# The Beginning of the End >



THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 8, 2026 ✠ 8:00 AM & 10:15 AM

PRINCE OF PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

WEBSITE
popslc.org

epoplutheranslc

MAIN OFFICE
(801)261-3806

DAVID M. BOETTCHER | PASTOR
CELL:(585) 409-1655
david.boettcher@popslc.org

TYLER R. PEIL | PASTOR
CELL:(402) 936-3655
tyler.peil@popslc.org

ARIC REIM | VICAR
CELL:(715) 829-5965
aric.reim@popslc.org

MICHAEL E. PAULSEN | PRINCIPAL
CELL:(262) 490-4772
mike.paulsen@popschool.org

# WELCOME

We're glad you're here and want you to feel comfortable!

## WHAT TO EXPECT

The service is printed here except for hymns which are found in the blue hymnal in the pew. Join in as you're comfortable.

## FOR FAMILIES

Children are welcome here! 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 needed, the entryway has audio so you can still participate.

## NEED HELP?

Ask anyone—we're glad to help.
Pastors Boettcher and Peil would love to meet you - please introduce yourself!

## HOLY COMMUNION

If you're a visitor today, please see our note to you about Holy Communion on page 8.

**Thanks for being with us. God bless you through His Word.**

## THE BEGINNING OF THE END – A TIME TO BE WATCHFUL

"The End Is Near." For Christians, those words announce watchful hope, not fear. The End Times began with Christ's first coming, especially his death and resurrection. Now we live between salvation won and glory still to come. It's the beginning of the end.

No one knows when Christ will return. Through his Word and sacraments, God forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, and keeps us ready. For believers, the end is truly a beginning.

As the church year draws to a close, Scripture points us toward the end of time when Christ will come again. Until then Christ teaches us how to live in the time in between.

As we wait for Christ to return, as day after day passes, it can be easy to get distracted, to lose vigilance, to become spiritually drowsy. God forbid that Christ should return and find us spiritually asleep. Today we are reminded that the time in between Christ's first and second coming is a time for watchfulness. The Church prays, "Lord God, keep us every watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven."

# THE DIVINE SERVICE

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

## HYMN 707 Cling Tightly To the Word of God

## INVOCATION

*Please stand at the minister's direction if you are able*

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✙ and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*
**Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. *1 John 1:8*

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just**
**and will forgive us our sins**
**and purify us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:9*

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 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.**

## VERSES OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND PRAISE

The ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. *Isaiah 55:11*

**I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the Gospel of God's grace.** *Acts 20:24*

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him. *James 1:12*

**There is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing.** *2 Timothy 4:8*

When the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.
*1 Peter 5:4*

**Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.**
*Revelation 2:10*

## GLORY BE TO GOD IN HEAVEN *(Gloria in Excelsis)*




## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; 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.*

# The Word of God

## FIRST READING — Isaiah 52:1-6

*Israel got spiritually sleepy and so the Lord's prophet cries out: "Awake!" God promised He would lead them home. The Church still gets distracted from her goal and sleepy on her way. So the prophet cries to us, "Awake!" for the day of triumph is coming when God will redeem us from sin, death, and the devil forever. He is leading us home.*

Awake, awake, Zion,
clothe yourself with strength!
Put on your garments of splendor,
Jerusalem, the holy city.
The uncircumcised and defiled
will not enter you again.
2 Shake off your dust;
rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem.
Free yourself from the chains on your neck,
Daughter Zion, now a captive.
3 For this is what the Lord says:
"You were sold for nothing,
and without money you will be
redeemed."
4 For this is what the Sovereign Lord says:
"At first my people went down to Egypt to
live; lately, Assyria has oppressed them.
5 "And now what do I have here?" declares
the Lord.
"For my people have been taken away for
nothing, and those who rule them mock,"
declares the Lord.
"And all day long my name is constantly
blasphemed.
6 Therefore my people will know my name;
therefore in that day they will know that it
is I who foretold it.
Yes, it is I."

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

## JERUSALEM THE GOLDEN

*At 8:00 am service, the congregation sings this hymn - it 889 in the hymnal.*
*At 10:15 am service, Jr Choir sings stanzas 1+2 and the congregation is invited to join in 3.*

Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest—
the sight of it refreshes the weary and oppressed.
I know not, oh, I know not what joys await us there,
what radiancy of glory, what bliss beyond compare:
to sing the hymn unending with all the martyr throng,
amidst the halls of Zion resounding full with song.

O sweet and blessèd country, the home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessèd country that eager hearts expect,
where they who with their leader have conquered in the fight
forever and forever are clad in robes of white:
in mercy, Jesus, bring us to that dear land of rest
where sings the host of heaven your glorious name to bless.

The Christ is ever with them, the daylight is serene;
the pastures of the blessèd are ever rich and green.
There is the throne of David, and there, from care released,
the shout of them that triumph, the song of them that feast.
To God enthroned in glory the Church's voices blend,
the Lamb forever blessèd, the Light that knows no end.

## SECOND READING — 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*St. Paul calls us to be awake, alert and different because we are the children of God who belong to the Light and who reflect the light of Christ.*

Now, brothers and sisters, about times
and dates we do not need to write to
you, 2for you know very well that the
day of the Lord will come like a thief in the
night. 3While people are saying, "Peace and
safety," destruction will come on them
suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant
woman, and they will not escape.
4But you, brothers and sisters, are not in
darkness so that this day should surprise
you like a thief. 5You are all children of the
light and children of the day. We do not
belong to the night or to the darkness. 6So
then, let us not be like others, who are
asleep, but let us be awake and sober. 7For
those who sleep, sleep at night, and those
who get drunk, get drunk at night. 8But
since we belong to the day, let us be sober,
putting on faith and love as a breastplate,
and the hope of salvation as a helmet. 9For
God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but
to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus
Christ. 10He died for us so that, whether we
are awake or asleep, we may live together
with him. 11Therefore encourage one
another and build each other up, just as in
fact you are doing.

