

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 ✕ 8:00 & 10:15 AM

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

WOUNDS THAT HEAL

Not all wounds are bad. A skilled surgeon takes a deadly sharp scalpel and cuts through flesh and muscle. The result of that wound: not harm, but healing. In the same way, we often say that words cut us to the heart. Words can wound. Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need.

Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. While Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.



This morning: ***No one can serve two masters***

There are more than 2,300 Bible passages that speak about money. Why? Money is a master Satan frequently tempts us to serve. In fact, out of all the masters competing for our service besides God, money is probably at the top of the list. Money provides us with a false comfort and sense of security. Money serves as a source of pride. This week, Jesus' sharp words identify the impossibility of serving more than one master. More, Jesus teaches that if we dedicate our lives in service to money, money will always let us down. In contrast, God has proven that he is a master worth serving. When we serve God, money is put in its proper place. Instead of it being a master to serve, it becomes a tool in our service of our true Master.

A PERSONAL PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord Jesus, this morning I rejoice that together with my spiritual brothers and sisters I am able to receive Your Word of life and Your body and blood in Your Supper. My soul longs for You and the gifts of Your Word and Your holy altar. You are my Shepherd; therefore, I shall lack nothing. I know I am unworthy to come under Your roof, but by Your grace cause Your precious Word and meal to revive me, forgive me and sustain my soul. May your grace be on me that I may continually trust in You. Through Your gracious presence here today, preserve my spirit, my life, my walk with You and provide whatever else I need for this life and the next. I ask this in Your gracious name. Amen.


THE DIVINE SERVICE

 *The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD** type.* 

HYMN 818 My Soul Finds Rest In God Alone

PLEASE STAND.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son  and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Psalms 32:1-2

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,


and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for 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

To God on high be glory
and peace to all the earth,
for God has shown his favor
in Jesus' holy birth!
Almighty God and Father,
our humble thanks we bring;
we worship you, we bless you,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

O Lamb of God exalted,
you take all sin away;
extend to us your mercy
and hear us as we pray.
With God the Holy Spirit,
at God the Father's throne,
you reign, O Christ, forever,
for you are Lord alone!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have told us not to be anxious about what we need for this life. Move our hearts to seek you and your kingdom, that all good things may be given to us as well; 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

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

King Solomon knew from experience that if you serve money, you will end up sorely disappointed.

Whoever loves money never has enough;
whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income.

This too is meaningless.
As goods increase,
so do those who consume them.
And what benefit are they to the owners
except to feast their eyes on them?
The sleep of a laborer is sweet,
whether they eat little or much,
but as for the rich, their abundance
permits them no sleep.

I have seen a grievous evil under the sun:
wealth hoarded to the harm of its owners,
or wealth lost through some misfortune,
so that when they have children
there is nothing left for them to inherit.
Everyone comes naked from their
mother's womb,
and as everyone comes, so they depart.
They take nothing from their toil
that they can carry in their hands.

This too is a grievous evil:
As everyone comes, so they depart,
and what do they gain,
since they toil for the wind?
All their days they eat in darkness,
with great frustration, affliction and anger.
This is what I have observed to be good:
that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to
drink and to find satisfaction in their
toilsome labor under the sun during the
few days of life God has given them—for
this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives
someone wealth and possessions, and the
ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot
and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of
God. They seldom reflect on the days of
their life, because God keeps them
occupied with gladness of heart.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 128

Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways.

You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table.

Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life; may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem,

And may you live to see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel.

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.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:6-10,17-19

Saint Paul teaches that serving money will lead to spiritual destruction. But serving God with our money leads to a fulfilling life.

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. [...]

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 6:33

Please stand

Alleluia! Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

All money belongs to God; he loans it to us to manage for his glory. Through a parable, Jesus teaches us to be shrewd in the way we use money to serve him.

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'

"The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg— I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'

“So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

“ ‘Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,’ he replied.

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

“Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’

“ ‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied.

“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’

“The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. I tell you, use

worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY 807 All Depends On Our Possessing

SERMON Ecclesiastes 5 God gives it

Please 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.**

*Romans 10:10; Dt 6:4
Matthew 6:9; Ex 6:3
Genesis 1:1; John 1:1
Colossians 1:16*

*Romans 10:9
Matthew 16:16
John 3:16
John 1:1,8,12,17:22
Colossians 2:9
John 1:2
John 10:30
Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3
1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23
John 6:41; Luke 15:20
Luke 1:34-35
John 1:14
Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18
Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53
1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6
Acts 1:9
Acts 7:55*

**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.**

*Matthew 26:64
Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12
2 Peter 1:11*

*Jn 14:26; Acts 2:38
Genesis 1:2; John 3:6
John 15:26
Mt 3:16-17
Ez 11:5; 2 Pt 1:20-21
1 Peter 2:5; Eph 2:19-22
Ephesians 4:5; Acts 2:38
1 Co 15:35-49; 1 Thes 4
Psalm 106:48*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Kind Father, Your Son declared to us that we cannot serve You and also be devoted to money. Free all Your baptized children from obsession with the goods of this world, that they may set their hearts on the joys of the kingdom and the inheritance that never fades. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You provide us with daily bread and with everything we need for this body and life. Free us from greed and covetousness, that we might be content with Your blessing and glad to share with those in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, be with the sick and those who suffer, those troubled in mind, those grieving in their sorrows, and the

dying in their last hours. Grant them the comfort of Your presence, relief according to Your will and peace in their hearts.

