



**EPIPHANY**  
**JANUARY 7, 2024**  
**9:30 AM**  
**WORSHIP SERVICE**

# Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

815 East Farm Road 182  
Springfield, Missouri 65810

Liturgy Setting 8

January 7, 2024

**THEME:** *The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.*

## PRELUDE

**WELCOME** *(Please note: the order of worship is completely printed in the bulletin)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** ( \* indicates stand as you are able)

## GATHERING

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

**C** Amen.

**P** Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

**C** Amen

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** God of life,

**C** you promise good news of great joy for all people,  
and call us to be messengers of your peace.

We confess that too often we hoard our joy,  
our resources, and our security.

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

We neglect the needs of our neighbors  
and ignore the groaning of creation.

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

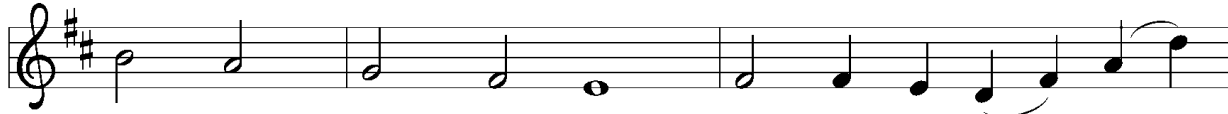
Renew us with your grace and give us again  
the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

**P** Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God’s promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ☩ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

**C** Amen



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



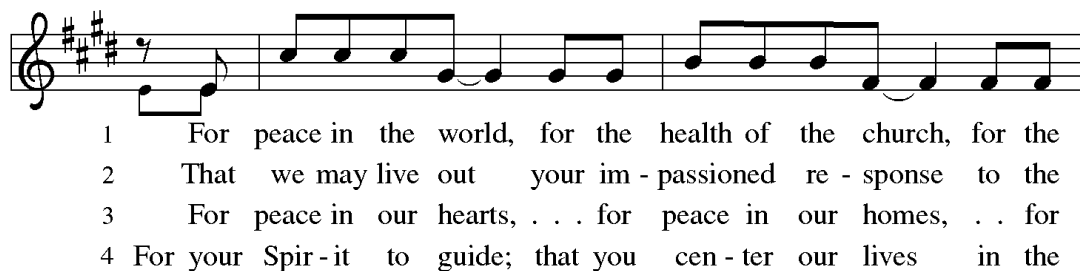
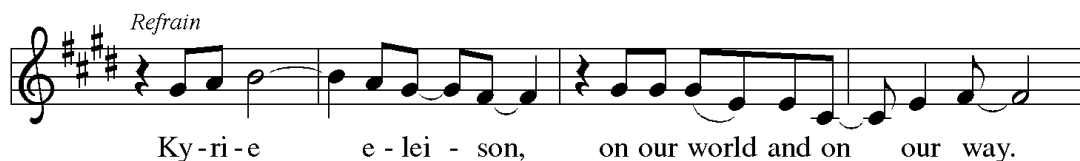
shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

**\*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.



2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for

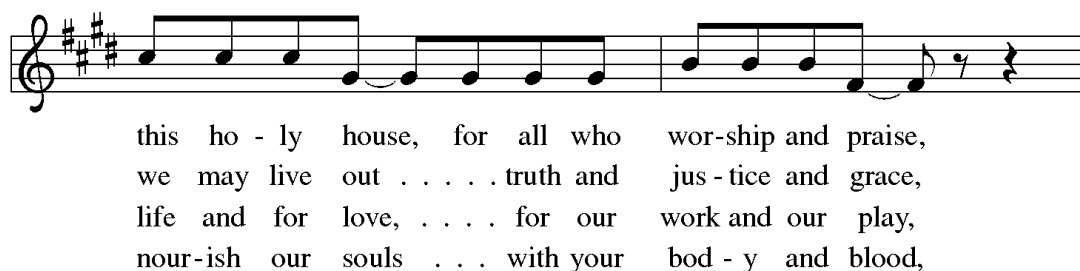
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

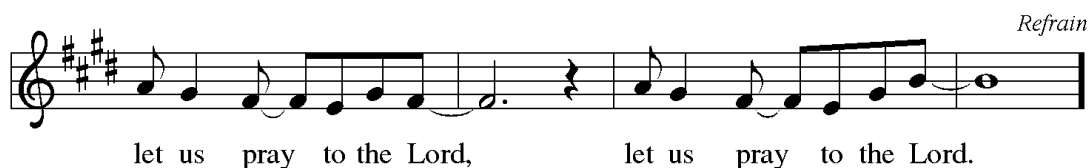
wa - ter and the word; that you



we may live out . . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, . . . . . for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



*Refrain*



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



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

*Refrain*



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



2 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.



*Refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 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. A - men.

*Final refrain*



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

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- A** O God,  
**C** on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# WORD

## FIRST READING

### *Isaiah 60:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

**A** Word of God, word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14** (*Worship Asst. reads the non-bold print; congregation reads the bold print*)

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

<sup>2</sup>**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

<sup>3</sup>that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

<sup>4</sup>**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup>May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

<sup>6</sup>**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

<sup>7</sup>In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

<sup>10</sup>**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

<sup>11</sup>May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

<sup>12</sup>**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

<sup>13</sup>He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

<sup>14</sup>**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

## SECOND READING

### *Ephesians 3:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

**A** Word of God, word of life.

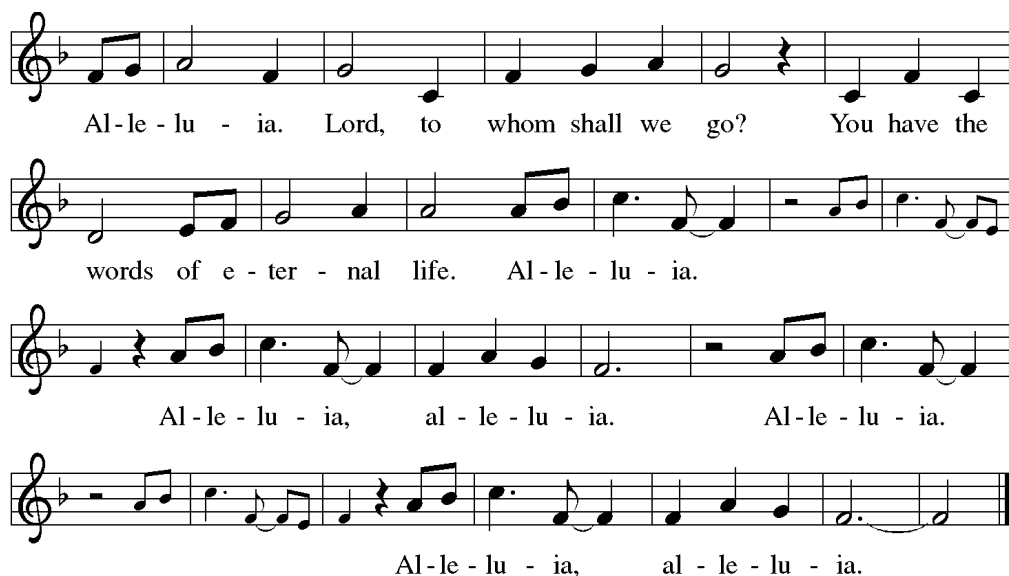
**C** Thanks be to God.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Pastor Carl Gauck*

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Setting 8*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Gospel according to the second chapter of Matthew

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

## \*GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 2:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"  
<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.



<sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*Pastor Carl Gauck*

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*The First Noel, vs. 1,3,4,5*

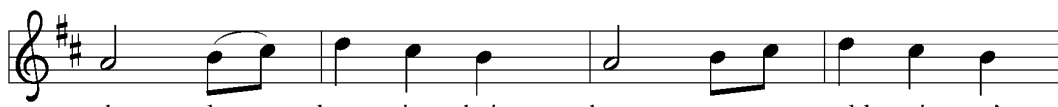
*ELW # 300*



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing  
3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .  
4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .  
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the  
wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it  
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -  
king was their . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the  
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and



night that was so deep.  
tin-ued both day and night.  
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
place where Je - sus lay.  
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

## \*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 "Hear us, O God," is "your mercy is great"*)

## \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## MEAL

### OFFERTORY

### OFFERTORY SPECIAL MUSIC

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

*ELW # 182*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be

fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -

nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your

pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A** God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C** Amen.

