

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Rev. Paul E. Zeigler (253)-584-2565 10333 Bridgeport Way SW Lakewood WA 98499 Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. James Matthews (253)-472-7105 PO Box 9292 Tacoma, WA 98490

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. The bread and wine do not symbolize or represent the body and blood of Christ, but are the real presence, as he says of "This is my body . . . This is my blood."

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor.

When you have examined yourself according to Christ's bidding (1 Cor. 11:28), come to His supper rejoicing, just as Jesus asks, knowing that our Lord meets you at His altar with joy. Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than the Holy Supper are asked to cross their arms over their chest. Please note: For those with special needs, cups in the center of the tray are non-alcoholic. A gluten free host is available from pastor upon request

For further study, see Matt. 5:23f; 10d2f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Our Lord Jesus Christ, True God in the Flesh, Cleanses Our Consciences from Sin

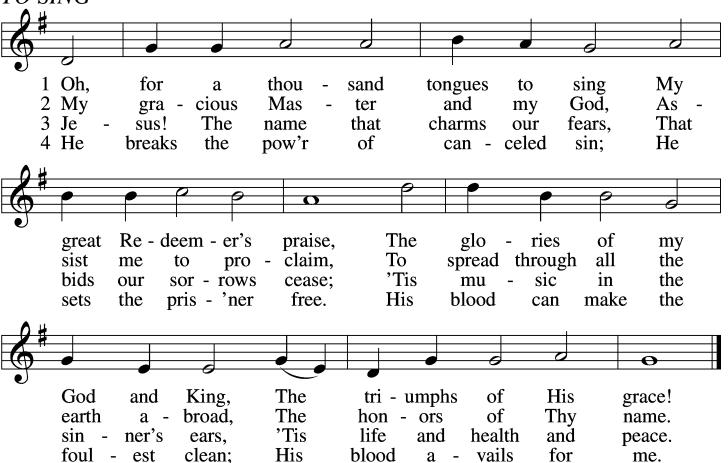
As He promised, the Lord our God has raised up "a prophet" like Moses, namely Jesus, our brother in the flesh. To him you shall listen, "because the Word of the Lord is 'In his mouth" (Deut. 18:15–18). Indeed, He is more than a prophet and more than a scribe of the Scriptures; He is the incarnate Word, and He speaks "a new teaching with authority" (Mark 1:22, 27). He enters "the synagogue "of His Church and provides true Sabbath rest, using His authority to silence and cast out "even the unclean spirits" (Mark 1:21–27). By His Word of the cross, He removes the accusations of the Law and of the devil, and He cleanses our consciences before God the Father, 'from whom are all things and for whom we exist. "Hence, we are now set free from bondage and commended to God by the one Lord, Jesus Christ, 'through whom are all things and through whom we exist "(1 Cor. 8:6). Therefore, use your freedom to care for your brothers and sisters, neither causing them to stumble nor wounding their consciences (1 Cor. 8:9–12), but cleansing and strengthening them with the Gospel. (Taken from the lectionary summaries on the LCMS website)

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024 – 8:00 & 11:00 am Divine Service IV LSB 203 + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

(Stand)

HYMN OF INVOCATION: LSB 528 OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING



Look unto Him, ye nations; ownYour God, ye fallen race.Look and be saved through faith alone,Be justified by grace.

- See all your sins on Jesus laid;The Lamb of God was slain.His soul was once an off'ring madeFor ev'ry soul of man.
- To God all glory, praise, and love
 Be now and ever giv'n
 By saints below and saints above,
 The Church in earth and heav'n.

<u>Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.</u> <u>Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829</u> Text and tune: Public domain

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT (read responsively) Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*

whose sin is | covered.

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,* and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;*

surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from | trouble;* you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

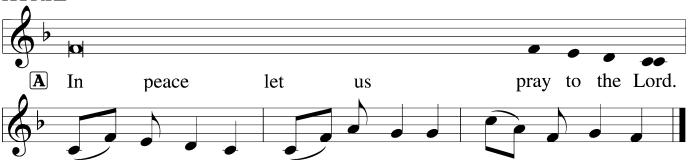
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

KYRIE



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A 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.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray; 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth! O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way. For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.
- Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111; antiphon: v. 3

among you, from your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' ¹⁷And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. ²⁰But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM (chanted responsively)



¹Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*

in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

²Great are the works | of the LORD,*

studied by all who de- | light in them.

³Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,*

and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

⁴He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*

the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

⁵He provides food for those who | fear him;*

he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

⁶He has shown his people the power | of his works,*

in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

⁷The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;*

all his precepts are | trustworthy;

8they are established forever and | ever,*

to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.

⁹He sent redemption to his people;

he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.*

Holy and awesome | is his name!

