

LARGE PRINT

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

9:30A.M. IN-PERSON & ONLINE



**PASTOR AMBER CRAIG
PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

GUEST INFORMATION

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

“Claimed by grace, we seek to welcome all, worship joyfully, grow spiritually and share God's love.”

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

In love we proclaim Jesus Christ to the world. We affirm faith in God through community life as reflected in our joyful fellowship of word and sacrament. With the help of the Holy Spirit we enthusiastically witness to and embrace all of God's Creation.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

Prince of Peace is a community that exists to **INVITE** people to faith and **INSPIRE** people with God's love so that they may **GROW** in faith and **SHARE** their gifts with integrity in the name of Jesus Christ.

OUR VALUE STATEMENTS

Prince of Peace is a Christian community that exists to reflect God's love and forgiveness for all people as revealed in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We are committed to...

WORSHIP as a joyful experience of communion with God through Word, Sacrament, music and Christian community.

WELCOMING all people*, especially children and adolescents, regardless of where they are on their spiritual journey.

LEARNING as a life-long process to increase each person's confidence and joy in Jesus Christ through prayer, bible study and active service in our church, community and world.

LEADERSHIP that is inspired by the Holy Spirit and shared by our Pastor, staff and lay leaders as we strive to live as a Christian community with integrity.

** Our understanding of our stated value of "welcoming all people" leads us to proclaim that we are a Christian congregation called to unite people from diverse backgrounds, enabling them to grow in the love of Jesus Christ. We therefore respond to the vision to which God has called us – to proclaim this good news and to welcome into full membership in our congregation all people without regard to cultural or ethnic backgrounds, physical or mental abilities, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity or age. We pledge to ourselves and all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people in our life together and in our outreach to the world. This affirmation leads us to a commitment to ensure that the decisions and actions of our congregation will be based, without bias, upon the Christ-driven spirit of being an all-encompassing body of believers.*



Prince of Peace is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.

OUR USHERS are available to help you with directions or questions. Just ask!

RESTROOMS are located in the adjacent corridor and can be found by exiting the Welcoming Area through the west side doors. Restrooms are on your left at the end of the first corridor and also across from the kitchen as you continue toward the Northcrest Drive exit.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available at this time.

OUR PASTOR GREETES GUESTS after services at the main exit. Please take a moment to introduce yourself.

PRAYERS If you would like something added to Sunday prayers, you can send an email to office@poplutheranchurch.org You may also add your prayers to the comments during the Facebook Live service. God hears our digital prayers.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES We welcome all people at Prince of Peace and do our best to maintain a safe environment for everyone. We will continue to follow the CDC guidelines at Prince of Peace. Communion will be offered both up front, or if you prefer in your seat with a communion kit.

WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING: During the offering, we join millions of other Christians around the world in worshipping our God through the giving of financial resources. If you are a first-time worshipper with us, please know that there is no expectation around your giving; simply give as the Holy Spirit leads you or let the plate pass you by. For those who worship with us regularly, our friends and members, your joyful and generous giving supports all we do to build God's kingdom here at Prince of Peace. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

INVITE

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT “Claimed by grace, we seek to welcome all, worship joyfully, grow spiritually and share God’s love.”

APOSTOLIC GREETING

One: 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.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Ministry Matters, used with permission)*

One: When the tides of fear seem to overwhelm us, we cry out....

All: Lord, come to us and lead us to paths of safety!

One: When we feel lost and alone and we wonder if anyone cares about us, we cry out....

All: Lord, come and heal our wounded spirits!

One: When turbulence within and without seem to threaten us, we cry out....

All: Lord, bring us peace.