### **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### **\*SEASONAL SENTENCE**

### **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C** 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.

### **CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord. We welcome our guests to commune with us today in the faith that Christ is present in this Sacrament. Those who do not commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing. All bread is gluten free. White grape juice is in the center of the tray, or upon request. If you are unable to kneel, please feel free to stand at the communion rail. If you are unable to come forward, please tell an usher and the Holy Supper will be brought to you.*

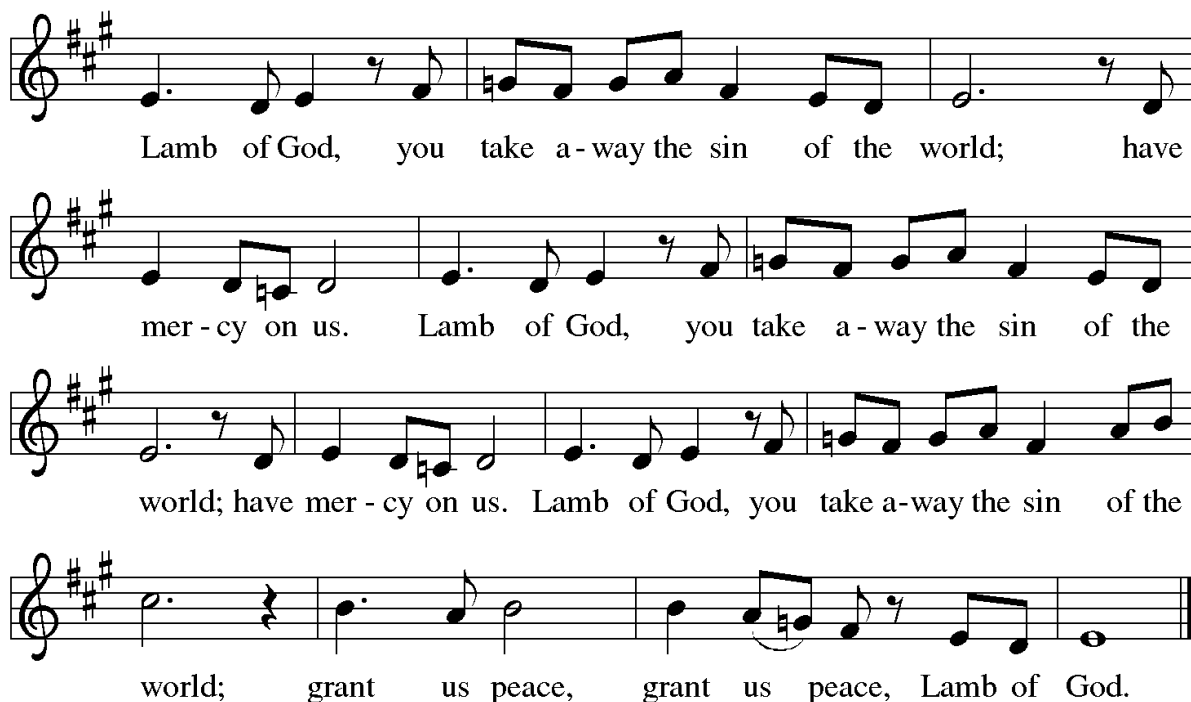
### **INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

**P** The body of Christ, given for you.

**P** The blood of Christ, shed for you.

## \*LAMB OF GOD

*Setting 8*



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  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

*ELW # 671*

## COMMUNION HYMN

*O Morning Star, How Far and Bright!*

*ELW # 308*

## \*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen.

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**A** God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## WE DEPART TO SERVE

## \*THE BENEDICTION

**P** God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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**\*DISMISSAL**

- P** God has a vision for us through the resurrected Christ!
- C** To be Spirit Led and Love Driven.
- A** Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**\*POSTLUDE**

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## PRINCE OF PEACE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME EVERYONE,** especially our visitors! As a congregation 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.

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

**REMINDERS:** Please remember to turn off cell phones and/or place them on airplane mode prior to the beginning of worship. Thanks!

### **JANUARY 2024 NOISY OFFERINGS FOR “CONNECTING GROUNDS CHURCH:”**



Noisy Offerings January 6 & 7, 2024 will go towards Connecting Grounds Church provide clothing, meals and support to families in need, as well as the homeless. They also have counseling services to help unify families. They have weekly church services where everyone is welcome and are currently raising funds to build temporary shelters for the homeless.

**CONGREGATIONAL PLANNING EVENT JANUARY 12 & 13:** New name, same event. Formerly known as ‘retreat’; it is now called “Congregational Planning Event.” The theme is: **Let the Holy Spirit Light our Path to the Future.** Jesus is the light to the world and how can that light lead us into the future here at Prince of Peace.

