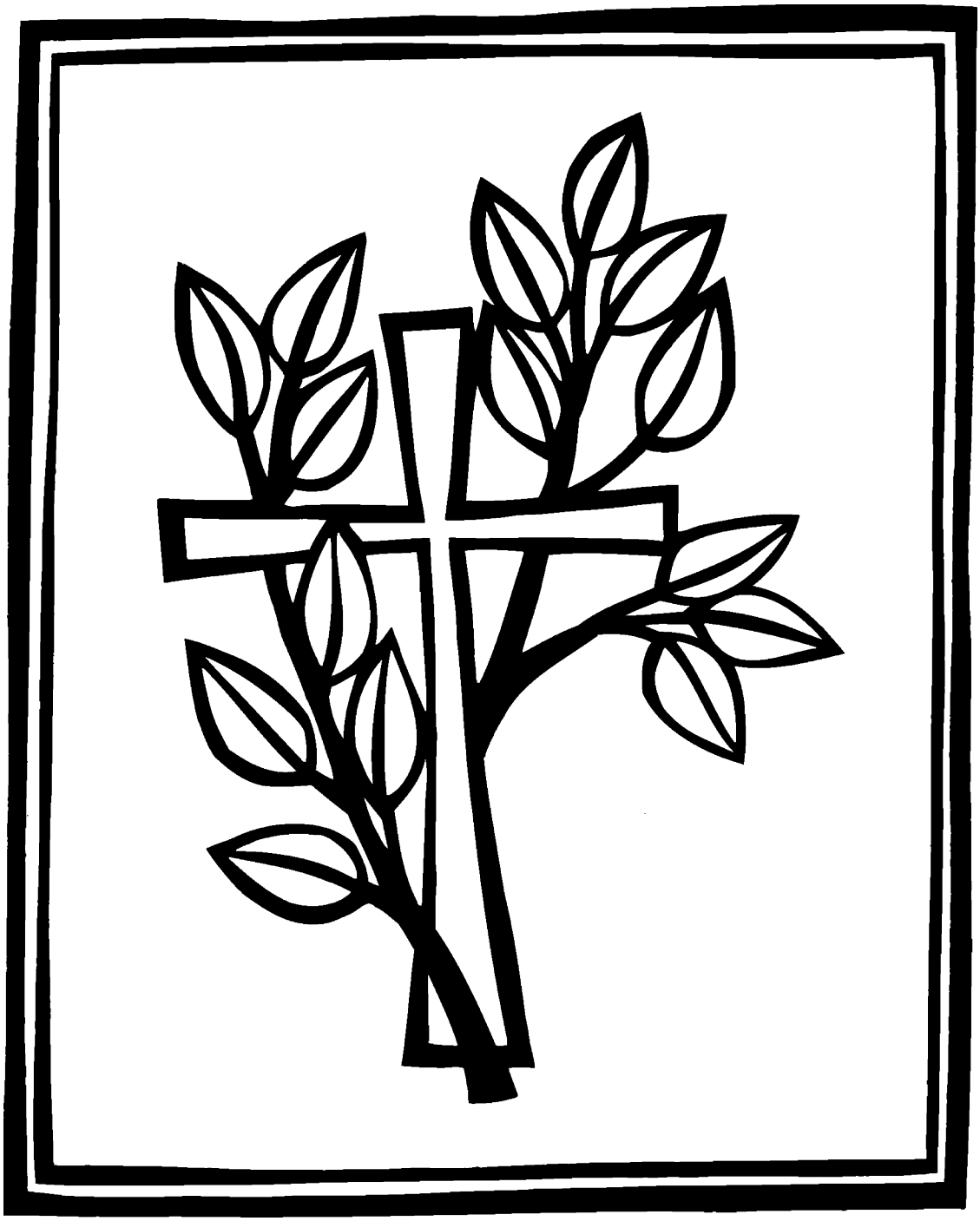
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

propeace.org

Worship Videos: YouTube.com@princeofpeacesaratoga



14th Sunday After Pentecost
August 30, 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 *I. Allegro, from Mandolin Concerto in C Major, RV 425*
Antonio Vivaldi, arranged for organ solo by Jonathan Scott

