

Prince of Peace

Evangelical Lutheran Church



God Open Our Eyes to See:
What Makes Real Godly Obedience

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021



“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

People are naturally inclined to think that what they do is what makes them good or bad. As a result they like to make rules that let them know if they are doing right or wrong. However, God has already determined and told us what is right and wrong. These commandments don’t show us how to justify ourselves, but that our actions always fall short of being enough because we are flawed, and consequently, so are all our actions. No rule or law changes that. We need a solution that addresses the heart of the problem: our sinful hearts.

LORD’S SUPPER

Scripture teaches us that in the Lord’s Supper:

- The body and blood of Christ are really present with the bread and the wine. (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:27)
- Jesus gives true forgiveness, not just a symbol, to each recipient. (Matthew 26:28)
- We are united as one body of believers because we all partake the one body and blood of Christ. “Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.” (1 Corinthians 10:16-17)

For these reasons we ask that, if you are not a part of a WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) or ELS (Evangelical Lutheran Synod) church that publicly confesses to believe these same scriptural truths, you speak with our pastor before you take the Sacrament. We do not wish to judge your faith, but want to make sure that we are in agreement before publicly declaring that we share a common faith.

We are careful about the way we celebrate the Lord’s Supper because we want to humbly accept this gift the way God intended.

WORSHIP SERIES

During this last part of the season of Pentecost the Scripture readings (especially the Gospel) focus us to see that God is our all in all. There is no church life and “other life.” For the Christian, there is one life—the Christian life. Throughout this series we’ll take a look at the many ways God opens our eyes to see how we can consider every facet of our life as an essential element in the whole of our Christian lives. So we pray:

GOD, OPEN OUR EYES TO SEE

Sunday, September 5th	—	What Makes Real Godly Obedience
Sunday, September 12 th	—	What Need and Suffering Show us About You
Sunday, September 19 th	—	What the Walk of the Cross is Like
Sunday, September 26 th	—	The Importance of a Servant Attitude
Sunday, October 3 rd	—	More Deeply How to Consider Ourselves
Sunday, October 10 th	—	How Marriage is Meant to Display Your Love
Sunday, October 17 th	—	How We Ought to Think about Our Possessions
Sunday, October 24 th	—	What Kind of Ambition We Ought to Have

ORDER OF SERVICE

HYMN 287

The Law of God Is Good and Wise

WORD OF GOD

287 The Law of God Is Good and Wise



1 The law of God is good and wise; It sets his
2 The law is good, but since the fall Its ho - li -
3 Its light of ho - li - ness im - parts The knowl - edge
4 To Je - sus we for ref - uge flee, Who from the



will be - fore our eyes, Shows us the way of right - cous -
ness con - demns us all; It dooms us for our sins to
of our sin - ful hearts That we may see our lost es -
curse has set us free, And hum - bly wor - ship at his



ness, But dooms to death when we trans - gress.
die And has no pow'r to jus - ti - fy.
tate And seek re - lief be - fore too late.
throne, Saved by his grace through faith a - lone.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, abr., alt.

Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (LM) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg*, Wittenberg, 1543, alt.

STAND

[M]: In the name of the Father and of the Son (✝) and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

CONFESSION OF SINS

[M]: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[C]: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

[M]: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

C: A - men.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

[M]: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[M]: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

[M]: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses warns Israel to be obedient to the Lord. The nation was about to enter the Promised Land. Did the people wish to continue to enjoy God's blessings? They could not earn them. No one can. They come by grace alone. But, a person can forfeit God's blessings through disobedience and/or unbelief. Therefore, Moses urged the people to remain faithful to God's Word just as He had given it—without adding to or subtracting from it.

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

⁶Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." ⁷What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? ⁸And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

⁹Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 119c



Oh, how I love your law!*

I meditate on it all day long.

I have more insight than all my teachers,*

for I meditate on your statutes.

I have more understanding than the elders,*

for I obey your precepts.

Refrain

I have kept my feet from every evil path*
so that I might obey your Word.

I have not departed from your laws,*
for you yourself have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste,*
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

The apostle Paul speaks about the believer's need to make continual use of God's Word in order to remain in faith to the end. Paul wants us to remember that the enemies of our faith are spiritual enemies. The weapons required to overcome them are, therefore, spiritual in nature and granted to us only through the Word of God. So, let us make continual use of the Word with prayer.

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia. (2 Timothy 1:10b cf. NIV)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Jesus warns against trying to fortify the Word of God with human tradition. When a person attempts to add his own holiness to God's Word, as the Pharisees did, he ends up nullifying the Word that is able to save him. Man's ideas are concerned only with the outward life. The Word of God is concerned with the heart before anything else.

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus ² and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³ (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. ⁴ When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

⁵ So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?"

⁶ He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

" 'These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.

⁷ They worship me in vain;
their teachings are merely human rules.'

⁸ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions."

¹⁴ Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. ¹⁵ Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them."

²¹ For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²² adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³ All these evils come from inside and defile a person."



