

Second Sunday after Epiphany



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Appleton, Wisconsin
January 16, 2022

8:00 & 9:40 a.m. Services

MISSION STATEMENT

*Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a family of Christians
Growing in Faith and Reaching out in Love*

POP VISION 2024

*We will be...an engaged and inclusive congregation of disciples,
transforming the lives in our community through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Welcome to God's House which is the spiritual home of all who come to worship today. Part of Prince of Peace Church's mission statement says that we are "a family of Christians." Because God has made us family, we gather together in this church home to receive the Lord's strength, comfort and peace. Christ, our brother, is here, and his presence will change us. As new people, we leave this spiritual home to go out and live our daily lives in the world as ambassadors for Christ. Go, but remember to come home. See you next Sunday!

We love kids in worship: young ones, old ones, squirmy ones, curious ones, crying ones, happy ones. Jesus loves them, too. In fact, one day when he was trying to explain to a bunch of adults who would enter the Kingdom of God, he plucked a child out of the crowd and said that if they wanted to enter his kingdom, they should be like this wide-eyed child! What an object lesson for us all and what hope, because we are all kids at heart, just trying to follow Jesus.

We know it is sometimes a challenge and, with our nursery closed for our youngest ones' safety during the pandemic, we have some ways to help you out. We have bags of activities on the wooden kiosk near the entrance by the bathrooms that children can grab before entering the sanctuary. We have a place for kids to play in our narthex, the **PRAYERGROUND**, which is stocked with toys and books and comfy chairs, and there are speakers projecting the service, so caregivers can keep track of what's going on in the service and can listen to and/or rejoin worship anytime. *The space located at the back of the sanctuary, called the PLAYDECK, with a rug and some quiet toys where a child might need to hang out for a few minutes with mom or dad nearby.*

You can find changing tables in the bathrooms near the narthex **PRAYERGROUND** for your convenience. And, finally, we have ushers and greeters who love kids, too, who were once kids themselves, and who want to help you have a great worship experience! We are glad you are here!

The Glass Cross on the Altar is unique. There are only 3 of these handmade crosses in the world. The other two are in congregations with whom we share our ministry. One is on the altar of Kopano Lutheran Church in Mogwase, South Africa and the other is at the Evangelische Stadtpfarrkirche Hermannstadt in Sibiu, Romania. These Lutheran churches are ministry partners with us with whom we have shared visits, resources, and mutual support. Each Sunday as we gather in worship under this common cross, we are reminded of our faith in our Savior, Jesus the Christ, whose Spirit unites peoples of different countries, races, cultures and histories under His benevolent love.

 **A hearing loop system** is installed in our sanctuary. Those with hearing aid devices may activate their T-Coil technology.

WORSHIP LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Preaching Minister	Pastor Asher O'Callaghan
Presiding Ministers	Jennifer DeNetz, Roger McQuistion
Assisting Minister	Kris Gurholt
Musicians	Sondra Joten, Aaron & Peter Juhl
Technical Prep/Projection	Tom Richmond Nathan Jansen
Ushers	(9:40) Scott Perrine
Greeters	(8:00) Cherie and Bob Corey

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ELW denotes the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal
P—Pastor A—Assisting Minister C—Congregation

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

GATHERING MUSIC

Bind Us Together

Bob Gillman

WELCOME to WORSHIP & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFSSION & FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C **Amen**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen**

P Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN

Gather Us In

ELW 532

Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray, Lord God, source of every blessing,
C **you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations

shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

SECOND READING

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor



Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah,



hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le-lu - jah, hal - le-lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Cantor: Jesus re- | vealed his glory,* and his disciples be- | lieved in him.

GOSPEL

John 2:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the

brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Asher O'Callaghan

(9:40) *Faith Formation students join us for worship during the singing of the Hymn of the Day.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Borning Cry

ELW 732

"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."

"In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."

"I was there to hear your burning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

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(9:40) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Brigetta Wingender

APOSTLES CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
C **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

P The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so, we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.
Petitions end: God of grace,
Response: ...**hear our prayer.**
P Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
C **Amen**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

We Give Thee but Thine Own

W. How/L. Mason/G. Webb

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God,
C **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. Amen**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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 for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Jesus' disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us how to pray." He said to them, "When you pray, say":

**C 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 COMMUNION

P Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

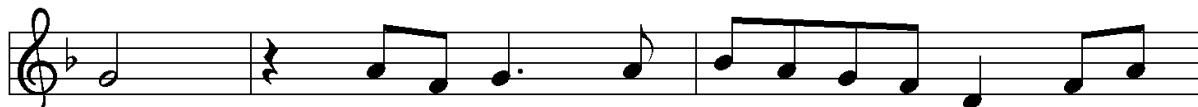


In the bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present. Much more than a sign, story, or symbol of God's love, it is an event where God reaches down to us through common earthly elements and invites us into the mystery and miracle of a relationship with him, the Word made flesh for us. All, who have been baptized, are invited to this experience of God's love, where He is our host and we are his guests, who will take the message of his love into the world.

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.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

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

C **Amen**

P 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.

C **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

FINAL BLESSING

P 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.

C **Amen**

SENDING SONG

All Are Welcome

ELW 641

Let us build a house where love can dwell
 and all can safely live,
 a place where saints and children tell
 how hearts learn to forgive.
 Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
 rock of faith and vault of grace;
 here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
 all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
 and words are strong and true,
 where all God's children dare to seek
 to dream God's reign anew.
 Here the cross shall stand as witness
 and as symbol of God's grace;
 here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain*

Let us build a house where love is found
 in water, wine and wheat:
 a banquet hall on holy ground
 where peace and justice meet.
 Here the love of God, through Jesus,
 is revealed in time and space;
 as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain*

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain*

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain*

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DISMISSAL

- A Prince of Peace is a family of Christians...
- C **...growing in faith and reaching out in love.**
- A Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
- C **Thanks be to God!**



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WELCOME, PASTOR ASHER!



Pastor Asher O'Callaghan was called by the East Central Synod of Wisconsin Council on December 28, 2020, to be Associate to the Bishop, Director for Transitions and Discernment. Prior to this call he served as pastor at Highlands Lutheran Church in Denver, Colorado. To his new call he brings training and background in intentional interim ministry as well as work with people and congregations in candidacy/call/mobility processes during his time as Program Director for Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries. Pastor Asher discerned a call to ministry in the midst of his own gender transition. Embodying transition, Pastor Asher is uniquely equipped to help congregations consider their identity and mission in seasons of congregational change. Pastor Asher received his Master of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary and is married to Pastor Leslie O'Callaghan. Together they enjoy staying physically fit and caring for their beloved dog Francis and their cats, Jack, Matilda, and Agnes.