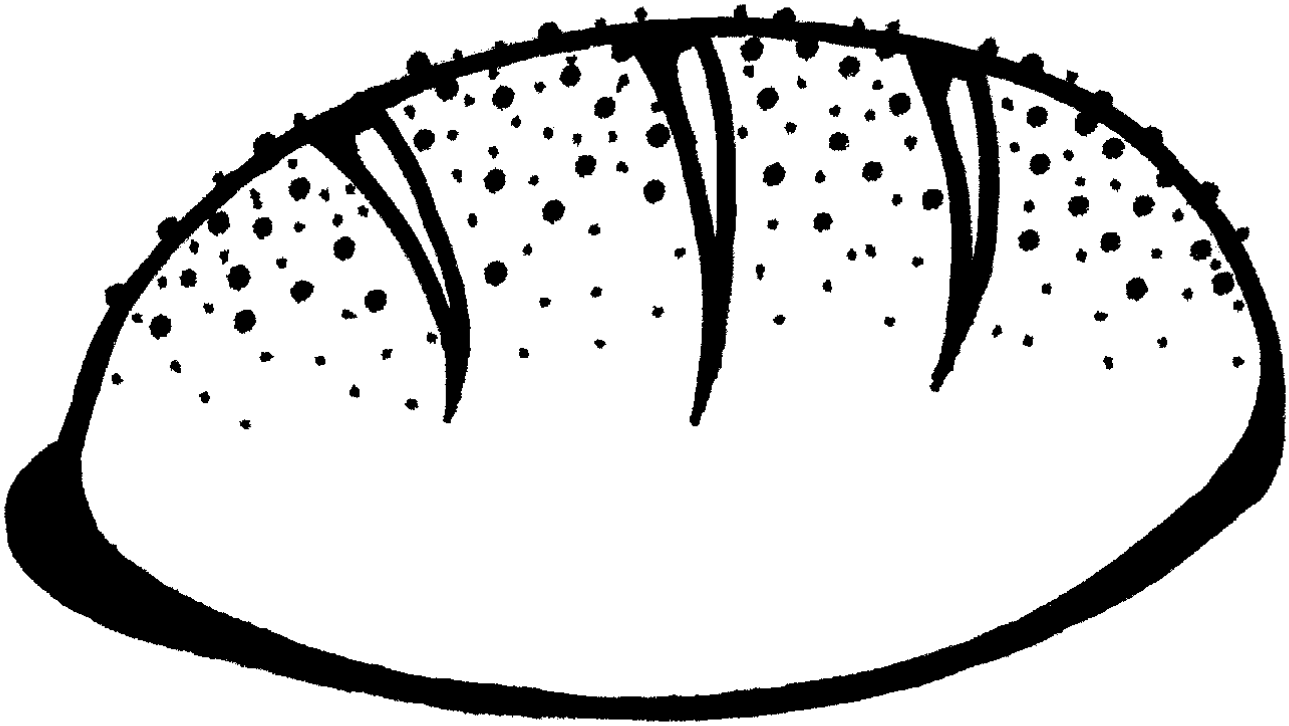
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

propeace.org

Worship Videos: YouTube.com@princeofpeacesaratoga



13th Sunday After Pentecost
August 23, 2026

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

Welcome to worship at Prince of Peace! This is a pro-participation, anti-perfectionism worship service. Our ushers are ready guides and your pew neighbor a willing help.

May this time and space be a holy encounter.

