## Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

propeace.org

Worship Videos: YouTube.com@princeofpeacesaratoga



March 16, 2025 2nd Sunday of Lent Today is the Secondt Sunday in Lent.
Welcome to a wonderful time of year to grow in faith and connections to God & neighbor

This year at PoP, our Lenten theme is...Finding God in the midst of the extremes.

We have designed worship, gatherings, and small groups that will meet you where you are! Maybe you want some joy in the form of socializing. Maybe you are eager to get your resistance and justice on? Maybe you are seeking peace...whatever it is that you need, we hopefully have a connection point for you.

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Welcome to Prince of Peace! As we begin worship, we hope and pray this will be a time of connecting to God and one another so that we might leave this worship service ready to love and serve our neighbors.

Bold print indicates response from all the people

# **Gathering**

**Prelude** "Heinlein" (Forty Days and Forty Nights)

Peter Lutkin, on a 17th century tune by Martin Herbst

# **Call to Worship**

Come as you are.

If you have deep faith or your faith has run dry, if you know every scripture or none at all,

if you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,

or if you kneel at God's feet, with a million hungry questions, come as you are.

This is God's house. None are turned away. All are welcome here.

### Welcome

## \*Please stand as you are able\*

# \*Confession & Forgiveness

The story of Mary and Martha is often painted as a story where one does right and one does wrong.

We know that life is often more complicated than that.

We know that faith is embodied through being present and taking action—and everything in between.

Knowing this, like Mary and Martha, let us draw near to God. Let us be honest about our lives, our hopes, and our mistakes. For even in our messy middle, God meets us with grace.

Let us pray: God of Grace,

We long to do the "right" thing.

We long to make the "right" choice.

We long to stand on the "right" side of the dividing line.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love.

Show us how to hold our heart's desire for perfection loosely. Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else. For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you.

Show us the way. Amen.

Faithful friends, God knows our hearts.

When we mean well and lose our way, God knows.

When we try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows.

When we long to be close to God, and doubt our worth, God knows.

You are seen. You are loved. You are forgiven. You have been sent to serve.

This is the good news of the gospel! Nothing can separate us from God's love. Thanks be to God! Amen.

\*Gathering Hymn Take, Oh Take Me As I Am

(Printed on the next page)

## **Prayer of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you! C: And also with you.

Loving God, When our anxiety hovers close,

when fear clings to our bones,

when our stress rises like the tide, see us.

Speak to us. Call us by name.

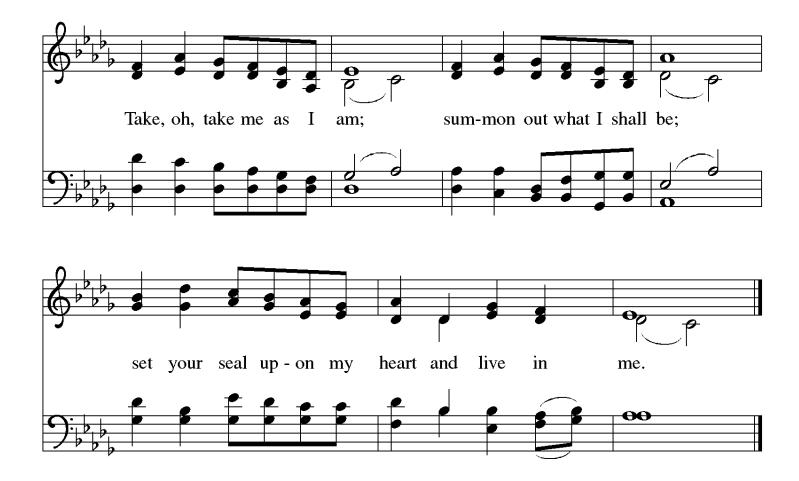
See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room.

Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night.

Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child.

Whatever you do, speak to us, for we cannot live on bread alone. Amen.

## Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am



### The Word

### \*Gospel Reading

Luke 10:38-42

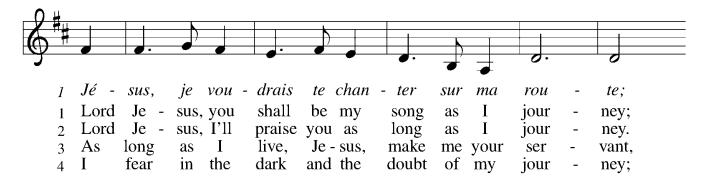
<sup>38</sup>Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. <sup>39</sup>She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." <sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; <sup>42</sup>there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

L: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

## **Sermon** Pastor Sara

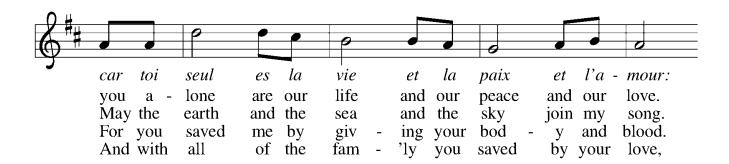
## \*Song of the Day

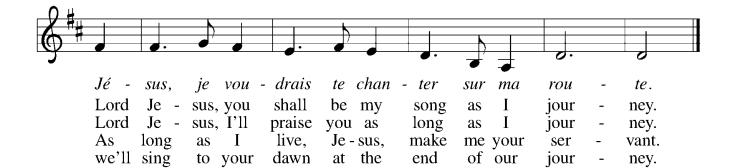
## Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song





Jé - sus, vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi-sins par-tout, I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er go: joy be a faith-ful re-flec-tion of May all of my you. car - ry your cross and to share all your bur-dens and tears. but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.





