Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

propeace.org

Worship Videos: YouTube.com@princeofpeacesaratoga

15th Sunday After Pentecost
September 6, 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 *Prelude on 'Slane'* Gerre Hancock

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.

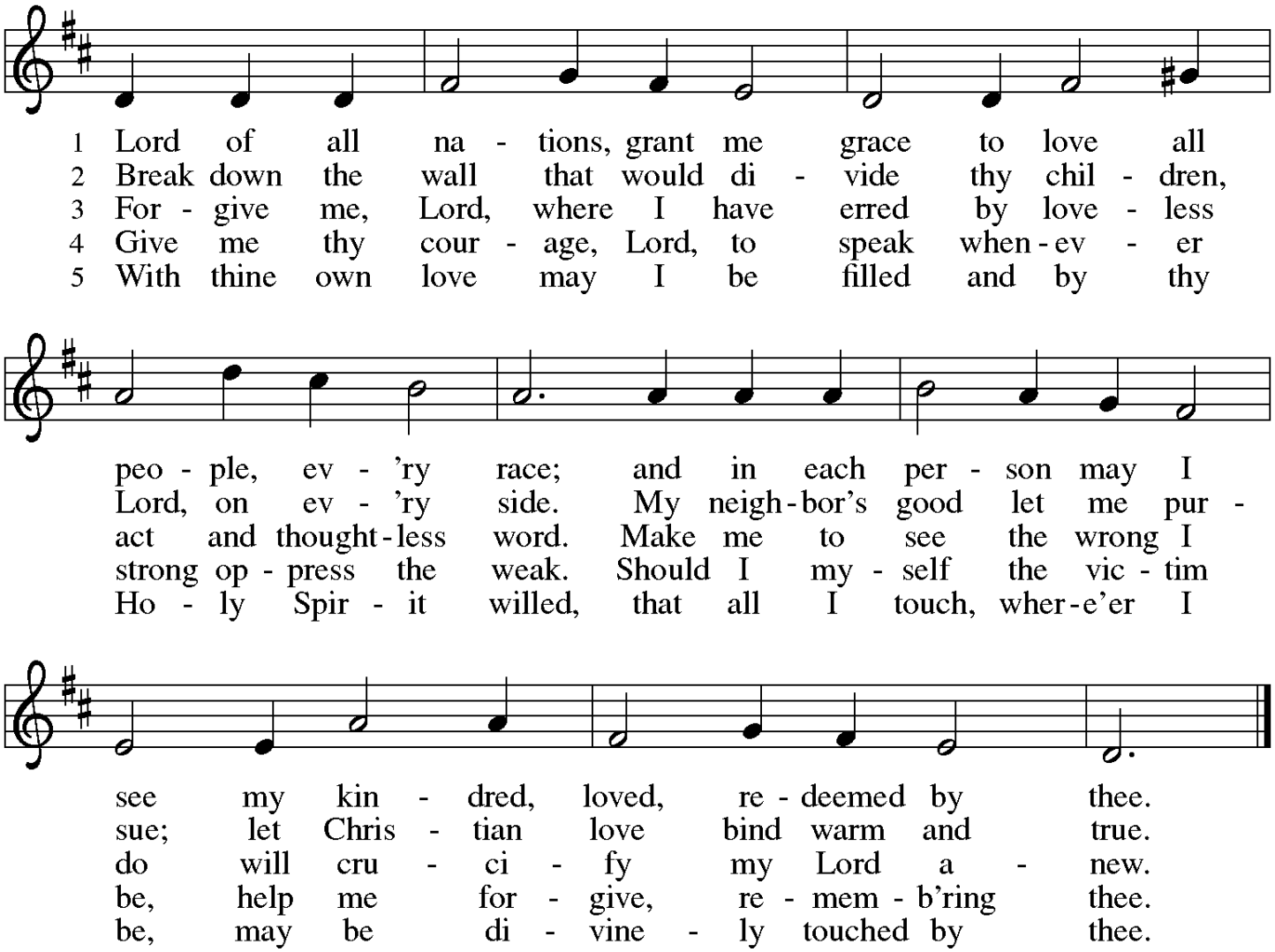
Silence is kept for reflection.

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** *Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace* *(next page)*

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, b. 1916, alt.
Music: BEATUS VIR, *Šamotulský Kancionál*, 1561

*Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, **enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Word

First Reading — Ezekial 33:7-11

7 So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever
you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8 If
I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not
speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in
their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. 9 But if you warn
the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways,
the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.
10 Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our
transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of
them; how then can we live?" 11 Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I
have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from
their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will
you die, O house of Israel?

