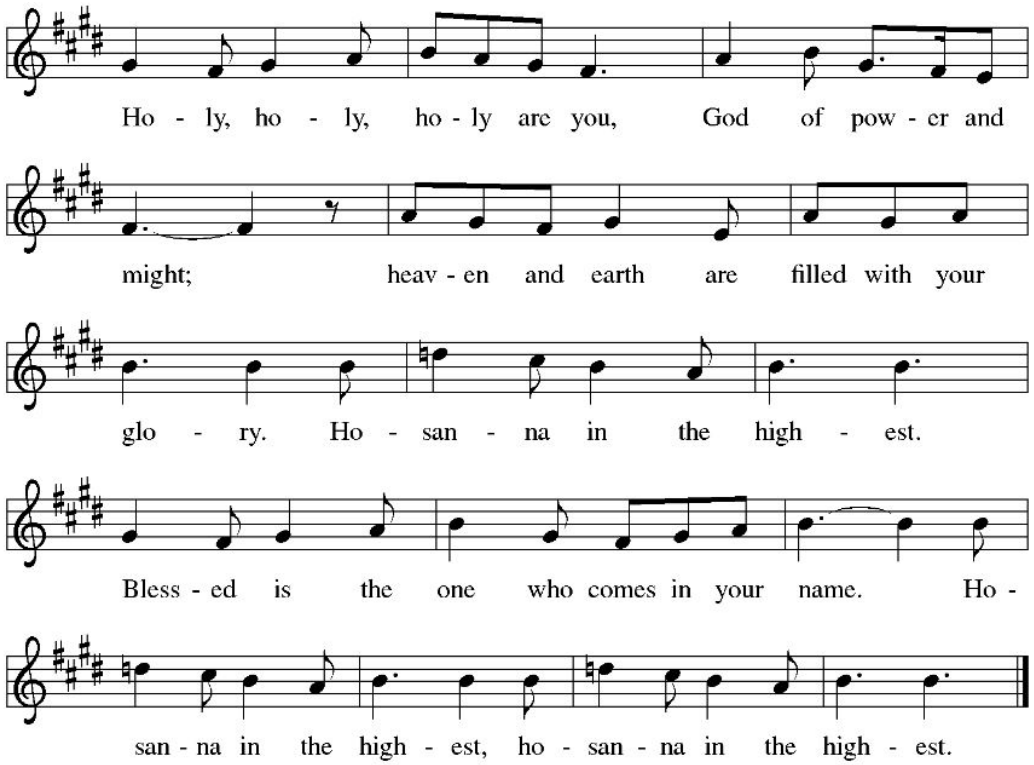
Asst: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING - Grace Before the Meal



P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love. And so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C: We thank you, O God.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed …Do this for the remembrance of me. Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

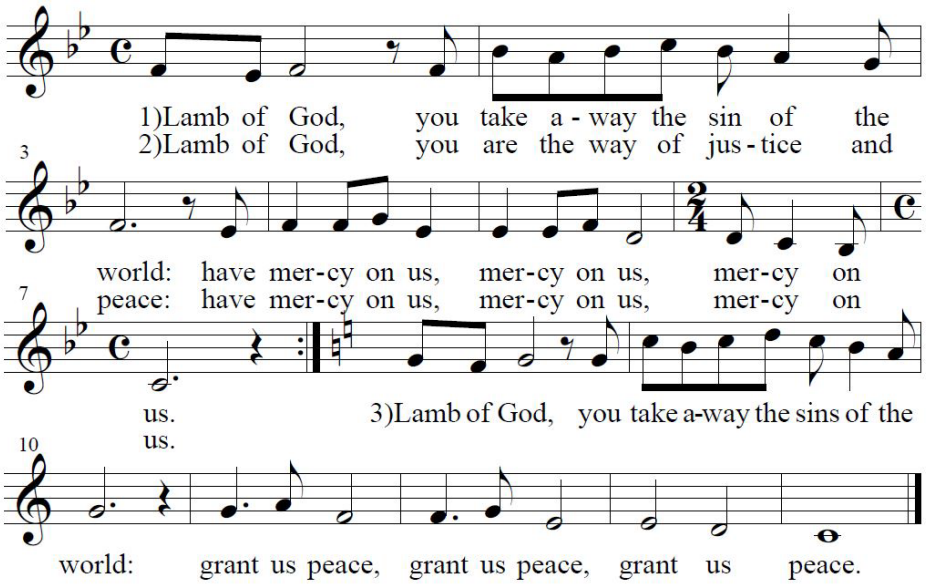
All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory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

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

P: 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. Ushers will direct you to come forward. Those who prefer not to commune are welcome to stay seated or come forward for a blessing. If you would like a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest or make a similar sign to indicate your choice.
- The bread we serve is gluten, nut, and dairy free in hopes that our entire community will be able to share the same bread. The recipe does contain eggs and honey. Gluten-free wafers or pre-packaged sets of elements containing a wheat wafer and grape juice are available on the stands at the head of the aisle.
- After receiving the bread, you may move to the next server to select your own cup. The wine is red, the lighter color is grape juice. Place your empty cup in the baskets on the stands as you return to your seat.
- If it would be helpful to have communion brought to you, please let an usher know.
- A **prayer station** is available at the baptismal font during the communion distribution. If your heart feels heavy, if your soul feels dry, if you are bursting with joy or desire an extra measure of peace, a prayer leader will be there to pray with you.

