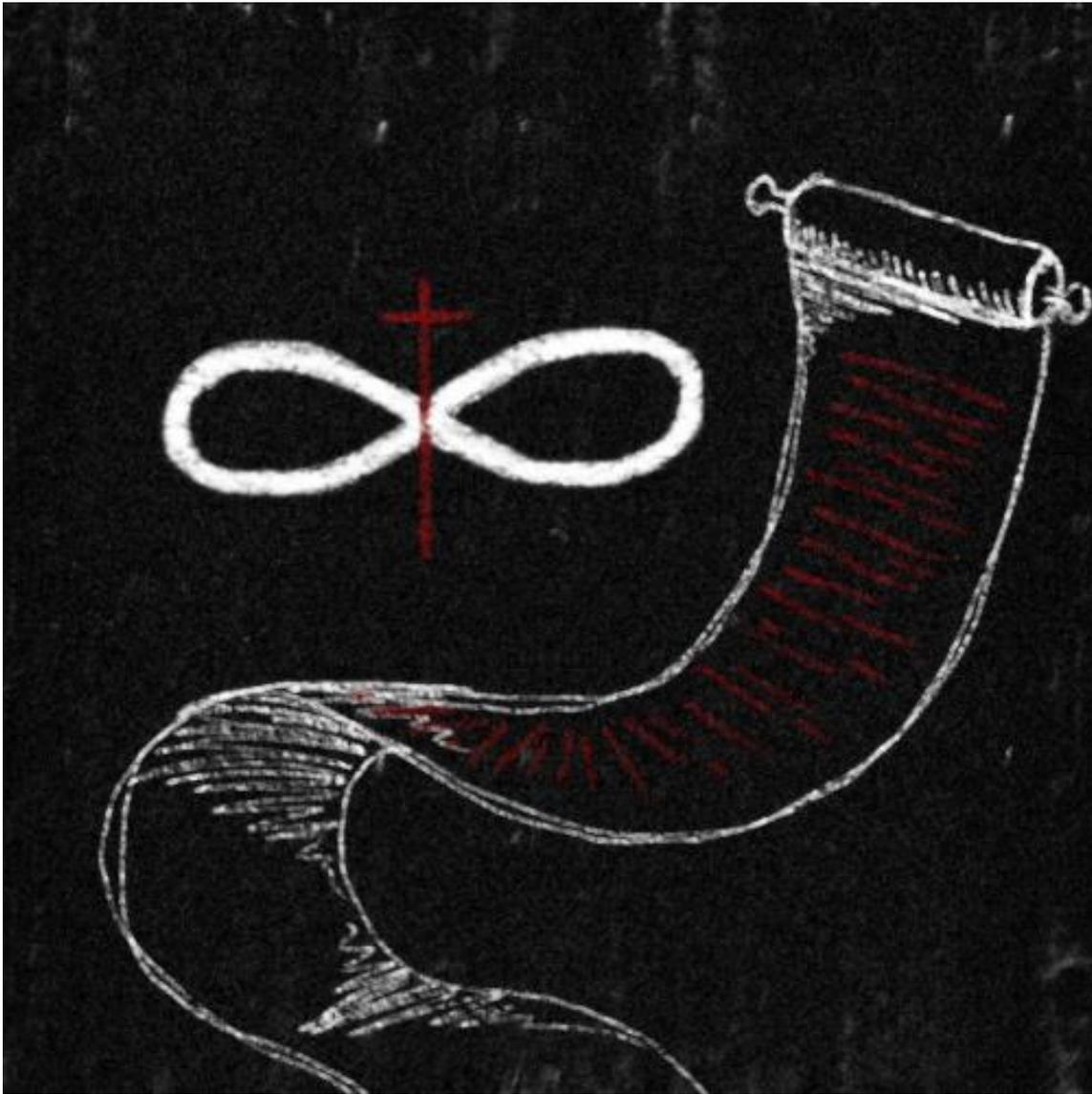


# Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Patiently and Eagerly Waiting

Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 20, 2022



***“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! 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**

Jesus promised, “I am coming soon” (Second Reading). But what does soon mean to the one who is the Alpha and Omega, the eternal God? We do not know. We want Christ to return quickly, because we know the Last Day will be a day of great deliverance for God’s people. But how long will we have to wait? Will it be in a few months or a few millennia? We cannot know.

As we await Christ’s return, we want to avoid two extremes: impatience and indifference. Let us not despair if the deliverance of the Last Day does not come as quickly as we would like. But let us never doubt that that deliverance will indeed come. How do we avoid those extremes? How does Christ’s church remain ready and watchful? In this last week of the Church Year, our Savior does what he has done all year—point us to his Scriptures. The Scriptures record countless promises that have already been fulfilled in Christ. That assures us that the as-of-yet unfulfilled promises are as good as done. There is no doubting that the Last Day will come. There is no doubting it will be a day of blessed deliverance for God’s people.

## **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.

*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

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.

Eternal God, merciful Father, you have appointed your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of his return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for your own from the foundation of the world; 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

*Habakkuk 1:1–3; 2:1–4*

*Like we are, Habakkuk was waiting for the LORD to act. God promised that he would act, and he had his prophet put that promise in writing.*

<sup>1</sup>The prophecy that Habakkuk the prophet received.

<sup>2</sup>How long, LORD, must I call for help,  
but you do not listen?

Or cry out to you, “Violence!”  
but you do not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me look at injustice?  
Why do you tolerate wrongdoing?  
Destruction and violence are before me;  
there is strife, and conflict abounds.

<sup>4</sup>I will stand at my watch  
and station myself on the ramparts;  
I will look to see what he will say to me,  
and what answer I am to give to this complaint.

<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD replied:

“Write down the revelation  
and make it plain on tablets  
so that a herald may run with it.