Bold print indicates response from all the people

Gathering

Prelude *"Kyrie", from Exultate: A Liturgical Suite* Craig Phillips

Welcome

***Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins.**
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

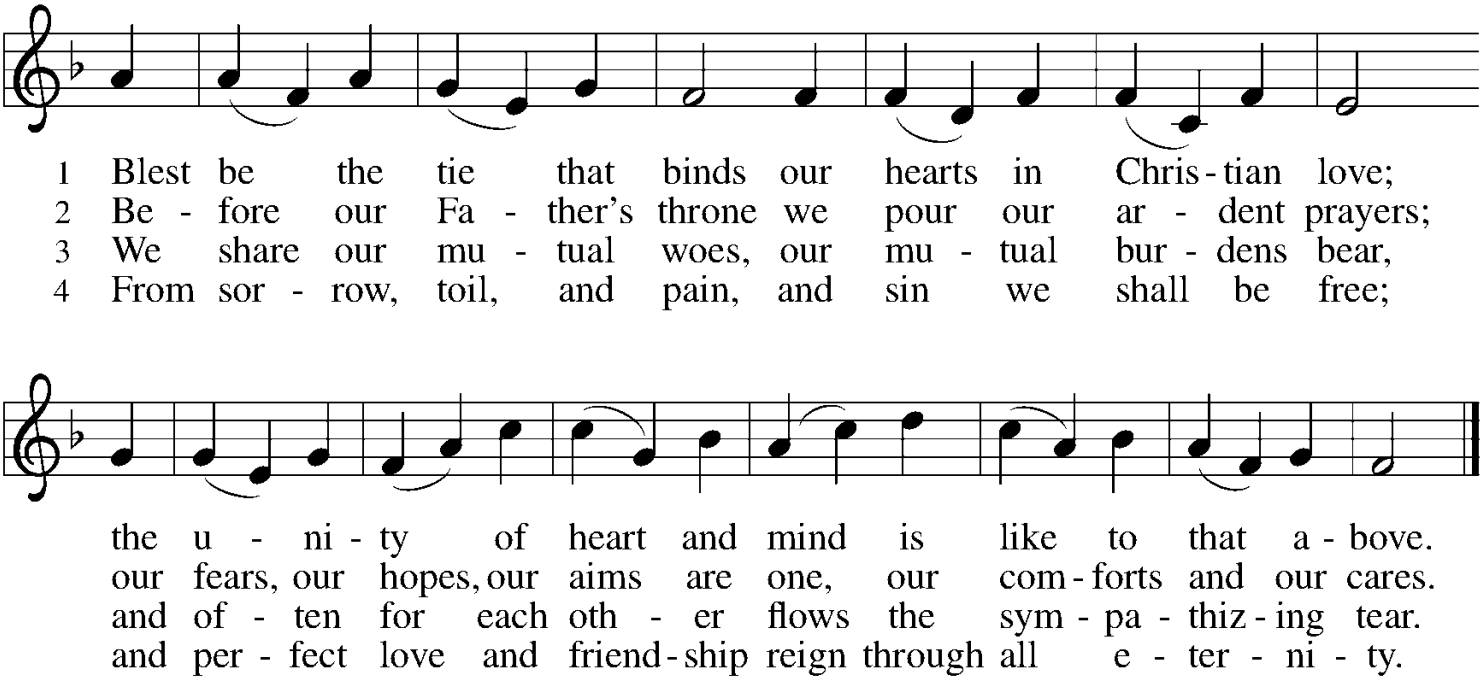
Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* *(next page)*

***Prayer of the Day**

O God, **with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds



Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

The Word

First Reading — Romans 12:1-8

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.

***Gospel Reading** **Matthew 16:13-20**

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his
disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said,
"Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one
of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I
am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living
God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in
heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my
church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19 I will give you
the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will
be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in
heaven." 20 Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he
was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