The Congregational Planning Event will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Prince of Peace on Friday, January 12, 2023 6-9pm and Saturday, January 13, 2024 8:30-3pm. Food will be provided.

The committee will be presenting the information needed for members to evaluate 12 key areas within our church. However, there has been a misunderstanding that this committee is going to create the plan. That is not the case. ***We need input from all members of Prince of Peace to contribute at this event. It is critical that we have a large representation from all members.*** The event will be focused on identifying our strengths and weaknesses. The congregation and committee will then develop the 3-5 year plan based on our identified strengths.

We ask that you prayerfully consider attending. We need everyone’s input for the future of Prince of Peace. If questions, contact one of the committee members: Pastor Carl, Gail Ernst, Bill Hake, Dave Jahnke, Herb Peterson and Sue Wilford.

Please sign-up sheet is in the narthex or call the church office.

In the future, maybe we should conclude our church services with: **To be Spirit Led, Love Driven, and be God’s light to the World.**



**MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** resumes January 8 with a study on the Book of Acts. We will meet on Monday evenings in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. We will be using a Navigators Life Change series Study Guide. The books have been ordered and are now located in the workroom for retrieval. From the publisher: *"After Jesus left His followers with a mission, the Spirit of God moved mightily through them to fulfill it...Discover the exciting and challenging first few years of the church, the things we have in common with them today, and how that applies to our faith in the modern-day church."* <https://www.navpress.com/p/acts/9780891091127>

**Jail Book Ministry Update:** Thank you all so much for your support through the years for the local county jail collections!! Originally Covid & then changes in rules



at several jails to whom we had been sending items stopped our giving books to those places. **BUT Good News!** 1) Christian County Jail appreciatively accepted 3 boxfuls of word puzzle books & paperback books for its library. Thank you again! 2) The team that



ministers to several other jails will let us know if they can use our help again later on. **YOUR PRAYERS FOR INMATES, THEIR FAMILIES, DEAR ONES, & VICTIMS ARE VITALLY NEEDED, AS ARE YOUR PRAYERS FOR ALL JAIL STAFF & THEIR FAMILIES & DEAR ONES AS WELL.** The following notes were

included with the items for Christian County : To the inmates: We hope you will enjoy the puzzle books & books given to your library. We want you to know that God & our congregation care about you! May we all



walk together, as God's children - with Christ, who always seeks to transform brokenness into wholeness - & to give us His love, hope, renewal, guidance, and so much more - through His grace & love. We've asked our members to pray for you and your families. From Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Springfield. To the staff: Many thanks to all the staff at the jail for the work you do. It's a difficult, vitally important job and you often don't get the thanks and appreciation you deserve. We have asked our members to pray for you & your families. God's blessings, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Springfield.

Outreach Team. If you have questions or comments please call Gayle Bell **2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Please check your mail slot for 2024 Offering Envelopes, unless you give regularly electronically or use your bank's online bill pay option. Thanks!

**CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:** Remember to check out the church calendar online for the most up to date information on what is happening here at Prince of Peace by visiting our church web page at [www.pop-elca.net](http://www.pop-elca.net)! Additionally, please remember to inform the church office when meeting dates are determined so the meetings can be added to the church calendar.

**POINSETTIAS:** If you gave a poinsettia at Christmas, please take it (or them) home with you after the service you attend this weekend. Thanks!

**COLD WEATHER IS ON THE WAY.** If you have coats that you no longer want, please take them to any Glo Cleaners. They will clean them free of charge & they will deliver them to Council of Churches who will give them to children & adults who need to not be cold this winter! (They cannot handle leather. If you have a leather coat that doesn't need any cleaning, you may take it directly to Council of Churches – or leave it at church for Gayle Bell to take to the Council.) Any questions please contact Gayle Bell at 417-268-8563.

**CARE RIDES:** Need a ride to church, church events, doctor appointments, picking up medication, and/or grocery shopping, etc.? The Congregational Care Team can help! We do need sufficient notice and a specific time frame to schedule. If you need this service or want to volunteer with this ministry, please call Sue Bergeson at 641-750-1144. If she does not answer, please leave a message and she will return the call. *Thank you and God's Blessings, Your Congregational Care Team*

**INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS:** Remember to check the voice mail message on the church phone (417-881-0833) and/or facebook or the church webpage (pop-elca.net) when inclement weather could impact worship services or events planned at the church.

