

Prince of Peace

Evangelical Lutheran Church



He Lives and I Live Through Him

Easter 6

May 14, 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! He invested the life blood of his one and only Son into your salvation and offers the blessings of that sacrifice to us through Word and Sacrament! May God bless our worship today!

THEME FOR TODAY

In the Gospel for today, Jesus says, "If you love me, keep my commands." He also says that the Father will give "an advocate to help you," (the Holy Spirit) and that "you are in me, and I am in you." In love for what Jesus has done for us, we will live a life that is obedient to all that he says. Yet, it is not merely out of a sense of duty or great passion that we will do this. In fact, if that were the case, we would fail because of the sinful nature that is still in us. However, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will all help us and give us the power to love God and obey his commandments. Let us listen to him and draw near to him through his word!

451 See, What a Morning

CW 451

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,



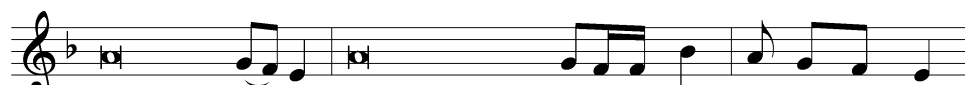
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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;



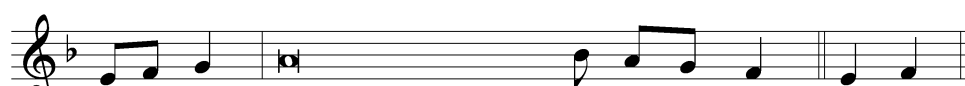
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



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 are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your 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

Acts 17:22–31

To the people of Athens St. Paul proclaims that living as the offspring of the one true God means living a life of repentance and obedience.

²²Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

²⁹“Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13–22

St. Peter teaches that love for God means obedience to his commands even if that obedience brings suffering into our lives.

¹³Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:15,16



Refrain



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

If you love me, keep my commands.

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you.

Refrain

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Gospel

John 14:15–21

Jesus explains that those who love him will obey his teaching. Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit who gives us the power to live for Christ.

¹⁵“If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

557 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

CW 557 vs. 1-4, 9-10

Sermon

Prepared to Live through Christ

1 Peter 3:13-22

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.

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . . here name the person]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering

744 Rise, Shine, You People

CW 744

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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.

617 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

CW 617

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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THE WEEK AHEAD

WEDNESDAY	10:15 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Bible Class
THURSDAY	5:00 pm Elders Meeting 6:00 pm Council Meeting
FRIDAY	8:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study @Cracker Barrel
SUNDAY	9:15 am Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper

FLOWERS

Shellie & Gary Dissmore are celebrating their 37th wedding anniversary. They have provided the chancel flowers today to thank God for the many blessings they enjoy as husband and wife. God has guided them to build their home on Jesus Christ and has been their constant companion. May God continue to fill their lives with joy as they serve Christ by serving one another in their marriage! Happy anniversary, Shellie and Gary!



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

On Saturday, June 3, 2023, 10:00 a.m., guest speaker Rachel Halldorson, WELS Women's Ministry-Congregational Ministries, will share insights into what God's Word has to say about the spiritual warfare all believers are engaged in and the armor of God provided for us as we face these battles.

FITTING OUR FAMILY FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE

What relationships in your life are you willing to fight for? Spouse, children, grandchildren, aging parents, a roommate? How are you preparing for the fight? How are you preparing your family? Did you know God has provided believers in his Son, Jesus, with armor? "For this reason, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to take a stand on the evil day, and after you have done everything, to stand." Ephesians 6:13

Operating Offerings		Attendance		Mortgage Progress	
5/7/23	\$ 7,214.00	5/7/23	82	5/7/23	\$ 330.00
Month to Date	\$ 7,214.00			Month to Date	\$ 330.00
YTD	\$ 77,450.00			YTD	\$ 14,745.00
Budget YTD	\$ 70,995.00			Budget YTD	\$ 12,185.00
2022 YTD	\$ 69,715.00			2022 YTD	\$ 14,785.00

Weekly needs May Operating Offering
Monthly Mortgage Payment

\$ 3,748.00
\$ 2,867.00