

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA**

propeace.org

Worship Videos: [YouTube.com@princeofpeacesaratoga](https://www.youtube.com/@princeofpeacesaratoga)



**Fifth Sunday in Easter**

**May 3, 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, if you would like.

*May this time and space be a holy encounter.*

**Bold print indicates response from all the people**

## Gathering

**Prelude** *Variations on "Aurelia" (The Church's One Foundation)*

Irvine Dearnaley, on Samuel Wesley's hymn tune

## Welcome

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you. **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

## \*Gathering Hymn

## Morning Has Broken



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

## \*Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, **your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## The Word

### First Reading

**Acts 7:55-60**

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right

hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

## **\*Gospel**

## **John 14:1-14**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

**Children's Time**

Drew Ajer

**Sermon**

Pr. Sara

## \*Hymn of the Day

## Making Their Way



1 Mak - ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have  
2 Mak - ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble  
3 Mak - ing our way sea - son by sea - son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,  
on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,  
till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath - ered for wor - ship, of - fer - ing thanks,  
learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way. Mem - bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,  
car - ing for strang - er as for friend, till in the joy of long - ing ful - filled,



the great - est with the least have come to share this feast.  
they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.  
to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626

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## \* Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **\*Prayers of the People**

**P:** Merciful God, **C:** receive 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...

**C: Christ has died. Christ is Risen Christ will come again.**

### **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.

## Choir Anthem *Touch that Soothes and Heals*

Gregg DeMey, arr. Thomas Keesecker

## Communion Music *"Andante," from Sonata No. 3, op. 25*

J. A. van Eyken

## Prayer After Communion

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## The Sending

### Announcements

### Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn** *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* (next page)

### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Alleluia!

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude** *Improvisation on "Lancashire" (Lead on, O King Eternal)*

Paul Manz, on Henry Smart's hymn tune

# Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life



1 Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a  
2 Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a  
3 Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all  
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in  
joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as kill - eth death.  
length; such a strength as makes his guest.  
part; such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593–1632

Music: THE CALL, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

## Thanks to our worship participants:

Video Production: Ethan W. & David L.

Ushers: Todd H & Gabe P-W

Altar Guild: Carol B. & Dave B.

Coffee Hosts: The Tomlins

Reader: Connie Chen

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## Prince of Peace Staff

Pastor Sara Pearson

Drew Ajer, Director of Youth & Service

Anne Hess, Office Administrator

Barbara Day Turner, Director of Music

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](http://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. PoP is also a member of NAMI-FaithNet, creating mental-health friendly, stigma-free congregations in the Santa Clara Valley.