

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Reformation

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

October 27th, 2024



“Learning and sharing the gospel of Christ the Prince of Peace.”

Prince of Peace
Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Martinez, GA 30907

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WELCOME!

Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. May God bless your worship today! If you are visiting with us for the first time, please take a moment to fill out one of the information cards found in the pews next to the hymnals. You can either place the completed card in the offering plate or give it to the usher when being ushered out at the end of the service. We look forward to getting to know you better in order to serve you fully with God's word!

WORSHIP THEME

The word gospel means good news. The good news of the Bible is that Jesus Christ has saved us from our sins and given us eternal life. It's hard to imagine that such good news would have anything other than a warm reception. However, the Bible also tells us that there will be many who oppose the gospel fiercely. Jesus himself teaches this lesson to his disciples as he prepares them for the upcoming days of their ministry after he would ascend into heaven. The faithful Hebrews living in Babylon experienced firsthand how the boastful pagans treated them with hostility because of their faith. Martin Luther and the other reformers felt the pressures of those who were hostile to the pure gospel. We are not immune to such hostility either, though we are blessed that thus far, we have not had to face such extreme persecution. But, more than being aware of the threat of persecution, we learn a more important lesson from all of these examples: no matter what kind of hostility may arise, it will not destroy the gospel, nor will it rip those who believe it away from all that God promises through it. So, let us cling ever more tightly to God's Word, to faithfully confess that Word no matter the consequences, and to seek the family fellowship God offers in his Church.

877 Reformation Song

CW 877

Stand

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

Confession

CW 172

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.**

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 meditation and 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

CW 174

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

CW 176

The musical score is written in a single system with ten staves. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. 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. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen
 Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708875

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the church your saving peace; 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

Daniel 3:16–28

Despite the pressures of the king and the threat of death, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stood firm in their faith and confessed the power of God to save, both now and in eternity.

¹⁶Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. ¹⁷If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. ¹⁸But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

¹⁹Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual ²⁰and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. ²¹So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. ²²The king’s command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, ²³and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace.

²⁴Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?”

They replied, “Certainly, Your Majesty.”

²⁵He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.”

²⁶Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!”

So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, ²⁷and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.

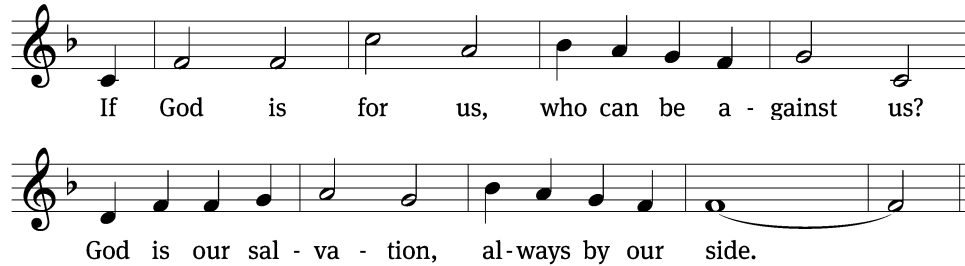
²⁸Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king’s command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46E

46E If God Is for Us

Refrain



If God is for us, who can be a - gainst us?
God is our sal - va - tion, al - ways by our side.

Verses



1 God is our ref - uge and our strength, an
2 A riv - er flows whose streams make glad the
3 Be - hold the won - drous deeds of God, who
ev - er pres - ent aid, and there - fore, though the
cit - y of our God, the ho - ly dwell - ing
caus - es wars to cease, the weap - ons of the
earth be moved, we will not be a - fraid; though
of the LORD, the place of God's a - bode. Since
strong de - stroyed, God brings a - bid - ing peace. "Be
hills in - to the seas be cast, though foam - ing wa - ters roar,
God is in the midst of it, our safe - ty is se - cure;
still and know that I am God, ex - alt - ed ev - er - more;"
the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
the LORD of hosts is by our side, a
ref - uge strong and sure. *Refrain*
ref - uge strong and sure. *Refrain*
ref - uge strong and sure. *Refrain*

Text: James Chepponis
Tune: James Chepponis
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Second Reading

Revelation 14:6-7

God reassures us that his gospel message will be proclaimed to all people.

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 12:32



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Do not be afraid, little flock,
for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

Refrain

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Gospel

Mark 13:5–11

Jesus encourages and empowers us that we might be bold in sharing the gospel in these end times.

⁵Jesus said to them: “Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁶Many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and will deceive many. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁸Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.

⁹“You must be on your guard. You will be handed over to the local councils and flogged in the synagogues. On account of me you will stand before governors and kings as witnesses to them. ¹⁰And the gospel must first be preached to all nations. ¹¹Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.

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

Be seated

863 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

CW 863

Sermon

Even If He Does Not

Daniel 3:16–28

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

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Gracious God, in mercy you sent your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, into this world to redeem us from sin and rescue us from hell.

Through your Scriptures and by your Spirit, you have brought us to faith in your Son and have assured us that Christ has fully completed the work of our salvation.

Lead us to rejoice in the message of forgiveness through faith alone in Christ Jesus.

When guilt grieves our consciences and shame hinders our confidence, use your Word to encourage and comfort our souls with the good news of your unconditional love.

Almighty God, in the face of immense pressure to compromise their confession, you emboldened the Lutheran reformers to take a firm stand on the truths of Scripture.

Through their clear confession of faith, you restored the gospel to your church and have preserved this saving truth among us today.

Send us your Holy Spirit that we exhibit the same zeal and faithfulness as the Lutheran confessors.

Give us courage to confess our faith sincerely and boldly in the classroom, the workplace, the community, and to everyone we encounter who needs to hear the truth of your Word. Use our confession to bring faith in your Son to the hearts of those who do not yet believe in you.

Eternal God, you have promised to preserve and protect your church in every age. Bless all who face hardships for their faith. Comfort the sick and suffering, the depressed and lonely, those who are persecuted and ridiculed for their faith, and all others who need the encouragement of your love.

Fix our eyes on the cross of your Son, his empty tomb, and the sure promise of eternal life in heaven's glory.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent Prayer

Lord God, you know the concerns of our hearts and minds. Hear the public prayers we have spoken with our lips and the personal prayers we offer to you in our hearts, and answer them according to your gracious will.

Increase our trust in your power and wisdom that we may rest secure in the plans and purposes you have for our lives; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Offering

Our offerings are freely given as a response to God's gracious outpouring of love upon us.

Hymn Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

CW 862

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

Blessing

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.

640 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

CW 640

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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THE WEEK AHEAD

WEDNESDAY	10:15 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Bible Class
FRIDAY	8:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study @Cracker Barrel
SATURDAY	10:00 am Women's Bible Study
SUNDAY	9:15 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Ken and Jane Bearse are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. They have purchased the chancel flowers today to give praise and thanks to God for the blessings God has given them in their home life. We join them in thanking God for his grace and goodness to Ken and Jane as he guides them to build their home and their lives on Jesus Christ. May God keep them safe in his loving care all the days of their lives. Happy anniversary!



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



The first Women's Bible Study of this Fall will be this coming Saturday, November 2nd, at 10:00am.

Operating Offerings		Attendance		Mortgage Progress	
10/13/24	\$ 3,619.00	10/13/24	63	10/13/24	\$ 115.00
Month to Date	\$ 13,149.00			Month to Date	\$ 1,360.00

Weekly needs September Operating Offering

\$ 3,863.00

Monthly Mortgage Payment

\$ 2,867.00

Mortgage Balance as of 8/30/24 \$41,130.36