Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

propeace.org

Worship Videos: YouTube.com@princeofpeacesaratoga

19th Sunday After Pentecost
Oct 4, 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 *Song* from Suite Sunday, by Emma Lou Diemer

Welcome

***Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

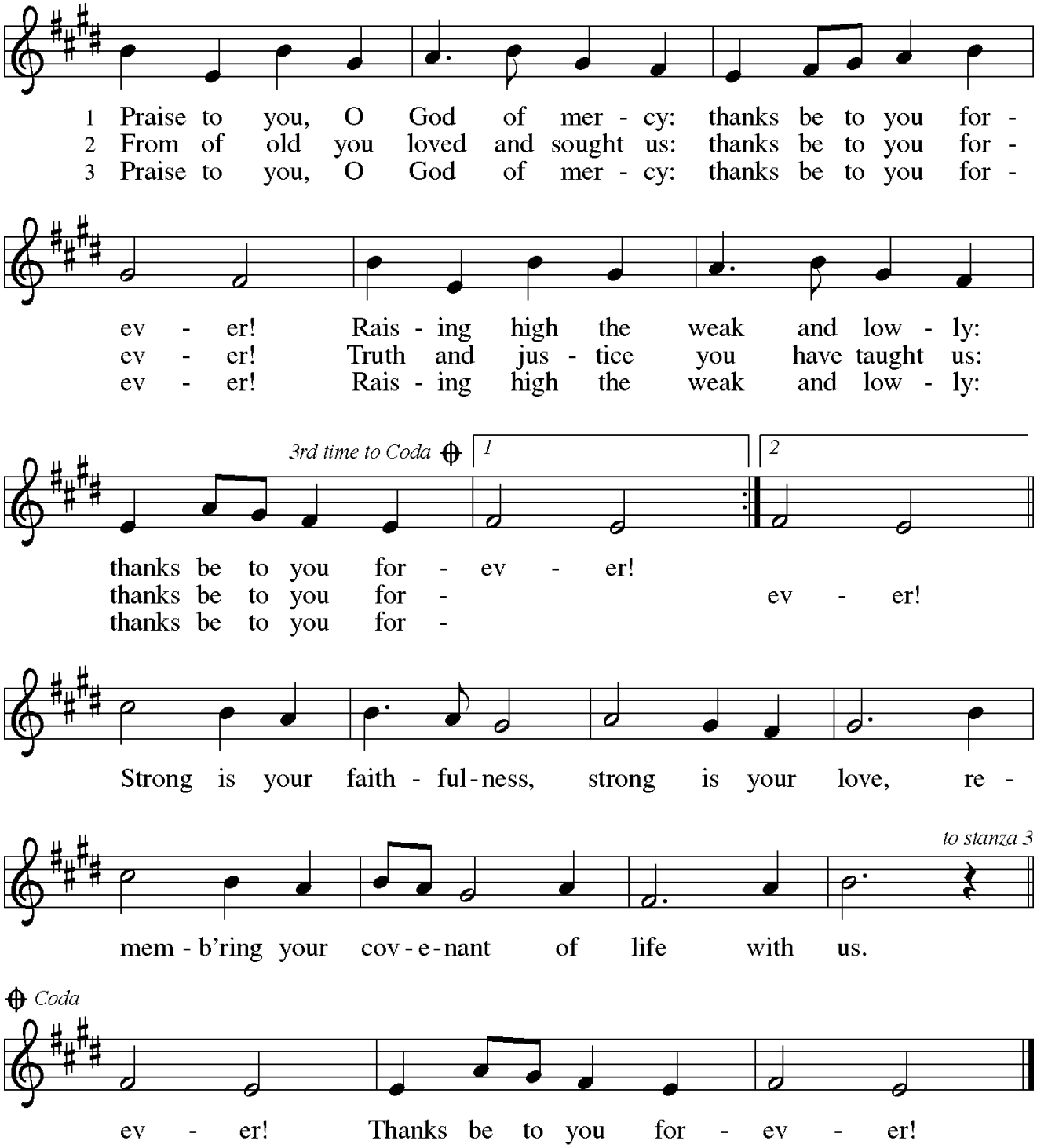
Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn** *Praise to you, O God of Mercy*

(next page)

Praise to You, O God of Mercy

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

*Prayer of the Day

Beloved God, **from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Word

First Reading — Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

1 God spoke all these words,

2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery; 3 you shall have no other gods before me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of
anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in
the water under the earth.

7 "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God,
for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8 "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall
labor and do all your work.

12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long
in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your
neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that
belongs to your neighbor."