In a time of divisiveness and anger, we come to the table in unity, and in hoped for unity. It is a moment of peace encouragement that can buoy our spirits for the living of these days.

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. Please be welcome here!

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

## **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: God of grace, C: Hear our prayer.

## \*Passing of the Peace

We give one another a word of peace, as a prayer and a blessing. It is a unique greeting that grounds us here.

## 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...



## The Meal

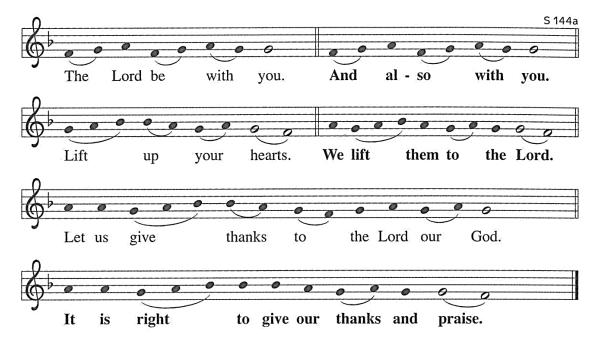
## \*Please stand as you are able\*

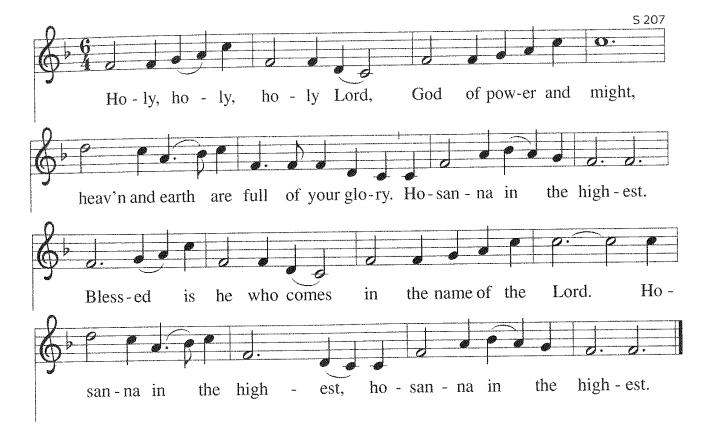
### \*Words of Institution

### \*Invitation to Receive Communion

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, welcomes everyone (and we mean everyone!) to this table. No matter one's race, ethnicity, gender expression, citizenship, ability, political affiliation, or faith background.

# \*Great Thanksgiving





## \*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** "Modal", from Three Quiet Preludes

**Alex Rowley** 

Dear ones, remember we have worship on Wednesday! If you know someone looking for a little community and a good meal, invite them! Worship this Lent will feature the faith stories of 4 of our members. And very accessible worship style that anyone of any faith can connect with.

Remember also, to stop by the narthex sign up sheets and book cart for resources to enliven your Lent!

# The Sending

#### **Announcements**

## \*Blessing

\*Sending Song Lord of all Hopefulness

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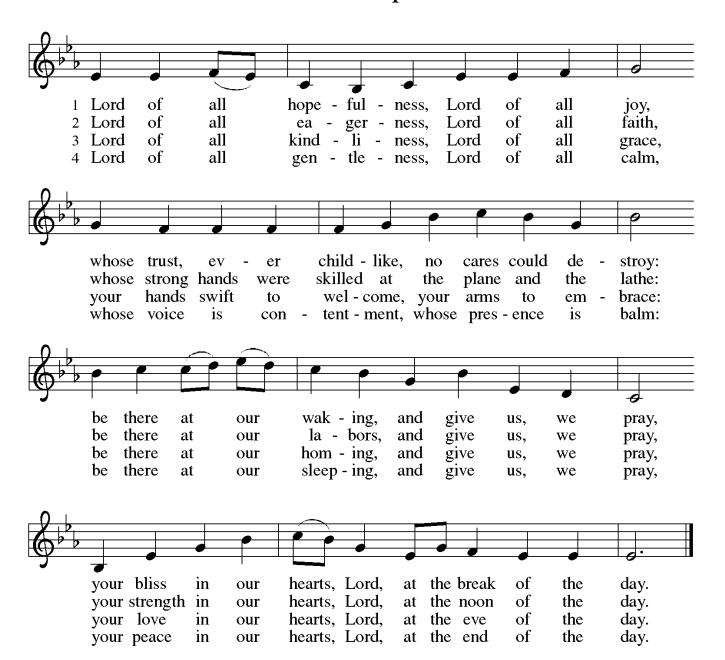
#### \*Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. Thanks be to God. We will!

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude music

**Postlude** Agincourt Carol (O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High) attr. John Dunstable

# Lord of All Hopefulness



Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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## With thanks to our worship leaders:

Todd Hauschildt, Head Usher Marilyn Sell, Reader David L. & Ethan W., Sound & Video Techs Ling & Patrick Nelson, Coffee Host

### **Prince of Peace Staff**

Rev. Sara Pearson, Pastor
Drew Ajer, Director of Youth and 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 are so glad you joined us! Please use the Visitor Card in the pews and leave it in the offering plate.

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.

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

We are also a member of NAMI-FaithNet, creating mental-health friendly, stigma-free congregations in the Santa Clara Valley.