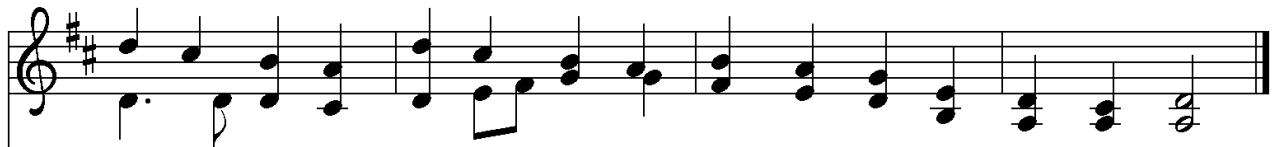
GATHERING HYMN "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" ELW #864



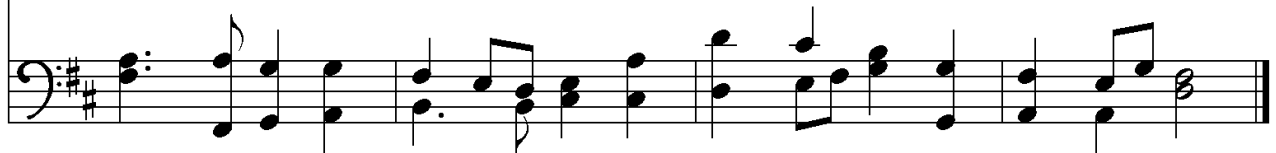
1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib - ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore - bears in dis - tress.
3 Frail as sum - mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres - ence, face to face.



Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais - es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!



Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

Confession

One: Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

All: Amen.

One: Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

One: Steadfast and faithful God,

**All: you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.**

We are overwhelmed

by the world's violence and suffering.

**We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

Lead us back to you

and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

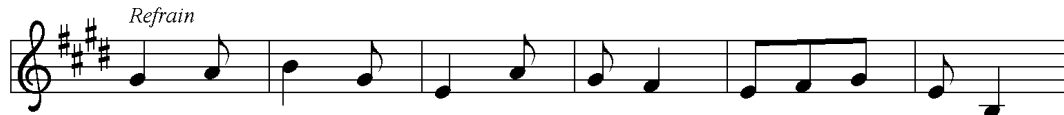
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

All: Amen.

Now the Feast



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



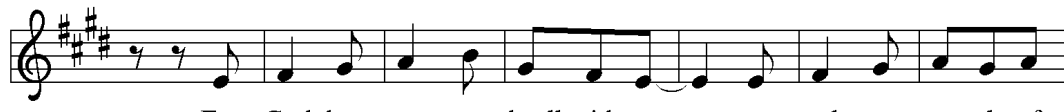
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Prayer of the Day

One: Let us pray,
O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

INSPIRE

CHILDREN'S TIME and Blessing Pastor Amber Craig

All: CHILDREN OF GOD, LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE OTHERS THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN.

Reading Romans 14:1-12 (NRSV)

1Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. 2Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 3Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. 4Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. 5Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. 7We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. 10Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." 12So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

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

Optional Repeat

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 (NRSV)

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.” ²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he

would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

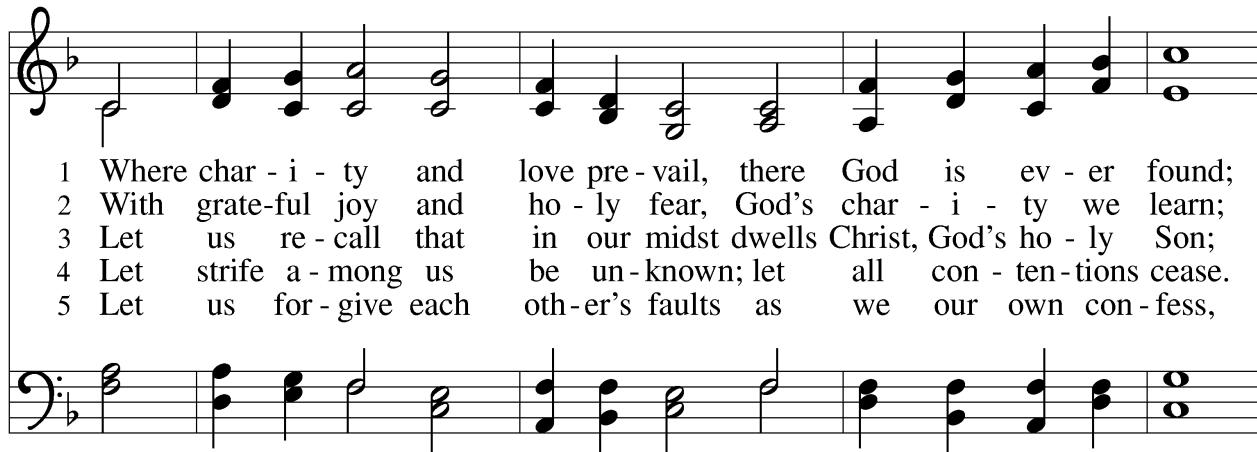
One: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

