

Fifth Sunday in Lent
9:30 am
Worship Service
March 21, 2021

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

815 East Farm Road 182
Springfield, Missouri 65810

Setting V, WOV

March 21, 2021

PRELUDE

Instrumental

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

***GATHERING HYMN** *Our Father We Have Wandered*

ELW # 606

- 1 Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face;
in foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling, we rise with fear and shame,
as, distant but compelling, we hear you call our name.*
- 2 And now at length discerning the evil that we do,
behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to you.
In haste you come to meet us and home rejoicing bring,
in gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.*
- 3 O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored,
compassionate, forgiving, and ever-caring Lord,
grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.*

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929-2006

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you

***KYRIE**

WOV, Setting V



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Lord of the lost,

C we are quick to judge and slow to accept those whom we consider lower than ourselves. But you show us the way of acceptance, forgiveness, and peace. We honor your name for teaching us to love, for the sake of the one who is the essence of love itself, Jesus Christ our loving Lord. Amen.

WORD

PSALM READING

Psalm 84:1-4, 10-12

(Worship Assistant reads the non-bold print; congregation reads the bold print)

¹How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

²**My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

³Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

⁴**Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.**

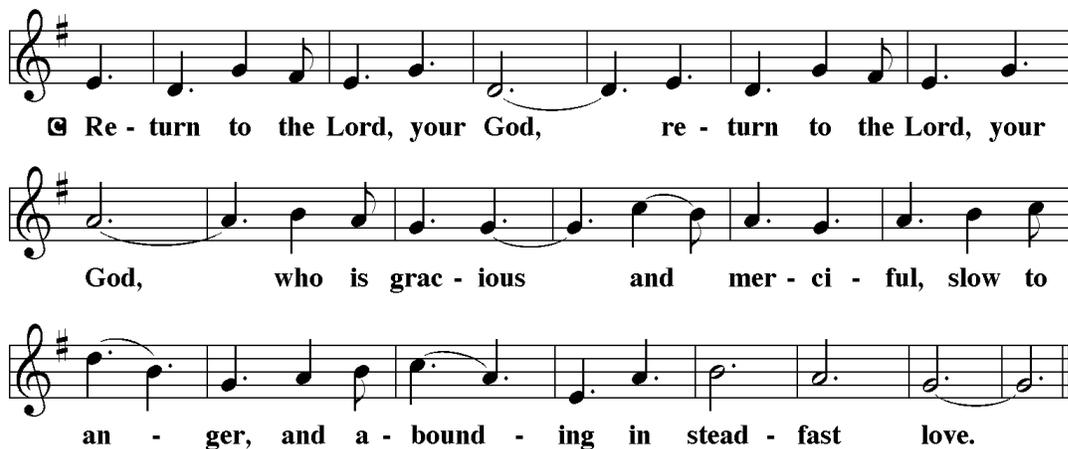
¹⁰For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.

¹¹**For the Lord GOD is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly.**

¹²O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

EPISTLE READING**2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. ⁴Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring. ¹¹To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, ¹²so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

LENTEN ACCLAMATIONWOV, Setting V*


Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your
 God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
 an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to the eighteenth chapter of Luke

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING*Luke 18:31-43; 19:1-10**

³¹Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³²For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. ³³After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again." ³⁴But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. ³⁵As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." ³⁸Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁹Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁰Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹What do you want me to do for you?

He said, "Lord, let me see again." ⁴²Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." ⁴³Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

¹He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." ⁹Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Ruth Drews

*HYMN OF THE DAY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

ELW # 611

- 1 *I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.*
- 2 *I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.*
- 3 *I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.*

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** *(The response to "Lord in your mercy" is "hear our prayer")*

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always

C And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

*No offering plates passed at this time. Please place your offerings
in the offering plates located at the back of the sanctuary.*

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

WOV, *Setting V*



☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER AFTER OFFERING

☐ God of all goodness,

☐ generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to 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.

SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy,
the Lord look upon you with favor and grant you + peace.

