

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

propeace.org

on-line worship: [YouTube.com@princeofpeacesaratoga](https://www.youtube.com/@princeofpeacesaratoga)



August 24, 2025

Holy Disruptors – The ELCA

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

Welcome to Prince of Peace! As we begin worship, we hope and pray that it will be a time of connection with God and with others, so that we can leave this service ready to love and serve our neighbors.

Bold type indicates everyone's response.

Gathering

Prelude *Cantabile*

Edouard Lemaigre

Welcome

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: God of glory and peace, though the many rulers of earth shall fade like grass, your shelter is unfailing and your name a righteous robe of beauty eternal.

Here, O God, is your gift of water,
flowing for life, flowing for mercy,
flowing for us and for all.

With voices of sorrow and joy, we cry: **Water, flow!**

To bless creation: the woods and every fragrant tree, the mountains and hills shaped by your hand, the fields offering fruit and grain, the deserts crying out for refreshment.

Flow for the life of the world.

We cry: **Water, flow!** through the stories of our faith: the stones our ancestors placed in trust, the songs we sang in the wilderness when hope was dry, the prophet's call to repentance. **Flow for the life of the world.**

We cry: **Water, flow!** from this font and into our gathering: washing us in mercy, dressing us in splendor, sending us to the needy and afflicted. **Flow for the life of the world.**

Today we focus on the ELCA, our larger church structure and interconnection as PoP.

Why the ELCA? Because we, too, are a church called and gifted to be a voice for peace and mercy! And our elca as an institutional church, is a bold witness for the message of Christ.

Today we will hear about the triennial churchwide assembly and the ways that we are part of a church bigger, more diverse and more engaged together.

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Most of our worship liturgy are from the CW gathering worship.

With this water, place your diadem of Spirit Fire upon our brows, that we might stand on the heights, shining for justice and peace, rejoicing in your mercy outpoured. **For the life of the world: Water, flow! Amen.**

* Gathering Hymn Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842
Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Prayer of the Day

God of life, you call the whole creation to eat at your table and drink the water of life. As we feast with you, fill us with your generous Spirit and call us anew to open wide our welcome and feed your people, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

The Word

Reading

Romans 12

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. L: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

***Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***Prayers of the People**

We join together in praying as a church body. Our prayers are lengthy today, so feel free to stand or sit depending on your comfort.

L: Hear us, O God, C: Your mercy is great.

Passing of the Peace

We give one another a word of peace, as a prayer and a blessing. Take your time, cherishing the people here in our midst. All physical interactions are by mutual invitation!

Offering

Your offering makes possible and powerful the ministries of this congregation. You may place your offering in one of the plates in the back of the church. If you wish to give your offering electronically today, please scan this QR code...



To all guests and visitor, to all who have been excluded...

Please know that you are welcome at this table!

The communion bread is vegan and we have gluten free options. Wine is red, grape juice is white.

If the walk to the altar is too far, just let our ushers know and we can bring you communion.

The Meal

****Please stand as you are able****

***Words of the Institution**

***Invitation to Receive Communion**

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, welcomes everyone (and we mean everyone!) to this table, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, citizenship, ability, political affiliation, or faith.

***The 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**

Communion Music *Prelude #2*

Louis Combes

The Sending

Announcements

***Blessing**

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. † **Amen.**

***Sending Song** *One Bread, One Body*

(printed on the next page)

***Dismissal**

Go in peace.

You are sent for the life of the world.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Prelude (in the style of a fugue)*

Charles **Alkan**

One Bread, One Body



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-sing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



- | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----|---------|--------------|-----|--------|
| 1 | Gen - tile | or | Jew, | ser - vant | or | free, |
| 2 | Man - y | the | gifts, | man - y | the | works, |
| 3 | Grain for | the | fields, | scat - tered | and | grown, |



wom - an	or	man,	no	more.
one in	the	Lord	of	all.
gath - ered	to	one	for	all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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With thanks to our worship leaders:

Todd Hauschildt, *Head Usher*

Lauren Pfrommer, *Reader*

Ethan W. & David L., *Sound & Video*

Janet Chance, *Coffee Host*

Prince of Peace Staff

Reverend Sara Pearson, Pastor

Drew Ajer, Director of Youth & Service

Anne Hess, Office Manager

Katie Hoffman, Office Associate

Barbara Day Turner, Director of Music

Michael Touchi, Pianist/Organist

Kerry Lewis, Music Staff Associate

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Welcome visitors!

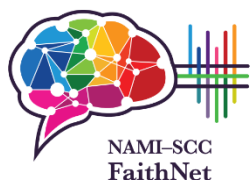
We're so glad you joined us! Please use your visitor card in the pews and leave it in the offering plate.

Learn about upcoming events: request a copy of "Peace Notes," our print announcements, and the calendar. We invite you to learn more about us on our website: propeace.org.

Prince of Peace is a congregation of the *Sierra Pacific Synod of the ELCA* .

We are proud to be a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation , publicly affirming our commitment to being a welcoming faith community for LGBTQ+ people and their families.

We are also members of *NAMI-FaithNet* , which creates mental health-friendly, stigma-free congregations in the Santa Clara Valley.



[namisantaclara.org/
classes/faith-net-2](http://namisantaclara.org/classes/faith-net-2)



Our theme for 2025:

Rooted in the love of Christ, we will grow and cultivate a thriving mycorrhizal network, characterized by faithful awareness, bold hope, and empathetic action.