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.**

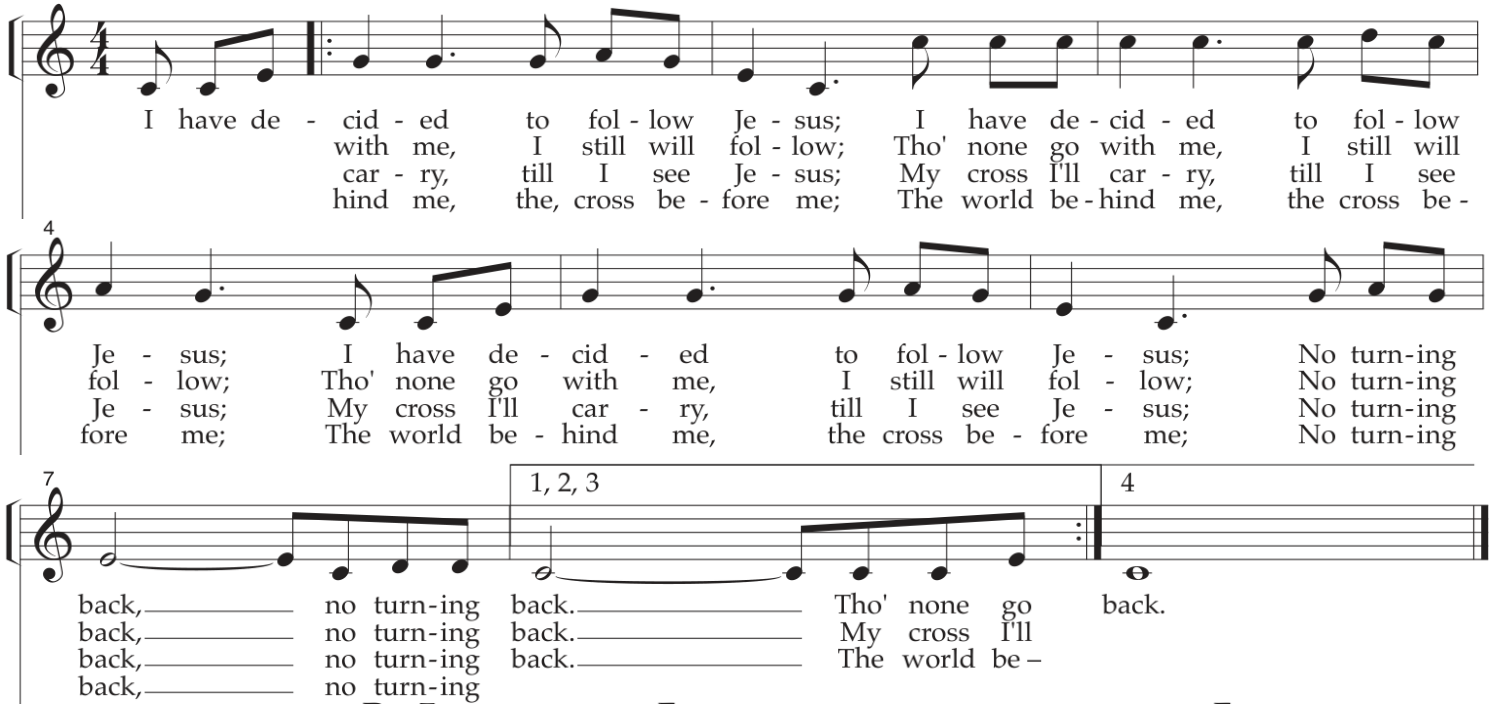
*Gathering Hymn *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* *(next page)*

*Prayer of the Day

O God, **we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Arr. by P. Kirk Bullington



The Word

First Reading — Romans 12:9-21

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.

***Gospel Reading** **Matthew 16:21-28**

21 From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the
Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem
and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests
and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. 22 And Peter took
him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must
never happen to you." 23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me,
Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on
divine things but on human things."

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them
deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For those who
want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake
will find it. 26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but
forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his
Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28 Truly I
tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they
see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