18 When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of
the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled
and stood at a distance 19 and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will
listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." 20 Moses said to the
people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put
the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

*Gospel Reading — Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said:] 33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who
planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built
a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. 34 When the
harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his
produce. 35 But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another,
and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and

they treated them in the same way. 37 Then he sent his son to them, saying,
'They will respect my son.' 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to
themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'
39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now
when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"
41 They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and
lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the
harvest time."

42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:
'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?
43 "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you
and given to a people that produces its fruits. 44 The one who falls on this
stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they
realized that he was speaking about them. 46 They wanted to arrest him,
but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Kid's Sermon Veronica Robb

Sermon Pr. Katy Grindberg

***Hymn of the Day** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* *(next page)*

*Prayers of the People

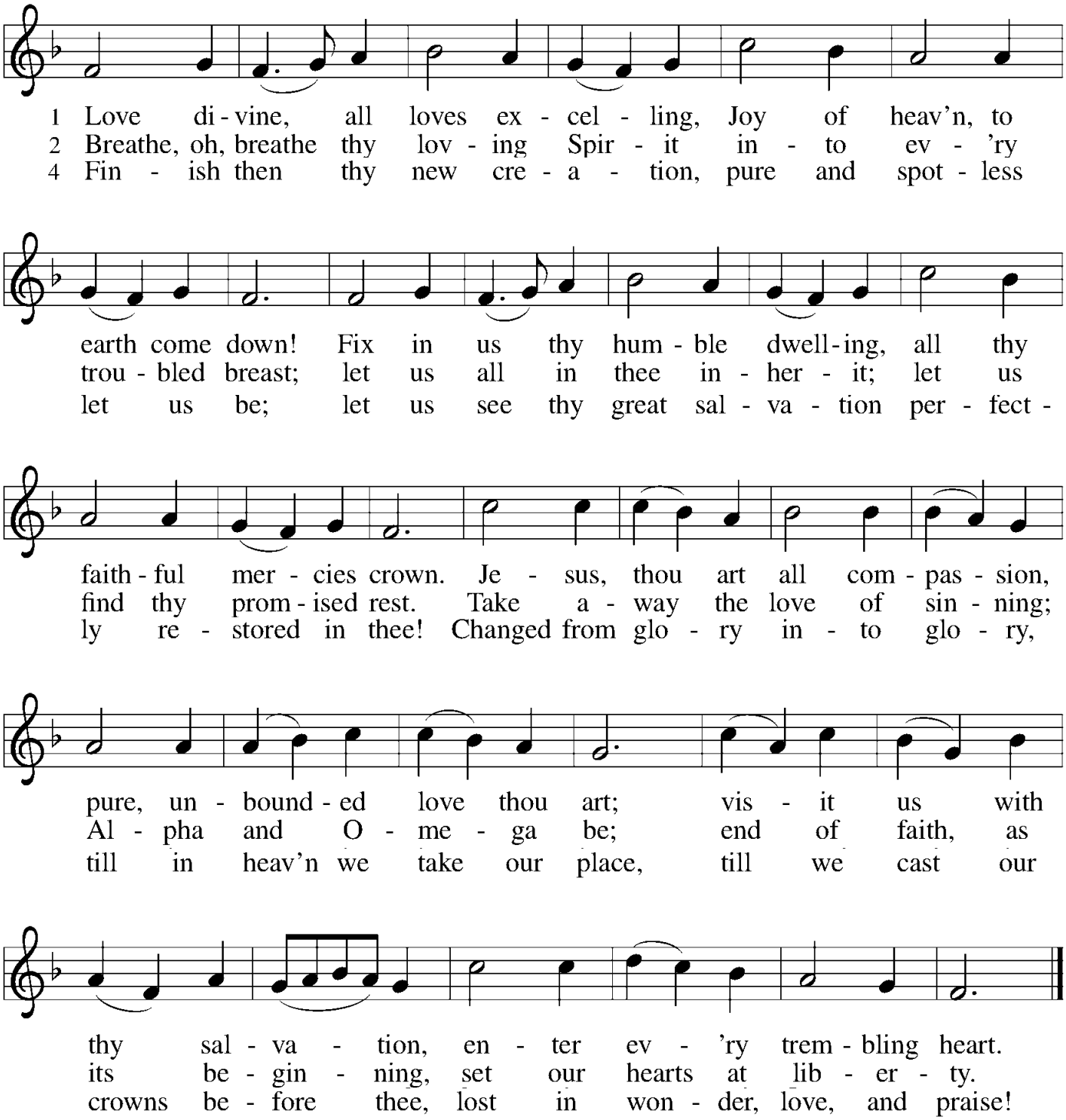
P: Hear us, O God, **C: Your mercy is great.**

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!

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

The Meal

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..

