



**THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

JANUARY 28, 2024 ✠ 8:00 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!



### **From the River to the Mountain - Absolute Authority**

Jesus has absolute authority. There is no one, not even the demons, who is outside his authority. As the Son of God there is no higher authority than Jesus. And his authority is everlasting. But here is the best part of this epiphany: Jesus graciously uses his absolute authority for our benefit and blessing!

### *A personal prayer before worship*

*O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, I am gathering with my brothers and sisters in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. Please 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 me for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

## THE DIVINE SERVICE

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

### Hymn 607 Ten Thousand Reasons

*Please stand.*

In the name of the Father and of the Son  $\text{✝}$  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.

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

*1 John 1:8-9*

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  $\text{✝}$  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 to God in the Highest

*The choir and congregation sing this new setting of the Glory to God as indicated:*

**Congregation:**



Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the  
high - est! Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, and peace to his  
peo-ple on earth.

*Choir:* Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

**Congregation:**



Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the  
high - est! Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, and peace to his  
peo-ple on earth.

*Choir:* Lord, Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer, receive our prayer.

**Congregation:**



Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the  
high - est! Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, and peace to his  
peo-ple on earth.

*Choir:* For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

**Congregation:**

Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the  
 high - est! Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth.

**Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on our weaknesses, and in all our dangers and needs stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; 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**

**Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

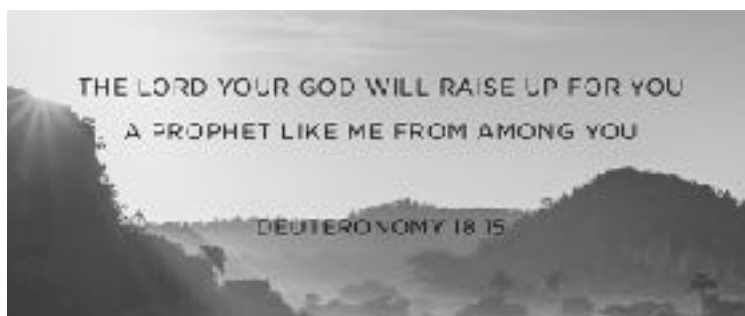
*Moses prophesied that the LORD would raise up another prophet who would speak with all the authority of God himself.*

<sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. <sup>16</sup>For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die."

will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. <sup>19</sup>I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. <sup>20</sup>But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."

<sup>17</sup>The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I

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



## Psalm of the Day | Psalm 72 Every Nation on Earth

The congregation sings the refrains:

Refrain



Ev - 'ry na - tion on earth, ev - 'ry na - tion on earth,



ev - 'ry na - tion a - dores you, Lord, yes, ev - 'ry na - tion on earth.



Ev - 'ry na - tion a - dores you, Lord, yes, ev - 'ry na - tion on earth.

The choir sings the verses:

Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the king's son.  
This one shall be the hope of the needy,  
the hope of the poor and oppressed.

*Refrain*

He shall reign from sea to sea  
to the farthest ends of the earth.  
All of the nations shall praise and adore,  
all peoples will bring him their gifts.

*Refrain*

### Second Reading

### Hebrews 3:1-6

*As great as Moses was, Jesus is worthy of infinitely greater honor because only Jesus has absolute authority.*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. <sup>2</sup>He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. <sup>3</sup>Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. <sup>4</sup>For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.

<sup>5</sup>"Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house," bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. <sup>6</sup>But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.

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

*Please stand*

### Gospel Acclamation

### Mark 1:22

Alleluia! The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority.  
**Alleluia!**

### The Holy Gospel

### Mark 1:21-28

*Jesus demonstrates absolute authority. Even his enemies, the demons, have to obey him.*

<sup>21</sup>They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. <sup>22</sup>The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

<sup>23</sup>Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

<sup>25</sup>“Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. <sup>27</sup>The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to You, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

## Hymn of the Day | 744 Rise, Shine, You People

### Sermon Mark 1:21-28 His Word of forgiveness is final

*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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church and her ministers, that the God who speaks by His Christ, the Prophet greater than Moses, would make them diligent to listen to His Word and speak it faithfully in His name; and that God would

preserve us from false prophets who would lead us away from His truth, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our families and homes, that God would guard them and build them up in love; that He would support parents in their task of instructing their children; that He

would strengthen those whose faith is weak; and that He would make us bold to attest the truths our Lord has revealed in His Word, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the health and success of our president and governor, our legislators and judges, and all who serve for our governance and protection, that God would make them high in purpose, wise in counsel and unwavering in duty, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are sick, distressed, in danger or facing any need, that the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Physician who cast out unclean spirits and taught with authority, would sustain them with patience, trusting in His merciful care, and so graciously relieve them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood, that in their eating and

drinking they may receive the benefits of forgiveness of sins and renewal of life, and so receive a foretaste of the feast to come, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all the baptized, that as we face the temptations of the devil, the world and our sinful flesh, we may be enabled to win the victory over all that threatens our faith, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest.

*Special intercessions may be included here*

Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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.*

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# THE SACRAMENT

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*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 good and right so to do.**

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 lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth.

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 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

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## O Christ, Lamb of God

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

*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. 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!***

A Personal Prayer before receiving Holy Communion *Dear Savior, we come to Your table at Your gracious invitation to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let us find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

A Personal Prayer after receiving Holy Communion *Dear Lord Jesus, we thank and praise You that You have again refreshed us with the gift of Your holy body and blood in this comforting sacrament. Bless our participation that we may depart from Your presence with peace and joy in the knowledge that we are reconciled to God. We ask this in Your name. Amen.*

**Jesus, Messiah** *by worship ensemble*

**King of Love** *by worship ensemble*

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

## The Song of Simeon

Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles  
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple is - ra-el.

## 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 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

*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



*Thank you to our musicians this morning, Amy Sehloff, Sophie Leng, Zach Brandt, Tom Bruce, Christopher Watanabe, Chandra Lange, Mike Paulsen, Josiah Schultz, Paul Porter and Randy Zahn, for using their gifts to serve us and our Savior with music this morning!*

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“The word religion comes from the Latin *religio*, a root that has received a remarkable number of different translations. The translation most meaningful to me is ‘to connect.’ William James defined religion as the attempt to be in harmony with an unseen order of things. In other words, theology attempts to delineate our proper connection into a spiritual, as opposed to purely material, universe.

“This matter of connection is the essence of Michael Novak’s distinction between what he called the ‘secular’ and the ‘sacred’ mentality. The person with a secular mentality feels himself to be the center of the universe. Yet he is likely to suffer from a sense of meaninglessness and insignificance because he knows he’s one human among five billion others—all feeling themselves to be the center of things—scratching out an existence on the surface of a medium-sized planet circling a small star among countless stars in a galaxy lost among countless galaxies. The person with a sacred mentality, however, does not feel herself to be the center of the universe. She considers the Center to be elsewhere and other. Yet she is unlikely to feel lost or insignificant precisely because she draws her significance and meaning from her relationship, her connection, with that center, that Other.”

-Rev. William Willimon, *Lectionary Sermons*