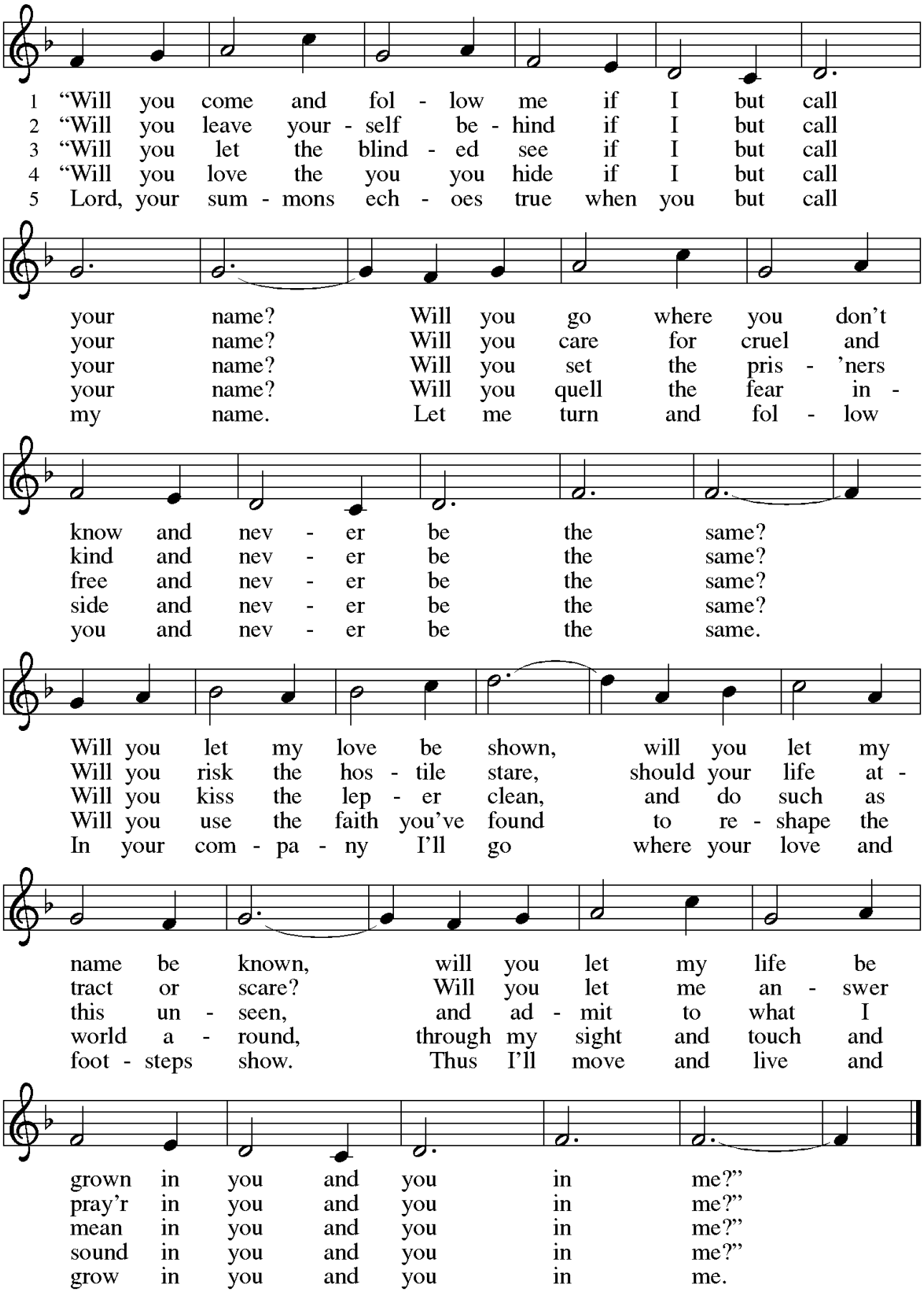
Kid's Sermon Veronica Robb

Sermon Pr. Martha

***Hymn of the Day** *Will You Come and Follow Me* *(next page)*

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

*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!

Holy Communion is by invitation of Jesus Christ. All people who desire to experience the grace of God are welcomed regardless of age, race, faith, creed, ethnicity, sexual orientations, gender expression, political party, or physical ability.
If you do not wish to receive communion, you may also come to altar with your arms crossed to indicate that you would like to receive a blessing instead..

The Meal

*Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed…

*Lord's Prayer

You are invited to pray in the style and language most familiar to you.

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.