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 8:1–13

¹Concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. ²If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

⁴Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"— ⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹²Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

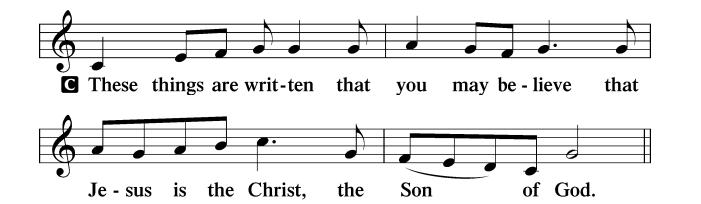
¹³Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE







HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:21–28

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²²And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes.

²³And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴"What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

and ascended into heaven

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

(Sit)

HYMN OF THE DAY: LSB 842 SON OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR 1 Son God, Sav - ior, 1ife of e - ter - nal Source of and 2 AsYou, Lord, have lived for oth - ers. So may for we 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and 4 Son of God. e - ter - nal Say - ior. Source of life and truth and Word made flesh, whose birth mong grace, a oth live. Free ly have Your gifts been grant - ed; ers Prince of Peace: Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth mong Hal - lows all our hu - man You our Head, who, throned in race, gold and Free-lv may Your ser - vants give. Yours the Yours the Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. Your pa - tient By years of Hal - lows all our hu - man Your pray - ing, race: By by Your glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and We but stew-ards sea; toil - ing. Bv Your si - lent hours of Ouench our fe - vered pain, That Your peo - ple should be will - ing one, Grant, O grant our Heal love and pit - y, our wrongs, and help our need. Your boun - ty Held of in sol - emn trust will be. plea - sure, Stem of self - ish greed thirst our of gain. - i - tion: hope's fru Here earth Your will be done. on

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855-1932, alt.

Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contradanseu, c. 1710, Amsterdam

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

(Stand)

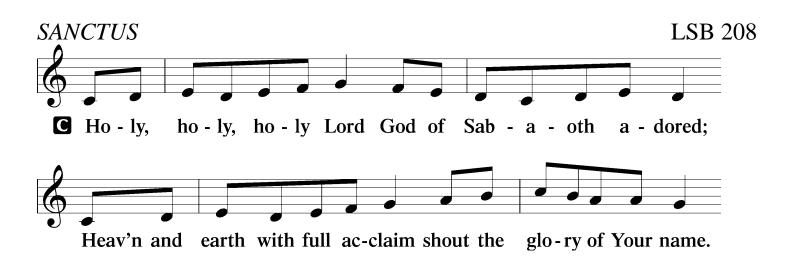
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

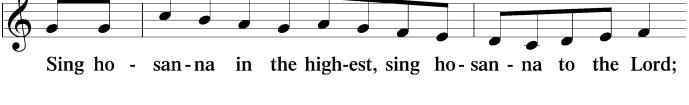
OFFERING Offerings can be placed in the covenant box in the church prior to or after service. At this time, the usher will bring forward the offerings to the pastor to be placed on the altar. You may also choose to mail in or drop off an offering during the week. Giving is also available online for Prince of Peace through our church's website www.poplakewood.org at the top right of the web page under "giving"

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE LSB 208

- **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 Him thanks and praise.
- P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:







PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

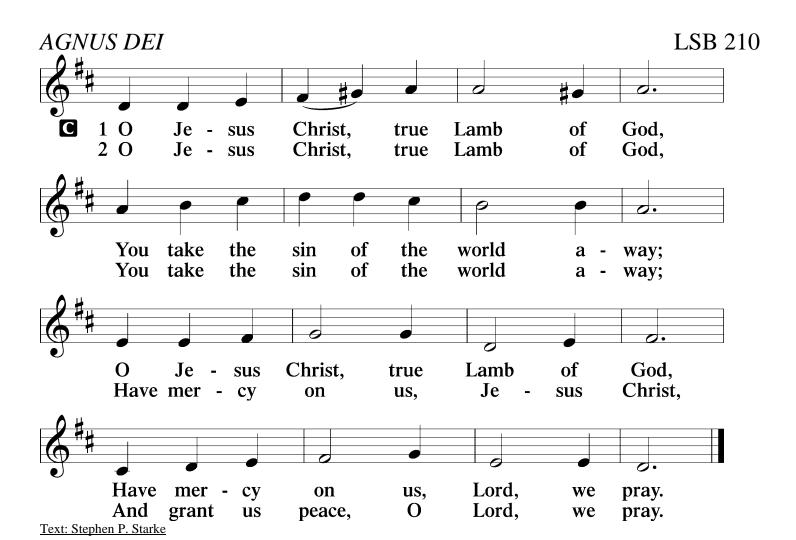
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