*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 *Evening Song* Paul Halley

The Sending

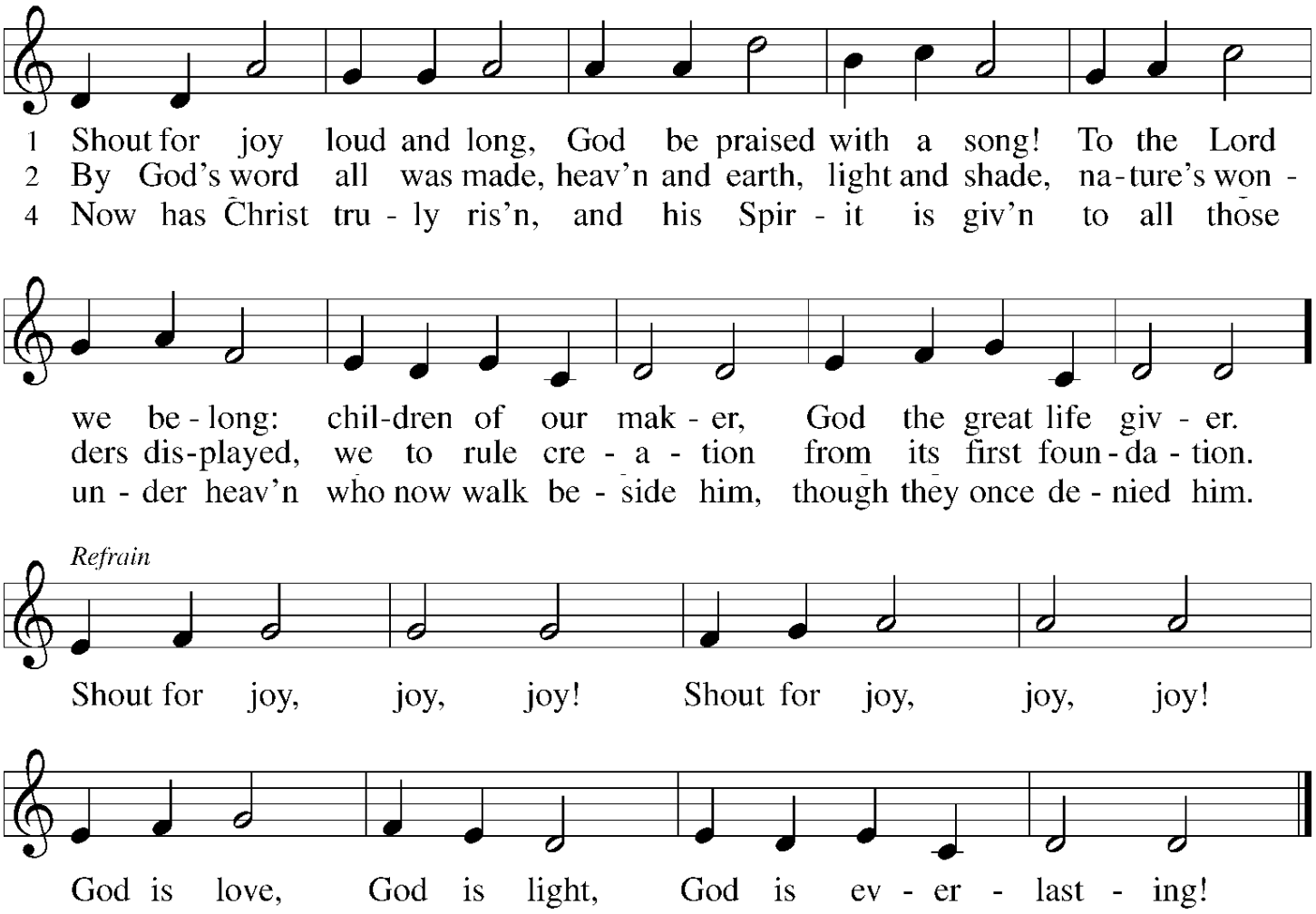
Announcements

*Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**
The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Hymn** *Shout for Joy* *(next page)*

Shout for Joy Loud and Long



Text: David Mowbray, b. 1938
Music: PERSONENT HODIE, *Piae cantiones*, 1582

Dismissal

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Praise* from Suite Sunday, by Emma Lou Diemer

Thanks to our worship participants:
Tech Team: Ethan W., David L., Leila S.
Guest Preacher: Pr. Katy Grindberg
Ushers: Dave B.
Reader: Matthew F.
Altar Guild: Carol B. & Dave B.
Coffee Host: Ulrike H.

Licenses: Christian Copyright Solutions License #12833
Song Use and Streaming CCLI License # 177234

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*