

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Faith Isn't Worried about the World

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 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

Such calamity! So many disasters! Unspeakable wickedness! The world is full of unpleasant and downright terrible things. It’s enough to make a person shudder. A Christian may be most distressed of all—will this wickedness overcome us? Won’t evil people destroy us? There’s no need to fear however. God knows the condition of the world, but rather than uproot his people now, he is waiting until the harvest is fully ripe. We don’t need to worry about the world. God will take care of it. Perfect justice is coming. Deliverance is coming. Faith isn’t worried about the world.

873 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

CW 873

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.

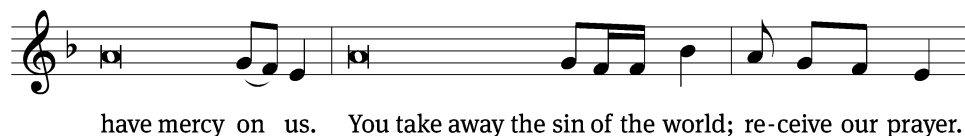
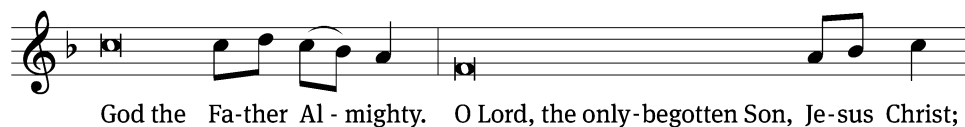
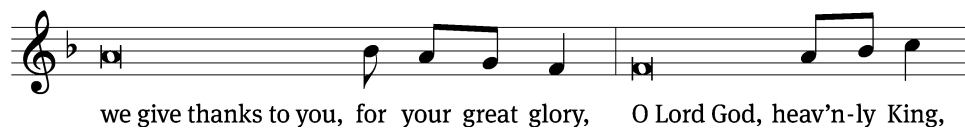
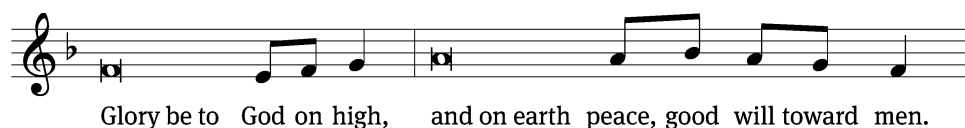
Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



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, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with you in perfect joy hereafter; 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

Isaiah 44:6–11

Like wheat among weeds, Christians live surrounded by evil in this world. But God promises that the presence of evil in this world does not mean that God doesn't care for us.

⁶“This is what the LORD says—

Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty:

I am the first and I am the last;

apart from me there is no God.

⁷Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and lay out before me

what has happened since I established my ancient people,

and what is yet to come—

yes, let them foretell what will come.

⁸Do not tremble, do not be afraid.

Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?

You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?

No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.”

⁹All who make idols are nothing,

and the things they treasure are worthless.

Those who would speak up for them are blind;

they are ignorant, to their own shame.

¹⁰Who shapes a god and casts an idol,

which can profit nothing?

¹¹People who do that will be put to shame;

such craftsmen are only human beings.

Let them all come together and take their stand;

they will be brought down to terror and shame.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

19C Lord, You Have the Words of Everlasting Life

Psalm 19C

Refrain

Lord, you have the words of
ev - er - last - ing life.

Tone

The heavens declare the glo- / ry of God;
the skies proclaim the work / of his hands.
Their voice goes out into / all the earth,
their words to the ends / of the world. *Refrain*

The law of the LORD is / perfect,
refresh- / ing the soul.
The commands of the LORD are / radiant,
giving light / to the eyes.
They are more pre- / cious than gold;
they are sweeter than / honey. *Refrain*

May these words of my mouth and this meditation / of my heart
be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my rock and my Re- / deemer.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

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Second Reading

Romans 1:18–25

Jesus' parable about the wheat and weeds could give the impression that God is ambivalent about evil. But God's wrath is real and will be fully revealed at the harvest.

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Romans 11:33



Refrain



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

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

Refrain

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Gospel

Matthew 13:24–30,36–43

The Lord has a plan to separate wheat and weeds. Christians will be perfectly separated from every evil at the final harvest.

²⁴Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷“The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

²⁸“ ‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹“ ‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ ”

³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴²They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

799 I Leave All Things to God’s Direction

CW 799

Sermon

Isaiah 44:6–11

There is Only One God

- I. **Who can oppose him?**
- II. **Why should we fear?**

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

Offering

624 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

CW 624

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.

800 How Firm a Foundation

CW 800 v.1, 5

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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THE WEEK AHEAD

WEDNESDAY	10:15 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Bible Class
SUNDAY	9:15 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship

FLOWERS

Karen Thomasson purchased the flowers for the altar today to give thanks and praise to God for the many blessings she has enjoyed from family and friends over the years. Over the course of our lives there are many people who impact our lives positively. Remember that all the relationships you have with others are gifts to you from God. Thank him for those who have made your life just a little sweeter. We struggle daily to live our lives for Christ. We join Karen in thanking God for the positive encouragement so many loved ones have brought into our lives.



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	
7/16/23	\$ 2,596.00	7/16/23	69	7/16/23	\$ 2,530.00
Month to Date	\$ 10,529.00			Month to Date	\$ 3,195.00
YTD	\$ 113,061.00			YTD	\$ 24,945.00
Budget YTD	\$ 108,839.00			Budget YTD	\$ 18,923.00
2022 YTD	\$ 101,880.00			2022 YTD	\$ 23,460.00

Weekly needs July Operating Offering
Monthly Mortgage Payment

\$ 3,823.00
\$ 2,867.00