C Amen.

*SENDING HYMN *God Loved the World, vs. 1,2,4,5* *ELW # 323*

- 1 God loved the world so that he gave his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe should everlasting life receive.*
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone are built on this chief cornerstone.*
- 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son forgives all sins that you have done,
and justified by Jesus' blood, your baptism grants the highest good.*
- 5 All glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity, be praise now and eternally!*

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923, alt.

*DISMISSAL

P God has a vision for us through the resurrected Christ!

C To be Spirit Led and Love Driven.

A Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness!

C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Instrumental

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Our Prayers This Week (Updated as of 3/18/2021)

When a prayer request is given to the church office the names are included on the prayer list for three weeks and then removed. Sometimes it is requested for names to remain on our prayer list longer than three weeks. We are asking for your help to keep our congregational prayer list current by incorporating a new section called "Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving." Please let us know when someone's health and/or situation has improved, and they will be placed in the new section for three weeks and then removed. This revision will provide all of us the collective opportunity to pray for all current needs as well as give prayers of praise and thanksgiving to God. **Psalm 28:7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him.** (The prayer list is printed within each worship service bulletin.)

We pray for: The congregations and ministries of the Central States Synod and for our companion Synod in Russia; Rev. Alexander Lapochenko and the congregations of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Arsenyev, Russia, and St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Magadan, Russia; for the leaders of Russia and its neighbors; for the church in Russia. Russian Pastor Gleb Pivovarov and for his wife, Anastasia. Prayers for Russian lay preacher Andrei Olzols and his wife, Viktoria. Prayers for Rev. Bradn Buerkle, for Alla, (Rev. Bradn Buerkle's mother in law,) wife Natasha and their sons (Matvey, Martin, and Lukas) during this time of mourning for the loss of Alexander, in addition to your continued prayers for your sisters and brothers here, especially St. Paul Lutheran, Pastor Vitally Mohr, Pastor Manfred Brockmann, and all those who seek to spread God's mercy in word and deed.

We pray for POP members: Don & Becky Skare, Jeff Campbell, Bill & Elfreda Cole, Paul Potthoff, Jenny Mattison, Frank "Butch" & Donna Hayden, Eric Wilson, Jim & Judy Wenzl, Andy Derr, Gabe Derr, Elaine Huy, Les Rohr, Edie Kruse, Darrel Arnold, Jim & Sherry Smith, Leania Carter, Nancy Wilson, Bree Kolie, Guy Kolie and Diane Schriener.

We pray for the loved ones and friends of POP members: { "◀" indicates a continuing prayer request }

Doug & Tina Reynolds, daughter and son in law of Amos & Gayle & Anna Fisher and family, daughter of Amos & Gayle ◀

Jackie Milan, health concerns. Friend of Amos and Gayle Bell. ◀

Tammy Milan, breast cancer. Friend of Amos & Gayle Bell. ◀

Rita Wirtz and daughter Tammy; both are battling breast cancer. Friends of Gayle and Amos Bell ◀

Christian Flood & parents Shelly & Shannon. Grandson of Kathy Corwin ◀

Molly Plate, neighbor of Barry & Patty Killian, breast cancer. ◀

Susan Griffiths, chronic health concerns; friend of Angie Messner ◀

Jan McCoy, battling cancer ◀

Hank Washburn, brother of Diane, Parkinsons stage IV ◀

Chris Artis Johnson, daughter of Jan Artis ◀

Norman Beaver, cousin of Gayle Bell, health concerns ◀

Oliver Jones, struggling with autism. Grandson of Chuck & Sherry Jones ◀

Paul Smith, son of Jim & Sherry Smith ◀

Larkin Wahl, brother of Shawn aggressive treatment for cancer ◀

Stacy, friend of the Vinsand's who is in need of a heart transplant ◀

Pam Teeter, relapse of cancer. Friend of Chuck and Sherry Jones ◀

Keith Burrell, brother of Carol Lewis ◀

Bev Hall, aunt of Angie Messner, who has MS ◀

Char Rutkowski, good friend of Trisha Lambert's, whose cancer has recurred ◀

Sterling Osborn, 13 y/o grandson of Greg Roger's aunt, with Ewings Sarcoma shoulder tumor undergoing treatment

Floyd Davis, step-father of Trisha Lambert ◀

Shirley Dowell, mother of Pastor Katherine's good friend and colleague Fred Milliga. Shirley has cancer /approaching end of life.