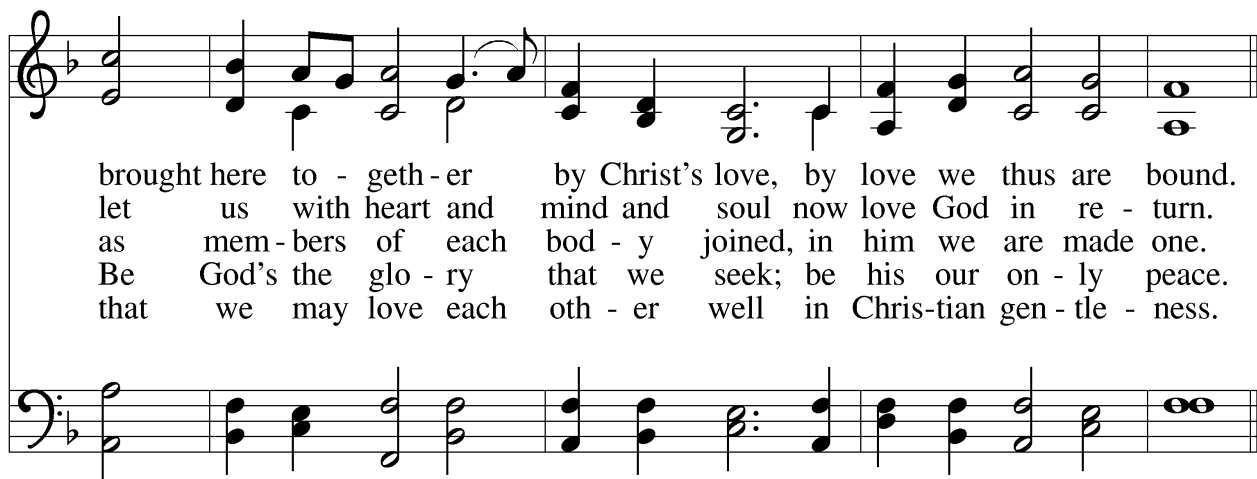
Hymn of the Day

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

ELW #359



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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SERMON “The Way of Welcome and Forgiveness”.

Pastor Amber Craig

~SILENCE FOR REFLECTION~

GROW AND SHARE

APOSTLE’S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

All: **And also with you!**

WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

An alternate way to give:

“Instructions for use found in the Faithworks”




Offering Hymn

“As the Grains of Wheat”


Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



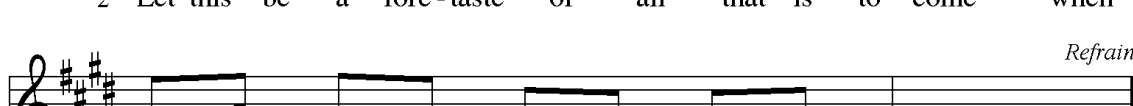
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



Refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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Prayer of Blessing

One: God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

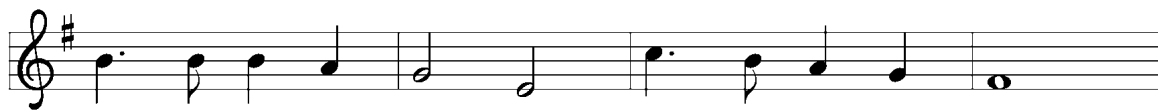
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

One: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

All: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
 2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
 un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
 un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
 on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
 Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

DISMISSAL

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**



“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

Printed hymns and service music from Sundays and Seasons v.20230418.1214

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“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven” “Where Charity and Love Prevail” “On Our Way Rejoicing:

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER ALL THOSE SUFFERING FROM ILLNESS,
ACCIDENT OR GRIEF.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVE PRINCE OF PEACE; TODAY AND EVERY
DAY!**

AMBER CRAIG, PASTOR; WINNIE PETTERSON, WORSHIP ASSISTANT