<sup>3</sup>For the revelation awaits an appointed time;

it speaks of the end  
and will not prove false.  
Though it linger, wait for it;  
it will certainly come  
and will not delay.

<sup>4</sup>“See, the enemy is puffed up;  
his desires are not upright—  
but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness—

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## 130A Out of the Depths

*Psalm 130A*

## Second Reading

*Revelation 22:6–13*

*Jesus will return soon. When he does, the reward he won for mankind will be in his hand.*

<sup>6</sup>The angel said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place.”

<sup>7</sup>“Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.”

<sup>8</sup>I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!”

<sup>10</sup>Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. <sup>11</sup>Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy.”

<sup>12</sup>“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 24:42



*Refrain*



Therefore keep watch,  
because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

*Refrain*

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

## Gospel

Luke 12:35–40

*Jesus urges us to remain ready for his return at all times.*

<sup>35</sup>“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup>like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. <sup>37</sup>It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. <sup>38</sup>It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. <sup>39</sup>But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## 487 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

CW 487

## Sermon

*Patiently Waiting for What is Certainly Coming*

*Habakkuk 1:1–3, 2:1–4*

*Stand*

## **Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Prayer of the Church

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.*

Eternal and gracious Father, today we end another year of grace. Once again the Holy Spirit has nourished and strengthened our faith as we reviewed the words and works of Jesus recorded in the Gospels. We have rejoiced to hear that you kept the promises you made to your ancient people. We were encouraged as we remembered how you empowered your followers to proclaim the good news in their world.

**Work in us every day to believe the truths of your Word and apply them in our lives.**

We are aware that we live in dangerous times as Satan and his forces of evil assault your people again and again. Give us wisdom to discern teachings that subtly deny the Scriptures. Provide courage to stand against the attacks of godless opponents. Strengthen our resolve to confess the truth and then to speak the truth in love.

**Work in us every day to be watchful and cautious as we live in our world.**

Help us take to heart that your Son, our Lord Jesus, is coming again to judge the living and the dead. Since the day of his return is unknown to us, lead us to note the signs that signal the end of time. Spare us from fear as trouble and woe increase, and fill us with hope as we long for that great day.

**Work in us every day to be ready for the moment of his coming.**

Fill us with concern for family members and friends who are not taking seriously their need for Jesus and his forgiveness. Provide opportunities to reach out to them with patient persistence and to lovingly lead them to your Word and sacraments. Make us generous with our offerings so that others can go in our place to proclaim the good news.

**Work in us every day to witness to Christ and his love for sinners.**

Lead us to see our Savior's face in the faces of the poor and hungry, the lonely and forgotten, the oppressed and imprisoned, and move to support them whenever we can. [Today we ask that you keep in your care... *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Empower our faith to be lights in the world so that people may see our good works and glorify you and your Son.

**Work in us every day to imitate your love for the lost, the least, and the last.**

If you call us to glory before the final day comes, carry our souls to heaven where we will await the resurrection of our bodies. Comfort those who may grieve over losing us and point them to the day when they will join us at the marriage feast of the Lamb.

**Work in us every day so that we are ready whenever you call us home.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

### *Silent prayer*

Fill us with hope and joy as we await your Son's return. Cause us to enjoy your earthly blessings in light of your eternal glories and to realize that heaven is really our home. Lead us to long for the splendor of Paradise where you will wipe away all tears from our eyes.

**Work in us every day as we listen for the sound of the final trumpet. Amen.**

## Offering

# The Sacrament

*Stand*

## Preface

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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 preserves his Church to the end of time, when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to 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

CW 167



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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**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.

## Words of Institution

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
Amen.

## O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

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.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, and the third staff covers the third line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be seated*

## Distribution

*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**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.**

## 856 Built on the Rock

CW 856

## 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 © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

<b>MONDAY</b>	6:30 pm Catechism
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	6:30 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:15 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship

**CHANCEL FLOWERS**



Jeanne and Sally Thomas purchased the flowers for worship today in loving memory of their mother, Lois, who fell asleep in Jesus in October 2013. Let us remember the souls of those believers who are now living with Christ in glory, to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the blessings they have brought into our lives, and to long for the day when we too can take our place in heaven’s glory for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Thanks for reminding us of those blessings Jeanne and Sally!

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

There will be no Sunday School this coming Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Sunday School will resume the following Sunday.

**ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT -“TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY”**

An Advent by Candlelight program for the women of Prince of Peace and their friends. Come, relax and be recharged with the meaning of the Christmas season.

Friday, December 2, 2022  
 Prince Of Peace Fellowship Hall  
 Hors d’oeuvres served at 6:00 pm  
 Program at 7:00 pm.

Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board so we know how many to plan for.  
 Questions? Contact: Barbara Smith

**GEORGIA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Don’t forget you can participate in the APOGEE program to support our preschool. Your Georgia state income tax dollars can be redirected to our preschool. For more information contact Jeanne Thomas or Ann Wendt. **Sign up for 2023 now!**  
 You can also check out the Apogee website at [www.apogee123.org](http://www.apogee123.org)



<u>Operating Offerings</u>		<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Mortgage Progress</u>	
11/13/22	\$ 4,748.00			11/13/22	\$ 232.00
Month to Date	\$ 8,595.00	10:30 am	79	Month to Date	\$ 364.00
YTD	\$ 157,216.00			YTD	\$ 37,040.00
Budget YTD	\$ 178,251.00			Budget YTD	\$ 30,104.00
2021 YTD	\$ 168,711.00			2021 YTD	\$ 36,890.00
<b>Weekly needs November Operating Offering</b>					<b>\$ 4,063.00</b>
<b>Monthly Mortgage Payment</b>					<b>\$ 2,867.00</b>