Robyn Rakers, friend of Julie Karlson just diagnosed with breast cancer (10/18)

Victoria Reid, mother of Carmen Whorley, in hospice care

Sheri & Michael Emard, niece & nephew-in-law of Sharma Hightower – both Covid+ and have underlying medical conditions (1/5)

Linda Senn, mother of Diane Washburn's step son who has been diagnosed with Alzheimers' with brain injury (1/15)

John Foss, good friend of the Hayden

Linda Lynch and her husband Mark and family-Mark just diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. Linda is a friend of Sarah Derr

Katie Ernst, wife of Bob, daughter in law of Gail & Bill who was just diagnosed with breast cancer (3/10)

Shellena Jones, daughter of Don Jones, in chronic kidney failure who is unable to get a kidney transplant and undergoing dialysis

Terry McDonough, good friend of Gail Ernst, who lives in St. Louis and struggling with Parkinson's Disease (3/15)

About Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (POP)

As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are a community of faith, gathered together by the Spirit, fed with the Word and with the Sacraments, and sent to serve in the name of Christ. Some of the gifts gathered within this congregation are teaching, compassion, hospitality, music and drama. All baptized who believe in the presence of Christ are invited to receive communion. The invitation is extended not by us, but by our Lord Jesus Christ, who also equips us to serve each other, our community and the world.

Come, taste and see that the Lord is good!

Our Core Beliefs:

We are saved by the grace of God alone -- not by anything we do.
Our salvation is through faith alone -- a confident trust in God,
who in Christ promises us forgiveness, life and salvation.
The Bible is the norm for faith and life -- the true standard
by which teachings and doctrines are to be judged.

PRINCE OF PEACE ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS/PRAYER LIST: Call or email the church office with prayer requests for the congregational prayer list, the telephone prayer chain and/or email prayer group who will also lift up your prayer concerns.

WORSHIP SIGN-UP: Remember to sign-up for PoP's Saturday and Sunday Worship Services.

A REQUEST FROM YOUR WORSHIP TEAM TO SERVICE ATTENDEES: Congregants, please wipe down your pew after the worship service ends. Thank you!

A REMINDER TO TURN OFF CELL PHONES AND/OR PLACE ON AIRPLANE MODE prior to the beginning of worship! Thanks!

THANK YOU TO REV. RUTH DREWS for leading us in worship this weekend!

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICES WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT AT 7:00 PM. We will have Lent Midweek Worship Services on Wednesdays in March, except the Wednesday during Holy Week (March 31), at 7 pm!

FLOWERS IN THE ALTAR AREA are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband Herb by Virginia "Jenny" Mattison and family.

EASTER LILIES TO ADORN THE CHURCH AT EASTER: If you would like to give an Easter Lily in thanksgiving, celebration or in memory of someone to adorn the church for Easter Sunday, please sign-up on the sheet located in the narthex and/or contact the church office at 417-881-0833. Lilies are \$8 each.

APRIL DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET A Daily Devotional for the month of April will be available on a table in the narthex no later than Palm Sunday weekend. These Daily Devotionals are written by retired and former POP Pastor Larry Sydow who now resides in New Mexico. If you would like the booklet mailed to you, please contact the church office.