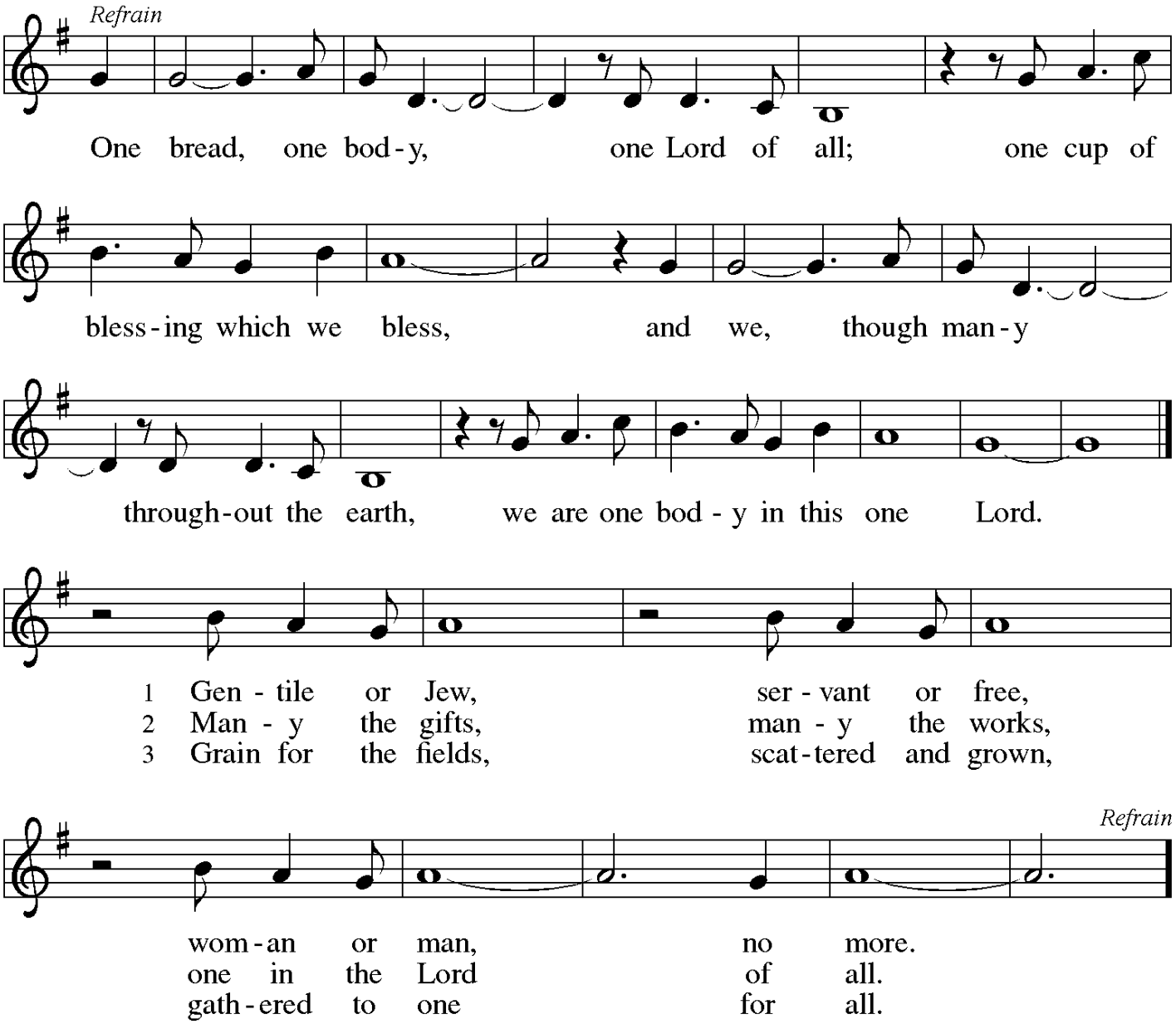
Kid's Sermon Veronica Robb

Anthem *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*
Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. by Carl Mueller

Sermon Dave Birdsall

***Hymn of the Day** *One Bread, One Body* *(next page)*

One Bread, One Body



Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939
Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ
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*Prayers of the People

P: God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

The Passing of the Peace & Offering

We celebrate the gift of God-with-us as we offer to one another greetings of peace via handshake, hug or wave. Please practice consent when passing the peace by asking if someone wishes to be hugged or touched. This respects everyone's sensitivities and helps make worship more comfortable for all.

Your offerings help support the many ministries of this congregation. You may place offering in the plates at the back of the church; If you wish to give your offering electronically, please scan this image. Thank you!