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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

HYMN OF THE DAY 459

O God, My Faithful God

COMMITMENT

459

O God, My Faithful God



1 O God, my faith - ful God, O Foun-tain ev - er
 2 Grant me the strength to do With read - y heart and
 3 Keep me from say - ing things That lat - er need re -
 4 Lord, let me win my foes With kind - ly words and



flow - ing, Who good and per - fect gifts In mer -
 will - ing What - ev - er you com - mand, My call -
 call - ing; Grant that no i - dle words May from
 ac - tions, And let me find good friends For coun -



cy are be - stow - ing, Give me a health - y
 ing here ful - fill - ing, That I do what I
 my lips be fall - ing, But then, when in my
 sel and cor - rec - tion. Help me, as you have



frame, And may I have with - in A con -
 should While trust - ing you to bless The out -
 place I must and ought to speak, My words
 taught, To love both great and small And by



science free from blame, A soul un - hurt by sin.
 come for my good, For you must give suc - cess.
 grant pow'r and grace Lest I of - fend the weak.
 your Spir - it's might To live in peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: O GOTT, DU FROMMER GOTT (II) (67 67 66 66) *Neu-ermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.

It's not about what you do

- I. Because that ignores the intent of God's commands
- II. Because that ignores the condition of the heart

STAND

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING

During this on-going pandemic we have refrained from passing the offering plate. You may place your offering into the plate on the table before or after the service. Online giving is also available on our website, www.princeofpeacemartinez.com.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

[M]: The Lord be with you.



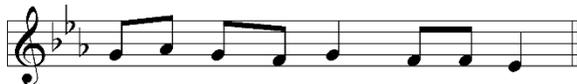
C: And al - so with you.

[M]: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

[M]: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

[M]: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[M]: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

[M]: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

THANKSGIVING

STAND

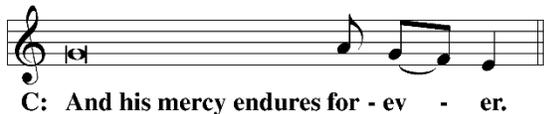
SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

[M]: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

[M]: 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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

BE SEATED

HYMN 427

We Are the Lord's

TRUST

427

We Are the Lord's



1 We are the Lord's; his all - suf - fi - cient mer - it,
 2 We are the Lord's; then let us glad - ly ten - der
 3 We are the Lord's; no dark - ness brood - ing o'er us
 4 We are the Lord's; no e - vil can be - fall us



Sealed on the cross, to us this grace ac - cords.
 Our souls to him in deeds, not emp - ty words.
 Can make us trem - ble while this star af - fords
 In the dread hour of life's fast loos - 'ning cords;



We are the Lord's and all things shall in - her - it;
 Let heart and tongue and life com - bine to ren - der
 A stead - y light a - long the path be - fore us—
 No pangs of death shall e - ven then ap - pall us.



Wheth - er we live or die, we are the Lord's.
 No doubt - ful wit - ness that we are the Lord's.
 Faith's full as - sur - ance that we are the Lord's.
 Death we shall van - quish, for we are the Lord's.

Text: Karl J. P. Spitta, 1801–59; tr. Charles R. Astley, 1825–78.
 Tune: EIRENE (11 10 11 10) Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79.

THE WEEK AHEAD

WEDNESDAY	10:15 am Bible Class 7:00 pm Bible Class
SUNDAY	8:00 am Worship 9:15 am – 10:15 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship

FLOWERS

Happy birthday to Carolyn Schroeder! She is celebrating her birthday on Friday the 10th. She purchased the chancel flowers today to praise and glorify God for all the blessings she continues to enjoy as His child. As we celebrate the gift of physical life, we especially celebrate the eternal life that Carolyn enjoys along with all who believe God's wonderful promises to us in Christ! Happy birthday Carolyn!



DIRECTORY PICTURES



Put on your Sunday best and smile for the camera! It's been a while since many of our directory pictures have been updated. Let's use the Sundays of September to make an effort to get updated pictures for the directory and board in the narthex. This is a great way to help one another put a name to a face! Please let Mike Hilbert know when you have your whole family present to take an updated picture in front of the altar.

CHURCH WORK DAY

On Saturday, September 18th we will have another work day at church. The main task to be completed is the spreading of wood chips on the preschool playground, but there will be plenty of other tasks to accomplish as well! If you are able to help, please set aside some time on that Saturday morning to help care for the church grounds we have been blessed with!



HURRICANE RELIEF

Our WELS churches in Louisiana are recovering from the effects of Hurricane Ida. Thankfully, there was no loss of life among our churches and no serious damage to the churches themselves. However, there is still opportunity to assist the recovery efforts. The best way to support these churches is via online giving on the church websites:

crownoflifefnola.com | crossofglorylutheran.com | trinityabita.org

For more information, talk with Pastor.

<u>Operating Offerings</u>		<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Mortgage Progress</u>	
8/29/21	\$ 2,140.00	8:00 am	22	8/29/21	\$ 15.00
Month to Date	\$ 15,834.47	10:30 am	26	Month to Date	\$ 2,925.00
YTD	\$ 129,206.00	Total	48	YTD	\$ 29,450.00
Budget YTD	\$ 140,358.00			Budget YTD	\$ 22,937.00
2020 YTD	\$ 143,674.00			2020 YTD	\$ 31,050.00
Weekly needs August Operating Offering					\$ 4,075.00
Monthly Mortgage Payment					\$ 2,867.00