NOISY OFFERINGS FOR “LIFT UP SPRINGFIELD!” HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL APRIL 10 & 11: Lift up Springfield provides medical, dental and mental health to our neighbors in need. The clinic is staffed by volunteers of doctors, dentists, nurses, hygienists, office staff and many more. The clinic is located at 2005 East Kearney Street, Suite K in Springfield. *Outreach Team*

A REMINDER A CAPITAL APPEAL IS IN PROGRESS: A reminder a capital appeal is in progress since November 15th to pay for the new equipment and technology needed to continue offering virtual worship services. As of March 8, \$4,508.34 has been received out of the \$5,000 needed! *Thanks! Worship and Music Team*

PROTEIN DRIVE 40 DAYS OF LENT: We will be collecting foods high in protein for Least of These Food Pantry through out the 40 days of Lent. Collections will be in the cry room. Must be non-perishable. Foods high in protein are: Canned tuna and salmon; dried beans; peanut butter; mac and cheese and nuts.



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES!

- 1) Place your offering in the offering plate located at the back of the church either before or after the worship service
- 2) Mail your offering to the church
- 3) Give electronically by downloading the **GIVEPLUS⁺** app on your telephone or tablet; select Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Springfield, MO and give at your convenience
- 4) Go to pop-elca.net home page, scroll to the bottom where you will see the opportunity to give online
- 5) Scan the QR code. Once scanned with a QR reader on your phone or tablet, it will immediately take you to where you can give your offering through the **GIVEPLUS⁺** app



VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO RECORD WORSHIP SERVICES each week in the sanctuary. If you are interested in assisting with recording worship services, please contact Worship & Music Team Leader Nyssa Brockhoff at popworshipandmusicteam@gmail.com. Thank you! *Worship and Music Team*

How about 5 minutes of a short devotion via Zoom?



Let's gather in His name to begin and/or end our day. **Mondays at 7:30 am & Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm.** We'll read a devotion - no more than 5 minutes. Those who want to and have time can stay for another 15 minutes or so to discuss. The

Zoom ID number & Passwords are included below as well as in the "notes" section on the church online calendar. No need to sign up, just join when you can. Questions? Call Gayle Bell 268-8563.

The info below is REVISED from what was previously published in the bulletins and midweek news emails as there was a hiccup on Monday, March 15!

Mondays 7:30 am

ID: 853 2923 0789

Password: 503868

Weblink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85329230789?pwd=Q01wTkcNK2NtWWJtN2ZNSlhpLzFJZz09>

Thursdays 7:30 pm

ID: 883 6186 9412

Password: 987415

Weblink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88361869412?pwd=eXpBMmlwM3pVMGILYTkzRE1RcGNMQT09>



- **Palm Sunday Worship Saturday, March 27 at 5 pm & Sunday, March 28 at 9:30 am**
- **Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Holy Communion on April 1st at 7 pm**

- **Good Friday Worship Service on April 2nd at 7 pm**
- **NO Saturday Evening Worship Service on Holy Saturday, April 3rd**
- **Easter Worship Services with Holy Communion on April 4th at 8:30 am & 10:30 am with coffee and Easter Egg Hunt for children in between the services**

SEW SOTL	March 20	March 27
Worship Asst.	Gayle Bell	Rick Lewis
Greeter	Peggy McCabe	Ed & Sarah Derr
Sunday SOTL	March 21	March 28
Worship Asst.	Julie Karlson	Cherie Guillen
Greeters	Pat Van Aken	Ross Jahn
Usher	Bill Ernst	Herb Peterson

SEW SOTL	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
Worship Asst.	No service tonight	Gayle Bell	Brandon Messner	Rick Lewis
Greeter	No service tonight	Peggy McCabe	Ed & Sarah Derr	Peggy McCabe
Sunday SOTL	Easter April 4 at 8:30 am	April 11	April 18	April 25
Worship Asst.	Brett Onstott	Scott Simpson	Cherie Guillen	Herb Peterson
Greeters	Pat Van Aken	Barry & Patty Killian	Joel & Julie Karlson	Brandon & Desi Flood
Usher	Ross Jahn	Herb Peterson	Ross Jahn	Bill Ernst
	Easter April 4 at 10:30 am			
Worship Asst.	Gail Ernst			
Greeter	Karlsons			
Usher	Bill Ernst			

