

**THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 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: ***The Shepherd Patiently Seeks the Lost***



"He's lost." We use that term not only to refer to someone who is bewildered about where they are but also to refer to someone who is in a helpless, hopeless state. Mankind's natural state is one of complete spiritual helplessness, a profound lostness. It manifests itself in countless ways. The one who simply wants God to leave him alone: lost. The one who feels she can handle life on her own: lost. The one who thinks he has the right to repent of his sins on his own timetable and terms: lost. The one who thinks God owes her in some way: lost. Wandering around physically lost can lead to winding up in bad places. Jesus' wounding words this week teach that wandering around spiritually lost puts you in the worst place of all. Fortunately, Jesus does not leave us in our lostness. He relentlessly seeks us. He involves the rest of the Christian community in seeking the lost and rejoicing over the found.

## 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

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

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## HYMN 912 Open, Lovely Doors

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

Glory be to God in heaven,  
peace to those he loves so well.  
On the earth let all his people  
speak his grace, his wonders tell:  
Lord, we praise you for your glory,  
mighty Father, heaven's King;  
hear our joyful adoration  
and accept the thanks we bring.

Only Son of God the Father,  
Lamb who takes our sin away,  
now with him in triumph seated—  
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:  
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,  
Savior, you are God alone  
in the glory of the Father  
with the Spirit, Three in One!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; 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

### Hosea 3:1-5

*The LORD called the prophet Hosea to seek his adulterous wife and love her again. This served as an object lesson, showing our God is a God who seeks and redeems those who are lost.*

**T**he Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes."

So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. Then I told her, "You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you."

For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the last days.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

### 2 Corinthians 2:5-11

*A member of the church in Corinth had been lost in sin, but through loving church discipline, had been moved to repent. Paul encourages the members to joyfully welcome him back..*

**I**f anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand

the test and be obedient in everything. Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes..

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## (8:00 AM) GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 15:10

*Please stand*

Alleluia! There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.  
**Alleluia!**

## (10:15 AM) ROCK OF AGES *sung by Prince of Peace 5th-8th grade Junior Choir*

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure:  
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.*

*Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfill thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save and thou alone.*

*Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to thy cross I cling;  
naked, come to thee for dress,  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.*

*While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.*

*Text: Augustus Toplady, Tune and Setting: Sarah R. Lambrecht copyright 1999 Sarah R. Lambrecht. Reproduced with permission.*

*Please stand*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10

*Through two parables, Jesus rebukes those who consider themselves already found and not in need of repentance..*

**N**ow the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable:  
"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over

one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

## HYMN OF THE DAY 813 He Will Hold Me Fast

## SERMON Luke 15 Up There and Down Here

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.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty and everlasting God, You send missionaries into the world to spread the seed of Your Word. Grant a rich and bountiful harvest of believers throughout the earth, that all may be gathered into Your Church to sing praises to Your holy name forever. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

King of kings, You have provided this nation with public servants to protect and govern us. Watch over our president and all who hold positions of public trust. Inspire them to lead in ways that are faithful to You, that Your name may be praised throughout our land. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of lords, You have given each of us vocations in which to serve You and those You have placed around us. Bless us in all we do, that through honest and faithful labor we may bear each other's burdens and live together in the household of faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Healer and Restorer, You alone provide peace that surpasses understanding. Grant peace to all who are sick and suffering among us. Wrap them in Your arms and remind them that You have suffered alongside them, that they may be comforted in their time of need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*We pray for...Jamie (Joe Fraser's son hospitalized), Mark Kohagen (sick for several weeks), Scott (Kat's relative receiving medical care), Frankie (Robyn's young friend with cancer), Harry (Nancy's brother-in-law with serious health struggles), John Farrel (health struggles), Aina (whose mother is dying), 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.

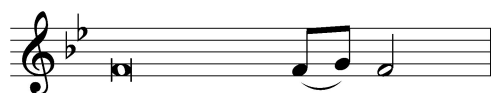
To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.