**SEWING & CRAFT DAY AT THE CHURCH:** Every second and fourth Thursday of the month, 9 am until ? in the Fellowship Hall. We also enjoy a sack lunch together around noon. Join us and bring a sack lunch with you!

**SERVANTS OF THE LORD:** If you are unable to serve on a Sunday for a job assignment, please find a replacement on your own. You may then call the church office with changes.  
*Patty Killian*

Saturday	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
Acolyte	Raelinn Baker	Bryce Messner	Bentley Messner	Raelinn Baker
Worship Asst.	Brandon Messner	Rick Lewis	Brandon Messner	Gayle Bell
Greeter	Ed & Sarah Derr	Peggy McCabe	Ed & Sarah Derr	Peggy McCabe
Musician	Lauren Jackson	Lauren Jackson	TBD	TBD
Sunday	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
Acolyte	Elijah Otzelberger	Oliver Kavanagh	Lila Teaster	Bella Guillen
Worship Assistant	Julie Karlson	Brett Onstott	Nyssa Brockhoff	Caroline Wake
Greeter	Jim & Carol Kerns	Ken & Leania Carter	Mark & Pam Duneman	Patricia Van Aken
Usher	Joel Karlson	Herb Peterson	Bill Ernst	Ross Jahn
Hosts	Jan Gauck & Jessica Stelford	Dave & Tammy Jahnke	Greg Verheyen & Jackie Higgins	Sue Stelford & Sue Wilford
Musician	Donna Mohr	TBD	TBD	TBD
Communion Set-Up	Jackie Higgins	Jackie Higgins	Jackie Higgins	Jackie Higgins
Tellers	Susan Stelford & Ross Jahn	Kathy Teaster & Paula Kavanagh	Kathy Corwin & Cherie Guillen	Dave & Tammy Jahnke

## *Our Prayers This Week (Updated as of 1/4/2024)*

*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.*

**We pray for:** *The congregations and ministries of the Central States Synod and for our companion Synod in Russia and Papua New Guinea; Russian Bishop Alexander Scheiermann . Pr. Alexander Lapochenko and the congregation of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Arsenyev, Russia, for the leaders of Russia and its neighbors; for the church in Russia. Prayers for Russian lay preacher Andrei Olzols and his wife, Viktoria. Prayers for Rev. Bradn Buerkle, Natasha and sons Matvey, Martin, & Lukas and mother in law Alla; St. Paul Lutheran, Pastor Vitaly Mohr, Pastor Manfred Brockmann, and all who seek to spread God's mercy in word and deed.*

**We pray for POP members:** Paul Potthoff, Jenny Mattison, Butch & Donna Hayden, Andy Derr, Guy Kolie. Preston Kolie, Darrel Arnold, Les & Julie Rohr, Rick Lewis, Mike Lambert, Jim and Sherry Smith, Becky Skare, Peggy McCabe; Dave and Tammy Jahnke, Cherie Guillen, Joan Harrell and Jerry Van Aken.

**We pray for loved ones and friends:** { "◀" indicates a continuing prayer request }

**Ronnie Bell** (daughter in law of Amos & Gayle Bell) ▶

**Anna Fisher and family**, daughter of Amos & Gayle ▶

**Jackie Milan**, (health concerns) and **Tammy Milan** (breast cancer) Friend of Amos and Gayle Bell. ▶

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

**Susan Griffiths**, chronic health concerns; friend of Angie Messner ▶

**Jan McCoy**, battling cancer ▶

**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 ▶

**Bev Hall**, aunt of Angie Messner, who has MS ▶

**Sandra Doudna and Carolyn Allen**, sisters of Herb Peterson who have serious health conditions ▶

**Eleanor Lambert**, mother of Mike Lambert; **Mark Butcher**, who has cancer and **Jeffrey Roberts**, friend who has severe medical issues -friends of Mike Lambert ▶

**Peter Harootunian & parents Jack & Kathy** (Jack & Kathy are neighbors of Diane Washburn- Peter has been missing since 5/15/2022) ▶

**Terry Broderick**, younger brother of Tammy Jahnke. ▶

**Suzanne Day**, daughter of former POP member Albina Born who has serious health concerns post accident ▶

**Mary Ellen Day**, sister of Ed Derr whose bronchial tubes are only functioning at 30% and will not get better. ▶

**Doug & Tina Reynolds**, Doug is the son-in-law of Amos & Gayle ▶

**Terry McDonough**, good friend of Gail Ernst, who lives in St. Louis and struggling with Parkinsons Disease ▶

**Simon**, grandson of Amos and Gayle Bell – health issues ▶

**Wallis McCraw**, wife of Diane Washburn's cousin, medical issues ▶

**Amanda, friend of Tina Bell Reynolds**, prayers for support and strength as she grieves the loss of her daughter who died in a car accident (submitted by Gayle and Amos Bell) ▶