MUSIC SERVANTS OF THE LORD

<u>Date SEW</u>	<u>Pianists</u>	<u>Song Leader</u>	
March 20	Brant Jester	Nyssa Brockhoff	
March 27	Gail Ernst		
<u>Date SUNDAY</u>	<u>Organist/Pianist</u>	<u>Song Leader</u>	<u>Video</u>
March 21	Joan Twiton	Cherie Guillen	Brandon Flood
March 24 Midweek	Joan Twiton	Angie Messner	
March 28	Joan Twiton	Angie Messner	Brett Onstott

PRINCE OF PEACE CALENDAR

Saturday, March 20	5:00 pm	Saturday Evening Worship Service led by Rev. Ruth Drews
Sunday, March 21	9:30 am	Worship Service led by Rev. Ruth Drews
Monday, March 22	7:30 am	Bible Devotional via ZOOM
	6:30 pm	Monday Evening Bible Study via Zoom
Tuesday, March 23	6:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 24	10:00 am	Pericope Team Study via Zoom
	7:00 pm	Lenten Midweek Worship Service
	7:45 pm	Church Council meets with the Central States Synod via ZOOM
Thursday, March 25	7:30 pm	Bible Devotional via ZOOM
Saturday, March 27	5:00 pm	Saturday Evening Worship Service (Palm Sunday observance) led by Dr. Tammy Jahnke
Sunday, March 28	9:30 am	Palm Sunday Worship Service led by Dr. Tammy Jahnke
Monday, March 29	7:30 am	Bible Devotional via ZOOM
	6:30 pm	Monday Evening Bible Study via Zoom
Wednesday, March 31	10:00 am	Pericope Team Study via Zoom
		NO Lenten Midweek Worship Service Tonight
Thursday, April 1	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. Ruth Drews
	7:30 pm	Bible Devotional via ZOOM
Friday, April 2	7:00 pm	Good Friday Worship Service
Saturday, April 3		NO Saturday Evening Worship Service
Easter Sunday, April 4	8:30 am	Easter Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Ruth Drews
	9:30 am	Coffee Hour with Easter Egg Hunt for Children
	10:30 am	Easter Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Ruth Drews

PRINCE OF PEACE STAFF

Dr. Tammy Jahnke, PMA

Joan Twiton, Organist

Heather Roberts, Office Manager

Sharma Hightower, Financial Secretary

Congregational Custodians

Phone: (417) 881-0833

web site: www.pop-elca.net



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

March 20 and 21, 2021 Prayers of Intercession

- A** Beloved friends, in this season of repentance and healing, we accept God's invitation to be ever-mindful of the needs of others, offering our prayers on behalf of God's community in the church and the world. Persistent God, you sent your only Son into the world to seek the lost and lift up the downtrodden. Grant your church the vision it needs to see those on the outside of community and to search them out in love and service. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Merciful God, forgive the many ways in which we have harmed what you have made. Work in us and through us to care for all that you have made. Lord in your mercy
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** God of all nations, raise up leaders who will pursue your priorities over the priorities of the world. Instill in all people a sincere desire to care for one another and to pursue justice and peace. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Compassionate God, watch over and keep the oppressed and the orphan. Turn our hearts to any who are in need. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Healing God, watch over those in any pain, *especially those who are on our congregational prayer list, on our hearts and on our minds, ...* Surround them with comfort and peace. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Creator God, strengthen the bonds of love and relationship within this assembly. Use us to proclaim your love and grace into our broken world. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Watch over this assembly, O God, and keep us in your care. Bless our ministries to the various generations, that it may inspire and equip us for ministry in the world around us. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Eternal God, we thank you for the saints who have gone before us. May their witness strengthen our proclamation and work. Lord in your mercy
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Fill us with your strength to resist the seductions of our foolish desires and the tempter's vain delights, that we may walk in obedience and righteousness, rejoicing in you with an upright heart.
- C** **Amen.**