

# Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



## The Long Walk of Faith

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 2023



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

Prince of Peace  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3703 River Watch Pkwy  
Martinez, GA 30907

princeofpeacemartinez.com  
facebook.com/princeofpeacemartinez  
instagram.com/princeofpeace\_martinez

Pastor Jonathan Neumann  
706-860-1600 (Church Office)  
719-367-1636 (Cell)  
[pastorjonathanneumann@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjonathanneumann@gmail.com)

Preschool Director: Jeanne Thomas  
706-860-1655 (Preschool)  
[princeofpeacepreschoolga@gmail.com](mailto:princeofpeacepreschoolga@gmail.com)

## **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**

How could he doubt after taking steps on water? Yet, we see Peter sinking into the sea when he saw the wind whipping up the waves around him. How could he despair after the triumphant show of glory on Mount Carmel? Yet, we see Elijah wishing he could die because he feels so alone and hopeless. The life of faith is not an easy walk. Often it is a long walk with many ups and downs. If we rely on our own strength, piety, and determination to go forward, we will quickly find ourselves looking like Peter and Elijah—fearful and despairing. What does this teach us, then? We need the Lord! Our faith is from him from beginning to end!

*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,



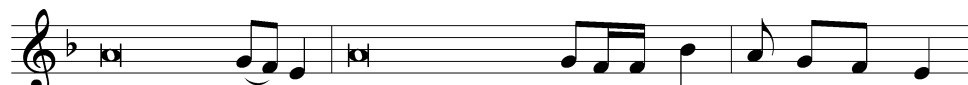
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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;



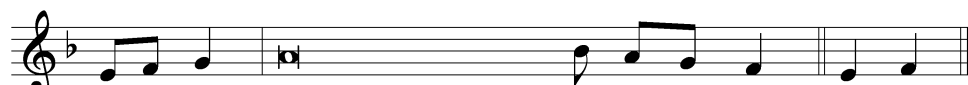
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



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.

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what you want done; 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 19:9–18

*The Lord answers Elijah's doubt not with a great show of power but with the gentle whisper of his gracious promise.*

<sup>9</sup>There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>10</sup>He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

<sup>11</sup>The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup>After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>14</sup>He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

<sup>15</sup>The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. <sup>17</sup>Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. <sup>18</sup>Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 73A God Is the Strength of My Heart

Psalm 73A

## Second Reading

Romans 8:28–39

*Paul teaches that in all things, good and bad, we can trust that God is carrying out his perfect plan for his glory and our salvation.*

<sup>28</sup>And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup>And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;  
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 11:1



### Refrain



Now faith is confidence in what we hope for  
and assurance about what we do not see.

### Refrain

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708875

## Gospel

Matthew 14:22–33

*In the account of Peter walking on the water, we see how quickly doubt challenges faith. And we see how graciously Jesus responds to our doubt.*

<sup>22</sup>Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup>After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

<sup>25</sup>Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup>When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

<sup>27</sup>But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

<sup>28</sup>“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

<sup>29</sup>“Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

<sup>31</sup>Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

<sup>32</sup>And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup>Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*



**Sermon**

*Lord, Save Us!*

1 Kings 19:9–18

*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

**650 From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry**

CW 650

*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.**

## **820 O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

CW 820

## **Acknowledgments**

Setting One from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright

© 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

## CHANCEL FLOWERS



The Thomas family has purchased the flowers for the chancel area today. Barbara celebrated a birthday on August 10<sup>th</sup> and Mat celebrated his birthday on August 11<sup>th</sup>! May God bless both of you and fill your hearts with humble gratitude for the privilege of living life to the honor and glory of God all these years.

## BUNCO

We've set a date!! Please join us for Bunco on Friday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Come one, come all for a night of fun and fellowship—no experience required! For any questions, see Debbie Muehlfeld.



Operating Offerings		Attendance		Mortgage Progress	
8/6/23	\$ 3,106.00	8/6/23	62	8/6/23	\$ 415.00
Month to Date	\$ 3,106.00			Month to Date	\$ 415.00
YTD	\$ 120,097.00			YTD	\$ 25,790.00
Budget YTD	\$ 120,315.00			Budget YTD	\$ 20,786.00
2022 YTD	\$ 110,788.00			2022 YTD	\$ 27,562.00

**Weekly needs August Operating Offering**  
**Monthly Mortgage Payment**

**\$ 3,830.00**  
**\$ 2,867.00**