**Prayers for Jean Sommer**, friend of Sarah Derr, and family-Jean is receiving a new kidney! ▶

**Becky and husband Steve**, friends of Sarah Derr - Steve is on hospice due to idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

**Andy Love**, friend of Amos & Gayle Bell, prayers of healing and support for him and his family-take to hospital unconscious (9/16)

**Linda Lynch, her husband Mark, & family.** Mark who has lung cancer & is dealing with a lot of fluid retention. They hospitalized him 9/19 to monitor the rate of fluid retention and try to slow it. Linda is a friend of Sarah. ▶

**Lisa Martin**, daughter of Herb Peterson's cousin who lost both of her legs to diabetes (10/12)

**Linda Newman**, 42 year old daughter of a friend of Diane Washburn who has 3 bad heart valves and in need of a heart transplant (10/14)

**Janet Lumby**, submitted by Barb Gielow (11/1) ▶

**Hank Washburn**, brother of Diane, Parkinsons stage IV; underwent another heart valve procedure November 30 and is now recovering at home as of 12/3 ▶

**Jan Dietrich**, stage 4 terminal cancer-friend of Bill and Gail Ernst (1/2)

**We pray for those who grieve:**

**The family of Jim Wenzel**, who passed Sunday, December 17-services were held December 29, 2023

# PRINCE OF PEACE CALENDAR

<b>Saturday, January 6</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Saturday Evening Worship Service with Holy Communion</b> <b>led by Pr. Carl Gauck</b>
<b>Sunday, January 7</b>	8:15 am	Adult Sunday School ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion led by Pr. Carl Gauck</b>
	10:30 am	Fellowship with coffee & snacks ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
	10:30 am	Children's Sunday School ( <i>Dani's Classroom</i> )
<b>Monday, January 8</b>	6:30 pm	Monday Evening Bible Study ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
<b>Tuesday, January 9</b>	6:00 pm	Outreach Team Meeting ( <i>Library</i> )
	6:30 pm	G.R.O.O.V.E. Meeting ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
<b>Wednesday, January 10</b>	10:00 am	Pericope Team Study ( <i>ZOOM</i> )
<b>Thursday, January 11</b>	9:00 am	Sewing & Crafting Day at the Church ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
<b>Friday, January 12</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Congregational Planning Event (Fellowship Hall)</b>
<b>Saturday, January 13</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Congregational Planning Event (Fellowship Hall until 3 pm)</b>
	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Saturday Evening Worship Service with Holy Communion led by</b> <b>Rev. Dale Wilford</b>
<b>Sunday, January 14</b>	8:15 am	Adult Sunday School ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Worship Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. Dale Wilford</b>
	10:30 am	Fellowship with coffee & snacks ( <i>Fellowship Hall</i> )
	10:30 am	Children's Sunday School ( <i>Dani's Classroom</i> )

## 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 offerings to the church at 815 E. Farm Road 182, Springfield, MO 65810;
- 3) Give electronically by downloading the "VANCO MOBILE" app on your telephone or tablet via Google Play or the App Store; 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 "VANCO MOBILE" app



## PRINCE OF PEACE STAFF

**Carl R. Gauck, Pastor**  
**Dr. Tammy Jahnke, PMA**  
 Heather Roberts, Office Manager  
 Susan Stelford, Financial Secretary  
 Custodians: PoP Members  
 Phone: (417) 881-0833

Email: princeofpeaceelca@gmail.com

web site: [www.pop-elca.net](http://www.pop-elca.net)



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

## Prayers of Intercession January 6 and 7, 2024

- A** Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

*A brief silence.*

- A** Humble the hearts of your faithful people, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, and engineer, and make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for those in need. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies especially *Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services*. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Heal all who are on our congregation's prayer list, on our hearts and on our minds. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Gracious God, Bless us, as we prepare to come together as a congregation to share our thoughts and decisions. Guide and direct us, we ask, that we may know your quiet grace and that your wisdom may abide in us as we prepare to plan our goals and actions for the next several years. Hear us, O God,

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery hidden for ages in the One who created all things. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

**C** **Amen.**