Welcome to Communion

*Communion is one of two sacraments in our ELCA Lutheran tradition. A sacred-moment combines God's promises with a tangible object. At this table you can receive the grace, goodness, and strength of Christ. And remember…**All** are welcome.*

Communion Music *II. Largo, from Mandolin Concerto in C Major, RV 425*

Antonio Vivaldi, arranged for organ solo by Jonathan Scott

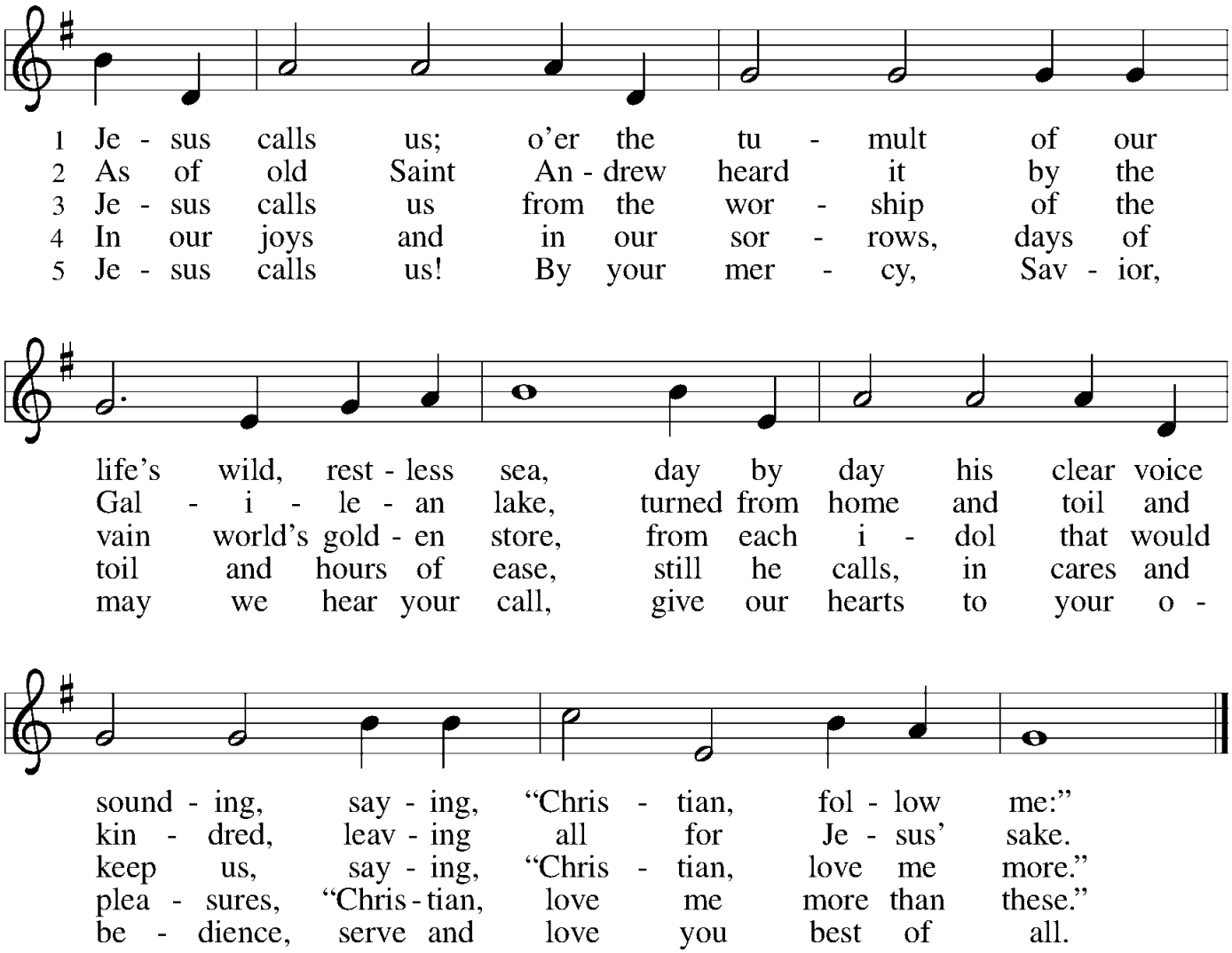
The Sending

Announcements

*Blessing

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

*Sending Hymn Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult



Dismissal

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

Postlude *III. Allegro, from Mandolin Concerto in C Major, RV 425*
Antonio Vivaldi, arranged for organ solo by Jonathan Scott

Thanks to our worship participants:

Tech Team: Ethan W., David L., Leila S.
Guest Pastor: Pr. Martha Butzier
Ushers: Todd H.
Reader: Jennifer R.
Altar Guild: Carol B. & Dave B.
Coffee Host: Ray S. & Yildiray H.

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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