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

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — Matthew 24:42

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

## THE HOLY GOSPEL — Matthew 25:1-13

*Jesus tells a story about how he will usher us into heaven, pictured here as a lavish wedding banquet. He wants us to be ready to meet him when that day comes!*

At that time the kingdom of heaven will
be like ten virgins who took their
lamps and went out to meet the
bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish and
five were wise. 3The foolish ones took their
lamps but did not take any oil with them.
4The wise ones, however, took oil in jars
along with their lamps. 5The bridegroom was
a long time in coming, and they all became
drowsy and fell asleep.
6"At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'
7"Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed
their lamps. 8The foolish ones said to the
wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps
are going out.'
9" 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be
enough for both us and you. Instead, go to
those who sell oil and buy some for
yourselves.'
10"But while they were on their way to buy
the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins
who were ready went in with him to the
wedding banquet. And the door was shut.
11"Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,'
they said, 'open the door for us!'
12"But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't
know you.'
13"Therefore keep watch, because you do
not know the day or the hour.

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

*Be seated.*

## HYMN 486 | Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying

## SERMON

*Please stand*

## NICENE CREED

| | |
|---|---|
| **We believe in one God,** | *Romans 10:10; Dt 6:4* |
| **the Father, the Almighty,** | *Matthew 6:9; Ex 6:3* |
| **maker of heaven and earth,** | *Genesis 1:1; John 1:1* |
| **of all that is, seen and unseen.** | *Colossians 1:16* |
| **We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,** | *Romans 10:9* |
| **the only Son of God,** | *Matthew 16:16* |
| **eternally begotten of the Father,** | *John 3:16* |
| **God from God, Light from Light,** | *John 1:1,8:12,17:22* |
| **true God from true God,** | *Colossians 2:9* |
| **begotten, not made,** | *John 1:2* |
| **of one being with the Father.** | *John 10:30* |
| **Through him all things were made.** | *Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3* |
| **For us and for our salvation,** | *1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23* |
| **he came down from heaven,** | *John 6:41; Luke 15:20* |
| **was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,** | *Luke 1:34-35* |
| **and became truly human.** | *John 1:14* |
| **For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.** | *Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18* |
| **He suffered death and was buried.** | *Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53* |
| **On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.** | *1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6* |
| **He ascended into heaven** | *Acts 1:9* |
| **and is seated at the right hand of the Father.** | *Acts 7:55* |
| **He will come again in glory** | *Matthew 26:64* |
| **to judge the living and the dead,** | *Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12* |
| **and his kingdom will have no end.** | *2 Peter 1:11* |
| **We believe in the Holy Spirit,** | *Jn 14:26; Acts 2:38* |
| **the Lord, the giver of life,** | *Genesis 1:2; John 3:6* |
| **who proceeds from the Father and the Son,** | *John 15:26* |
| **who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,** | *Mt 3:16-17* |
| **who has spoken through the prophets.** | *Ez 11:5; 2 Pt 1:20-21* |
| **We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.** | *1 Peter 2:5; Eph 2:19-22* |
| **We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.** | *Ephesians 4:5; Acts 2:38* |
| **We look for the resurrection of the dead** | *1 Co 15:35-49; 1 Thes 4* |
| **and the life of the world to come. Amen.** | *Psalm 106:48* |

*Be seated*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord, You are our help and deliverer. We bring to You the prayers and petitions of Your people, that You may grant us all things needful and guard us against all things harmful. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, show mercy to those who cry aloud as they await Your Son's coming in glory. Answer them with strength and

healing, comfort and hope. Make them confident in Christ, who will raise His people on the Last Day. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, Your Son will descend from heaven with a cry of command, raise those who have fallen asleep and deliver us to Your kingdom of glory. Until that day, strengthen us by His body and blood and prepare us for His coming in glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our salvation, we know neither the day nor the hour of Christ's return, but we know that He has died and is risen again to open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Until that day, preserve us in faith and guard us from temptation. Do not let us be caught unprepared for His coming. Let us live our days in loving service and joyful expectation of the life of the world to come; Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of nations, let us never forget those who have devoted themselves to our protection through military service. Make us grateful for their willingness to leave their families and sacrifice their lives out of love for our country. Help us honor their service by faithfully fulfilling our own vocations as citizens, so that their sacrifices are not rendered useless. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*We pray for… Mike and Joeleen Jones, Betty Moser, John Farrel (all with health struggles), Judy (Nancy Brandt's sister in cancer treatment), Brent's son and baby Gentri (both in need of transplant), Jean Beifuss (recovering from surgery), Corina Huff (sister of Brandon/Corina Huff with bladder cancer)*

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever. **Hear us for Jesus' sake. 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.*

*One time or recurring GIFTS can be given through an account on our app: Church Center (QR Code on the left.)*

*Or, for a one time gift, text **Give + dollar amount (example: Give$5)** to **1 (844) 791-0302**. You'll receive a link to follow in response.*

## 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!**

# THE SACRAMENT

*Stand*

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 promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them 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




## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament and deepen

our longing for the day when he will welcome us to his eternal feast.

Remember us in Your kingdom as we pray…

**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.**

## O LAMB OF GOD




*Be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## HYMN 493 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

## HYMN 873 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

*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.**

*Please stand*

## PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
**His mercy endures forever.** *Psalm 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 713 I Want to Walk as a Child of Light

*We thank our Lord for Sarah Boettcher, Chandra Lange and our Junior Choir for their gifts used to serve us our Savior with music this morning!*