

THE TIME IN BETWEEN

In the great timeline of human history, there are only two ultimately significant points: the first time Christ came to our world to win salvation by his life, death, and resurrection; and the second time Christ will come to consummate his everlasting kingdom.

We live in the time in between those two points. It is a time of tension. We know that peace and perfection are ours already because of what Jesus did the first time he came. Yet we do not enjoy a peaceful and perfect existence now already. We will not know such a life until Christ comes again. And so we wait and watch, living in the time in between. 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.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 19, 2023 ✠ 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM

50 PRINCE OF PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

WEBSITE
popslc.org



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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!


THE BEST USE OF US


Living eschatologically... That's a fancy way of saying, "living in the knowledge of how things all work out in the End." And it's just what Jesus wants for you. He wants you to be so absolutely certain that your future is secured and is secure in His hands that you can live freely in the present, using what He's given you, and enjoying it all because you know how things work out in the End. His parable and St. Paul's encouragement are the Word of God today to stir us to rearrange our lives again so that we are of good use to Jesus who has entrusted us with everything we have!

A personal prayer before worship

O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray that You would open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

THE DIVINE SERVICE

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

Hymns not printed in this service folder are found in the blue hymnals in each pew. 

Hymn 560 Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ

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.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



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.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

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



A - men. A - men.

Glory to God in the Highest



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
 Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
 Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
 Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
 God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
 and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
 And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; 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 1:10-18

The Israelites had treasures - the promises of God and the rituals that taught them about Him and their relationship to their forgiving LORD. But they did not treasure these things in faith; they simply went through the motions and they did not act in love toward one another. The Lord calls them to repent. He says to them what He could rightfully say to us: I don't hear you anymore. But His call to repent is love - He calls them to repent so that they can see His love: He will wash them from all their sins.

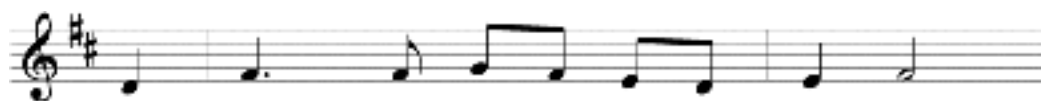
¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD,
you rulers of Sodom;
listen to the instruction of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!
¹¹"The multitude of your sacrifices—
what are they to me?" says the LORD.
"I have more than enough of burnt
offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened
animals;
I have no pleasure
in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.
¹²When you come to appear before me,
who has asked this of you,
this trampling of my courts?
¹³Stop bringing meaningless offerings!
Your incense is detestable to me.
New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—
I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.
¹⁴Your New Moon feasts and your
appointed festivals I hate with all my
being.
They have become a burden to me;

I am weary of bearing them.
¹⁵When you spread out your hands in
prayer, I hide my eyes from you;
even when you offer many prayers,
I am not listening.
Your hands are full of blood!
¹⁶Wash and make yourselves clean.
Take your evil deeds out of my sight;
stop doing wrong.
¹⁷Learn to do right; seek justice.
Defend the oppressed.
Take up the cause of the fatherless;
plead the case of the widow.
¹⁸"Come now, let us settle the matter,"
says the LORD.
"Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson,
they shall be like wool.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139 | O God, You Search me

Psalm 139G sts. 1-2, 5



1 O God, you search me and you know me.
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing.
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me,



All my thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze,
 You dis - cern my pur - pose from a - far,
 gave me life with - in my moth - er's womb.



When I walk or lie down, you are be - fore me:
 and with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me:
 For the won - der of who I am, I praise you:



ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.
 In ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.
 Safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-8

Paul sees something beautiful: the body of Jesus, His Church at work under God's mercy.

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members,

and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 2:10

Alleluia! Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.
Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

Through a parable Jesus calls his followers to faithful service in grateful response to the gifts that the master has given and in joyful anticipation of the master's impending return.

¹⁴“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

¹⁶The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five.

‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²²“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful

with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸“ ‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn | Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me

By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. (1 Corinthians 15:10)

**1. What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless
peace**

**To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

**2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Savior He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won,
and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

3. No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

Sermon Matthew 25:14-30 “Do” and Fear... “Done” and Joy

Please 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



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



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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,
heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin. We remember and give you thanks for everything your Son has done for our salvation.

Bless us as we receive His body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Remember us in Your kingdom as we pray...

The 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.

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.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



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 751 O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

Hymn 748 Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

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.
Your ✝ sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

Prayer and Blessing

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 thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. 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.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

Numbers 6:24-26

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 729 Son of God, Eternal Savior



We thank the Lord for Neil Woller and his gifts used to serve us with music this morning!