COMMUNION HYMNS

God Extends an Invitation	ELW 486
Now We Join in Celebration	ELW 462
As the Grains of Wheat	ELW 465

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

Asst.: Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
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 the 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
Worshipers are invited to briefly share announcements not listed in the weekly Peace Proclamations – blessings (such as anniversaries, birthdays, births or new jobs), prayer concerns, or moments when you've encountered God recently. So that all present in person and live-streaming can see and hear you, please come up the ramp to the chancel then go to the pulpit to give your announcement.

Stand
FINAL BLESSING
P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you ☩ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.
All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN Crown Him with Many Crowns ELW 855
Sts. 1, 3, 5 – ALL *St. 2 – High voices* *St. 4 – Low voices*

DISMISSAL
Asst: Go in peace. Share the harvest.
All: Thanks be to God.

MUSIC FOR THE CLOSE OF WORSHIP The Archbishop's Fanfare Francis Jackson

Jesus, Name Above All Names, Text and music © 1984 Scripture in Song, admin. Music Services. Permission under CCLI Annual License #11064917; *Now the Feast and Celebration,* Text & music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. *You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shephard* Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com *Christ, Our Peace* Text and music © 2007 GIA Publications, Inc. *Great Thanksgiving, Sanctus, Lamb of God,* Text and music Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Permission under One License Annual License A-710485; *ELW Hymns:* Permission under Augsburg Fortress Annual License SAS006200. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Use the QR code to donate online to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and its ministries. See the Peace Proclamations announcement page for more details.

This Week's Servers
November 22, 2026

Worship Asst: Noel Sederstrom
Readers: Gary Bischof
Ushers: Kay Kincaid, Greg Guthrie, Erin Leversee
Technology: Mike Whately, Mark Clyne,
Paul Swodzinski
Prayer Station: Karen Adams
Sacristy Asst.: Kathy Eklov
Communion Asst.: MacKenzie Hart, Camden Hart,
Annika Eklov
Altar Guild: Sandy Bennett
Fellowship Treats: Alex Baas-Peterson
Fellowship Host: Yvonne Gatz
Church Lockup: Noel Sederstrom

Next Week's Servers
November 29, 2026
Worship Asst:
Readers: Melissa Ottesen
Ushers:
Technology: Mike Whately, Paul Guthrie,
Prayer Station: Lynne Wathen
Sacristy Asst.: Kathy Eklov
Communion Asst.: Sandy Mertz, Annika Eklov,
MacKenzie Hart
Altar Guild: Dianne Hellman
Fellowship Treats & Host: Idy Stemaly
Church Lockup: Don Eklov

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Staff
Church phone: 269-343-3453

Pastor: Rachel Laughlin ext 11
Music Director: Janet Hill ext 16
Engagement Coordinator: Em Witteveen ext 12
Admin. Asst.: Ashley Wineland ext 10
Tech Manager: Mike Whately ext 13
Accountant: Marilyn Storch ext 14
Nursery: Melissa Copeland
& Megan Zimmerman ext 17
Custodian: Charles Boyd ext 20
Care Team Email: prayer@popportage.org

When announcements are memorable, everyone benefits! People are better able to remember the important information you are sharing when they aren't overwhelmed with too much of it at once. Please use this template as a guide for making an effective announcement during worship.

To get your information included in the Peace Proclamations, bulletin, announcement slides, or newsletter please e-mail Ashley Wineland at secretary@popportage.org by Wednesdays for weekly publications and by the third Thursday of the month for the monthly newsletter.

POP Announcement-Making Tips
Memorable announcements are engaging, to the point, and apply to most of the people present. Please include the following:
Your Name: _____
Your role or group: _____
Event/News/Update:
_____
Date and time of event: _____
What you want people to do:
___ Sign up ___ Attend/Participate ____ Read ___ Look online ___
Other: _____
Where to find more information:
___ Website ___ Peace Procs/Bulletin insert __ Newsletter
___ Other: _____
___ By contacting a person: _____
___ e-mail them ___ call them ___ talk after worship
Please do not share personal contact information on the livestream.