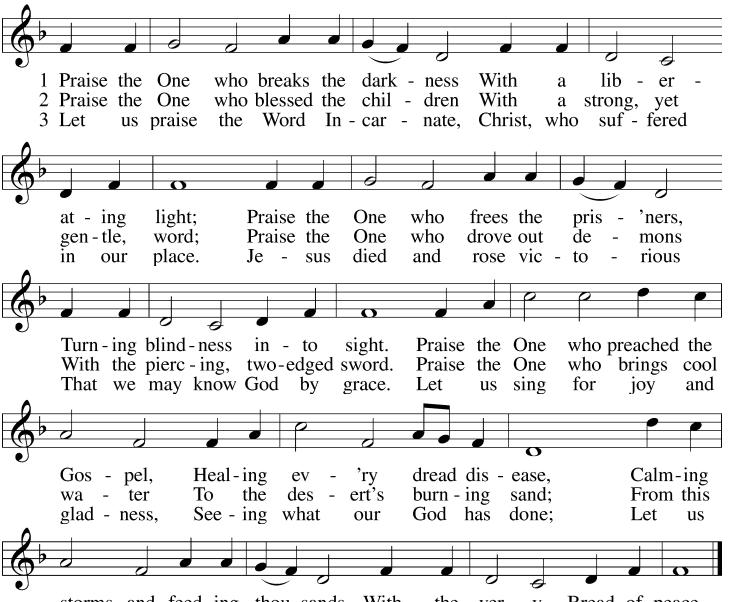
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



(Sit)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: LSB 849 PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS



storms, and feed-ing thou-sands With the ver - y Bread of peace. Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land. praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005459

Tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: LSB 690 HOPE OF THE WORLD



Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974

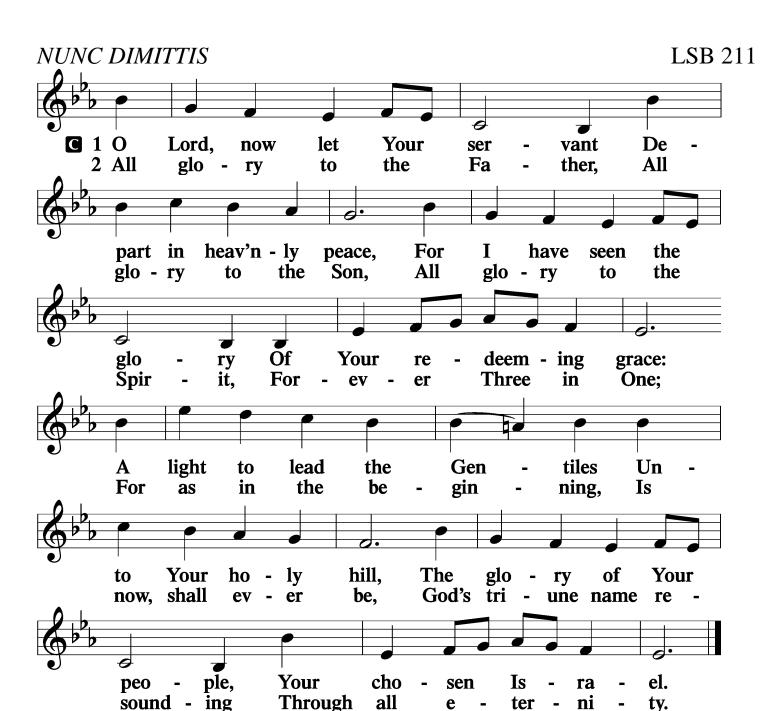
Tune: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79

Text: © 1954, renewed 1982 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no.

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Tune: Public domain

(Stand)



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS LSB 212

- $|\mathbf{A}|$ Let us bless the Lord.
- \mathbf{C} Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

698 MAY WE THY PRECEPTS, LORD, FULFILL



Text: Edward Osler, 1798-1863, alt. Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Prepare for next week

Spend a few minutes this week reading and thinking about the appointed scriptures for next week.

Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-11	1 Corinthians 9:16-27	Mark 1:29-39
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To set up an appointment for a pastoral visit, please call Pastor Paul @ 253-289-1749 or 630-514-4555 or, contact Pastor Matthews @ 360-701-6197 or your elder.

POP Church General Fund Budget Update



1/1/2023 – 11/30/2023 Income \$311,160.00 Expense \$319,125.00 Net Income -\$7,965.00



Please contact the treasurer, Sherri Thomas for additional information

Life Quote for the week of January 28, 2024

"The Holy Spirit teaches us and enables us to be more effective with our body language, to hold the hands of those who are afraid of walking alone, to hug the ones who are falling apart for whatever reason, to lift those who sinned against God and against their brothers. We do all this by sharing the forgiveness that is found in Christ." Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Flowers are placed on the altar today by Kathy Ryor.