The Sending

Announcements

*Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

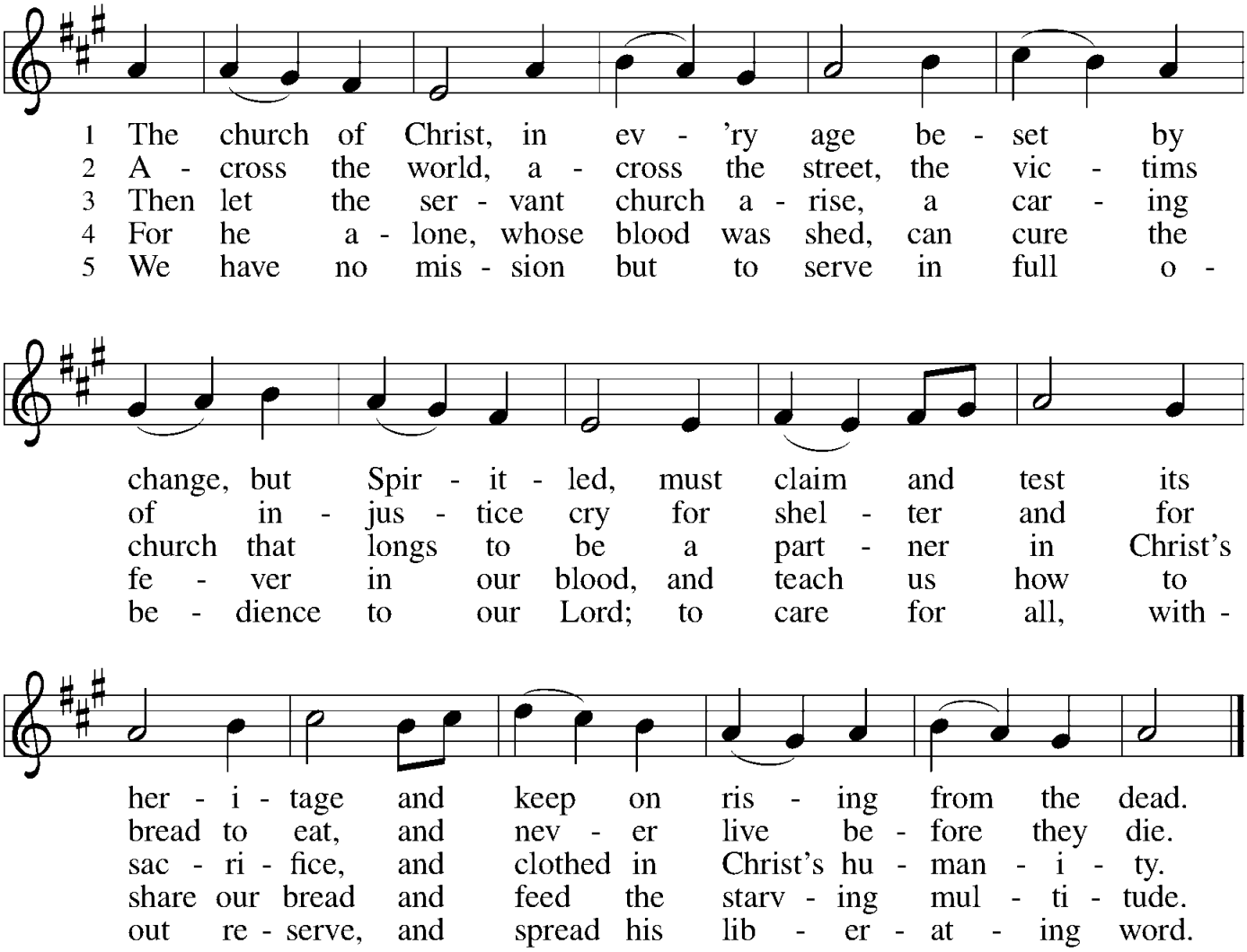
***Sending Hymn** *The Church of Christ in Every Age* *(next page)*

Dismissal

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude *Ite Missa Est" (Go, the mass is ended), from Exultate: A Liturgical Suite* Craig Phillips

The Church of Christ, in Every Age



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768
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Thanks to our worship participants:

Tech Team: Ethan W., David L., Leila S.
Guest Preacher: Dave Birdsall
Ushers: Todd H.
Reader: Marilyn S.
Altar Guild: Carol B. & Dave B.
Coffee Host: Ray S.

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Prince of Peace Staff

Anne Hess, Office Administrator
Veronica Robb, Dir. Youth & Family Services
Barbara Day Turner, Music Director Emerita
Daniel Hughes, Interim Choir Director
Michael Touchi, Organist
Katie Hoffman, Office Associate
Kerry Lewis, Music Staff Associate

Welcome Visitors!

We are so glad you joined us! If you feel inclined, and want a follow-up, use the Visitor Card in the pews and leave it in the offering plate so our volunteers can deliver a welcome gift. Learn about upcoming events: ask for a copy of the "Peace Notes", our printed announcements and calendar.

We invite you to learn more about us on our website at propeace.org. Prince of Peace is a congregation in the Sierra Pacific Synod of the ELCA. PoP is also a member of NAMI-FaithNet, creating mental-health friendly, stigma-free congregations in the Santa Clara Valley.

We are proud to be a Reconciling in Christ congregation, publicly affirming our commitment to both racial equity and being a welcoming community of faith for LGBTQIA+ people and their families.

PRINCE of PEACE
Celebrate. Share. Strengthen. Serve.

propeace.org

Sierra Pacific Synod
committed to being re-formed

spselca.net

elca.org

NAMI-SCC FaithNet

namisantaclara.org/classes/faith-net-2

RECONCILING IN CHRIST

reconcilingworks.org