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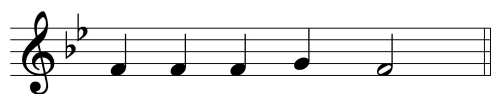
## THE SACRAMENT

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Stand



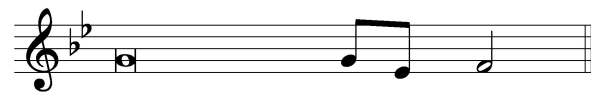
The Lord be with you.



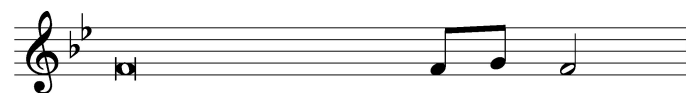
And al - so with you.



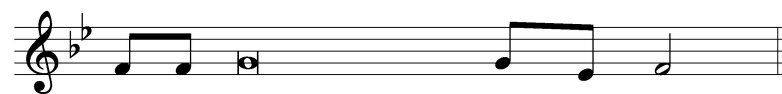
Lift up your hearts.



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.

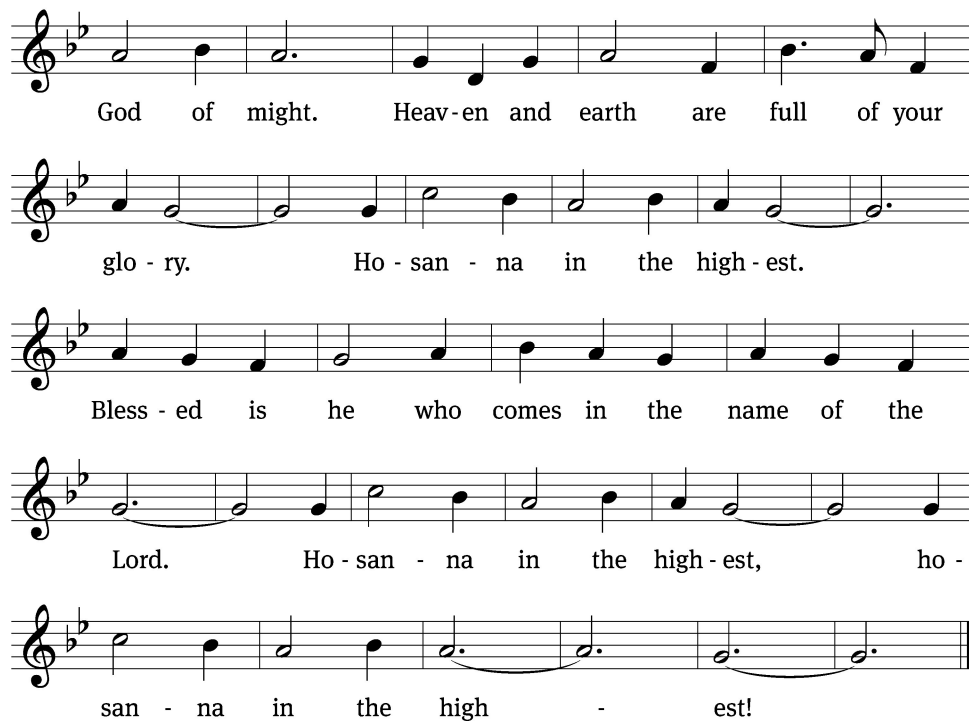
It is trUly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory.

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

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,



## 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

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

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

*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      904   O Christ, Our True and Only Light**

**HYMN      654   Jesus Sinners Does Receive**

*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**

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    549   Across the Lands**



*Thank you to Tori Diersen and Mrs. Lange and our Junior Choir for using their gifts to serve us and our Savior with music this morning!*

### Philippians 3:20-4:8

“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord. My beloved, rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

#### **Acknowledgments**

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 PM

## THE WORD OF LIFE

STARTING **SEPTEMBER 3**, YOU'RE INVITED TO  
(RE)DISCOVER GOD'S GREAT LOVE AND THE  
LIFE HE GIVES US THROUGH JESUS.

CHILDCARE AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

### 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!



LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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