New Flower Chart ready! The flower chart for 2024 is on the bulletin board. If you would like to provide flowers for a worship service, write your name by the Sunday you choose. To order through the church office, the cost of a basic bouquet from the Safeway Floral Department is \$45.00. You are encouraged to make your own flower arrangements, and we have vases you may use, if needed. The flowers need to be at church by the 8:00 a.m. service on Sunday. Arrangements can be made for you to bring them on Saturday. Altar Guild

This Week (and next) at Grace Lutheran and Prince of Peace

Today	8:00 am	Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Service with Prince of Peace & Grace, in person and via Facebook Live!
	9:30 am	Prince of Peace and Grace Lutheran will be studying the book of Revelation lead by Pastor Matthews
	9:30 am	the Middle School through high school group are meeting with Pastor Zeigler in the library for bible study of Joshua
	11:00 am	Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service with Prince of Peace & Grace, in person and via Facebook Live!
Feb 1st	9:30 am	Bible study with Pastor Paul
	11:00 am	Bible study on Isaiah with Pastor Matthews
	12:30 am	POP Service of Meditation with Holy Communion
Feb 4 th	8:00 am	Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service with Prince of Peace & Grace, in person and via Facebook Live!
	9:30 am	99 th Birthday celebration for Eunice Doolittle
		Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service with Prince of Peace & Grace, in person and via Facebook Live!

Sunday Divine Services are at 8:00 am and 11:00 am – fellowship afterwards. We will also continue to live stream services on Facebook Live https://www.facebook.com/POPLakewoodWA/live *Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to watch!



Eunice is turning 99 and doing fine! We are celebrating our sister-in-Christ, Eunice Doolittle. So everyone's invited for fellowship on Sunday, February 4th between services at 9:30 am in the POP Fellowship Hall. An occasion like this doesn't come around very often, well almost every 100 years! Please bring just yourself/family and memories to share with Eunice on this joyous occasion. See you on February 4th!







KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is a "steward"?

A steward is someone who has been put in charge of something. For example, if you are a babysitter, you are a steward for the parents of the



child you are watching. We have been entrusted as stewards, or keepers, of God's creation. That means that He has given us everything we have, and out of love for Him, we use all things for His will. This includes giving of our time, talents, money and all that we have in service to Him.

Why do Christians give?

Like everyone else, we belong to God because He created us and sustains us. As Christians we belong to His kingdom of salvation through our Baptism. God's love motivates us to give of what we have. We don't give because we owe God for all He has done for us in Jesus. Instead, we give because of the powerful Gospel that is working within us! Wow! God really strengthens us for wonderful service!



Parents: Before or after the service, discuss stewardship with your children. Remind them why we give. Help them to discover how they might give of what they have. Encourage them to set aside a certain portion of their own money each week to give. They will experience the joy of giving first-hand.



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What is an "acolyte"?

The acolyte is the person (or persons) who lights the candles before the service. The word acolyte comes from the Greek word akolouthos which means "follower." In English, the word acolyte sometimes means "attendant."

Why do we use acolytes in the Church?

Acolytes have always been an important part of worship. For centuries, acolytes have attended to the service of God's people by helping the pastor in many different ways. In our

churches today, acolytes

primarily serve by lighting the candles. Acolytes wear robes and sit apart from the congregation because they are helping the pastor to serve God's people during the service. Wow! What an important job!



Parents:



During the Divine Service, point out the acolyte to your children. If they are too young at the time, encourage them that one day they will get the opportunity to be an acolyte. Remind them that being an acolyte is a very important job for children to have in the church.



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What is a "catechism"?

A catechism (pronounced KAT-eh-kizm) is a book of instruction usually written in question and answer form. The word "catechism" comes from the Greek word *katekhein*, which means "to instruct." A catechism teaches the basics of the Christian faith.

Why do we need catechisms?

While visiting local churches, Martin Luther found many pastors and their church members were unaware of the true teachings of the Bible. Because of this, the people were living

immoral lives. Martin Luther wrote the catechisms to instruct people in the basics of the Christian faith, that they might

know Christ and His forgiveness and live accordingly. We still use Luther's Large and Small Catechisms so that we never forget those things that are necessary for faith in Christ.



Parents: Consider these words from Luther: "I, too, am a theologian who has attained a fairly good practical knowledge and experience of Holy Scriptures through various dangers. But I do not so glory in this gift as not to join my children daily in prayerfully reciting the Catechism. ... For God gave the Word that we should impress it on ourselves. ... Without this practice our souls become rusty, as it were, and we lose ourselves" (Plass, Ewald M., What Luther Says vol. 1 [St. Louis: Concordia, 1986], 125–26).



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