

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Faith Wants God Not Things

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2023



“Learning and sharing the gospel of Christ the Prince of Peace.”

Prince of Peace
Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME!

Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We pray that the time spent here in God’s house helps you to appreciate how dearly God loves you! May God bless our worship today! If you are visiting with us for the first time, please take a moment to fill out one of the information cards found in the pews next to the hymnals. We look forward to getting to know you better in order to serve you fully with God's word!

THEME FOR TODAY

Real about Faith

- July 2 - Faith trusts that God is enough
- July 9 - Faith doesn’t fear the future
- July 16 - Faith comes from hearing the Word
- July 23 - Faith isn’t worried about the world
- July 30 - Faith wants God not things**

Time and time again, the Bible states that the greatest thing is to be in the presence of God. The book of Revelation speaks of this as being the greatest glory of eternal life: that we will be with our God. He will be our God, and we his people. Indeed, this is our greatest blessing now as well, though we do not experience it in full without the evils and temptations of sin clouding our view. How can it be that we would desire God above all that we know—the things we touch and feel and see? It is by faith! And why should it not, when the very things we have and treasure are creations of the one who is so much greater! Faith wants God not things.

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



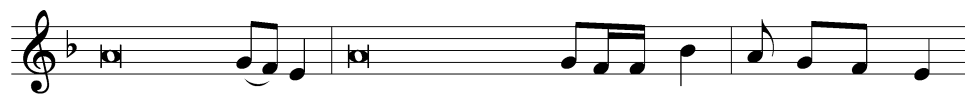
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al-mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



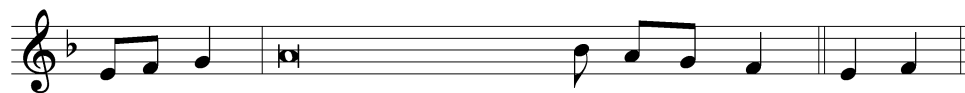
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

1 Kings 3:5–12

The Lord offered to give Solomon anything he wanted. Solomon requested the spiritual wealth of a believing heart that could discern right from wrong.

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

⁶Solomon answered, “You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

⁷“Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ⁸Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. ⁹So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. ¹¹So God said to him, “Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹²I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 63

The Psalmist speaks from a heart of faith. By faith we desire God above all things!

¹You, God, are my God,
earnestly I seek you;

I thirst for you,
my whole being longs for you,
in a dry and parched land
where there is no water.

²I have seen you in the sanctuary
and beheld your power and your glory.

³Because your love is better than life,
my lips will glorify you.

⁴I will praise you as long as I live,
and in your name I will lift up my hands.

⁵I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods;
with singing lips my mouth will praise you.

⁶On my bed I remember you;
I think of you through the watches of the night.

⁷Because you are my help,
I sing in the shadow of your wings.

⁸I cling to you;
your right hand upholds me.

⁹Those who want to kill me will be destroyed;
they will go down to the depths of the earth.

¹⁰They will be given over to the sword
and become food for jackals.

¹¹But the king will rejoice in God;
all who swear by God will glory in him,
while the mouths of liars will be silenced.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:17–21

Paul warns against the two pet sins of those who have worldly wealth: arrogance and false hope.

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

²⁰Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, ²¹which some have professed and in so doing have departed from the faith.

Grace be with you all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Colossians 3:1,2



Refrain



Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,
set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Refrain

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Gospel

Matthew 13:44–52

Through a series of parables Jesus teaches the value of spiritual wealth.

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

“Yes,” they replied.

⁵²He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

828 Where Your Treasure Is

CW 828

Sermon

Hope in God, Not Wealth

1 Timothy 6:17–21

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. [Especially bless . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Offering

752 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

CW 752

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

749 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

CW 749

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY	6:30 pm Preschool Orientation
WEDNESDAY	10:15 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Bible Class
FRIDAY	8:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study @Cracker Barrel
SUNDAY	9:15 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper

FLOWERS

Joe and Chris Henry provided the chancel flowers today as an expression of gratitude to God for his protecting hand that continually rests over their grandson Eyden who is celebrating his birthday! As this little boy continues to grow and flourish may he always know that his church family is here to pray for him and guide him in the path that leads to life everlasting as we encourage one another with the good news of Jesus, our Savior. Happy birthday Eyden!



BUNCO



Efforts are being made to get a monthly Bunco event resumed! The hope is to have at least 12 people on a regular basis in order to make play more fun. If you'd be interested, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board at church. We plan to begin in August!! If you have questions, please contact Debbie Muehlfeld.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS

We are no longer using the friendship registers at the ends of the pews. Instead we will be using info cards found in the pew backs next to the hymnals. If you are a member, there is no need to fill out a card every week, we already have your information! If you are a visitor we hope that you would please share your information with us so that we may get to know you better in order to serve you fully with God's word!

Operating Offerings		Attendance		Mortgage Progress	
7/23/23	\$ 2,075.00	7/23/23	48	7/23/23	\$ 300.00
Month to Date	\$ 12,604.00			Month to Date	\$ 3,495.00
YTD	\$ 115,136.00			YTD	\$ 25,245.00
Budget YTD	\$ 112,662.00			Budget YTD	\$ 19,496.00
2022 YTD	\$ 104,615.00			2022 YTD	\$ 25,113.00

Weekly needs July Operating Offering
Monthly Mortgage Payment

\$ 3,823.00
\$ 2,867.00