We pray for... Cheri Trujillo (Joni Kohagen's niece diagnosed with aggressive cancer), John Farrel (health struggles), Scott (Kat's relative receiving medical care), Frankie (Robyn's young friend with cancer), Harry (Nancy's brother-in-law with serious health struggles), Dave (Heidi Brandt's dad recovering from heart surgery), the building project at Prince of Peace

Hear us also, Lord, as we pray in silence with the concerns on our hearts.

Silent prayer

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERING



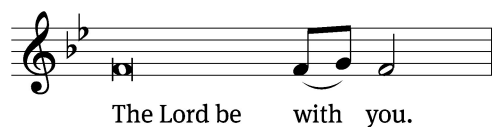
Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.

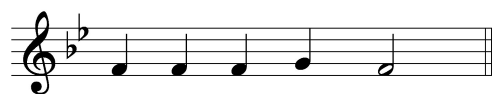
*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

THE SACRAMENT

Stand



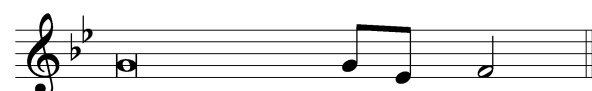
The Lord be with you.



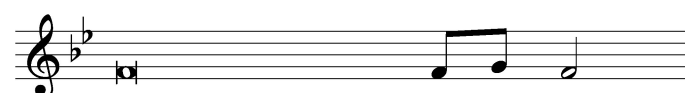
And al - so with you.



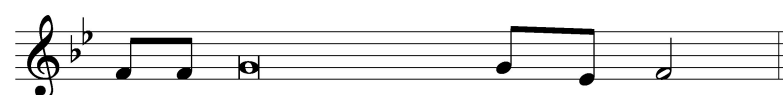
Lift up your hearts.



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.

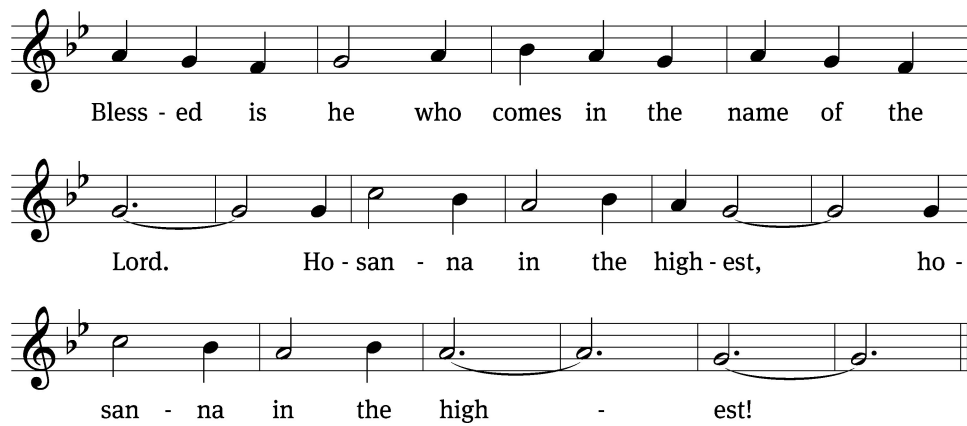
It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you.

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. **Amen.**

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 WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS

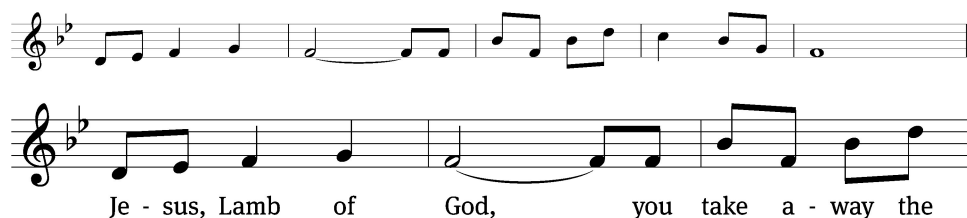
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✝ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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.

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD





Be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS *Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.*

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!**

HYMN 748 Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

HYMN 662 Draw Near

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go in peace. Your ✝ sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Psalms 118:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN 926 Lead Me, Lord



Thank you to Greta Boettcher for using her gifts to serve us and our Savior with music this morning!

2 Bible Classes on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm:

1 THE WORD OF LIFE

A great starting point if you're new to Prince of Peace. This class presents the basic truths of God's Word. Join us to learn, review, discuss, and ask questions! Everyone is welcome!

2 FAITH ENRICHMENT

A chance to grow further in faith, this class will study

Our Father's World: life as a child of God.

Everyone is welcome!

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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