*Gospel Reading — Matthew 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 15 "If your brother or sister sins against you, go
and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened
to, you have regained that one. 16 But if you are not listened to, take one
or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the
evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If that person refuses to listen to
them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the
church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. 18 Truly I
tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and
whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 Again, truly I tell
you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done
for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in
my name, I am there among them."
The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

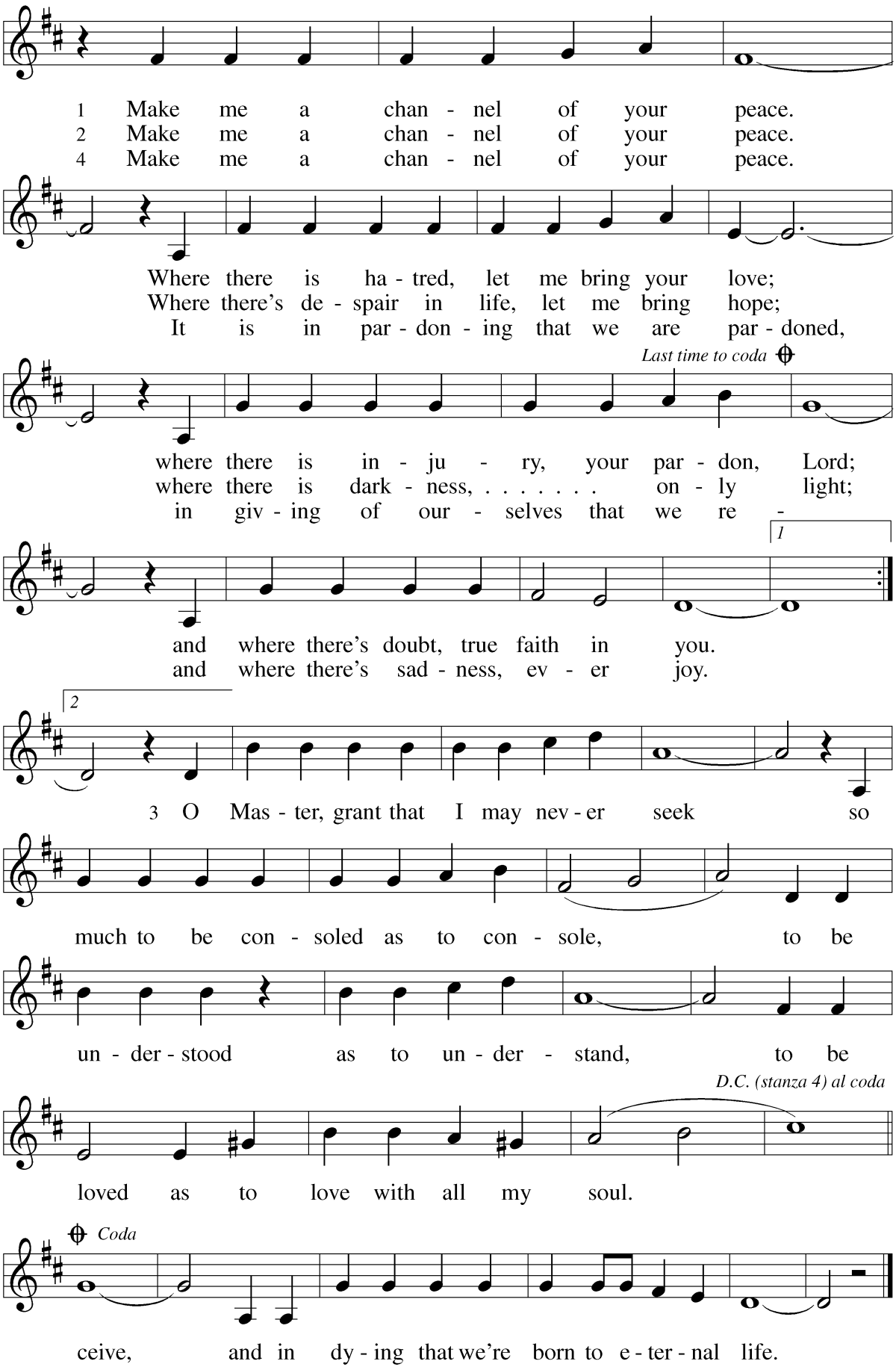
Kid's Sermon — Veronica Robb

Sermon — Rev. Mary

***Hymn of the Day** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* *(next page)*

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis



Text: Sebastian Temple
Music: PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS, Sebastian Temple

*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!

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.*

Anthem *Love Comes from God* Allen Pote

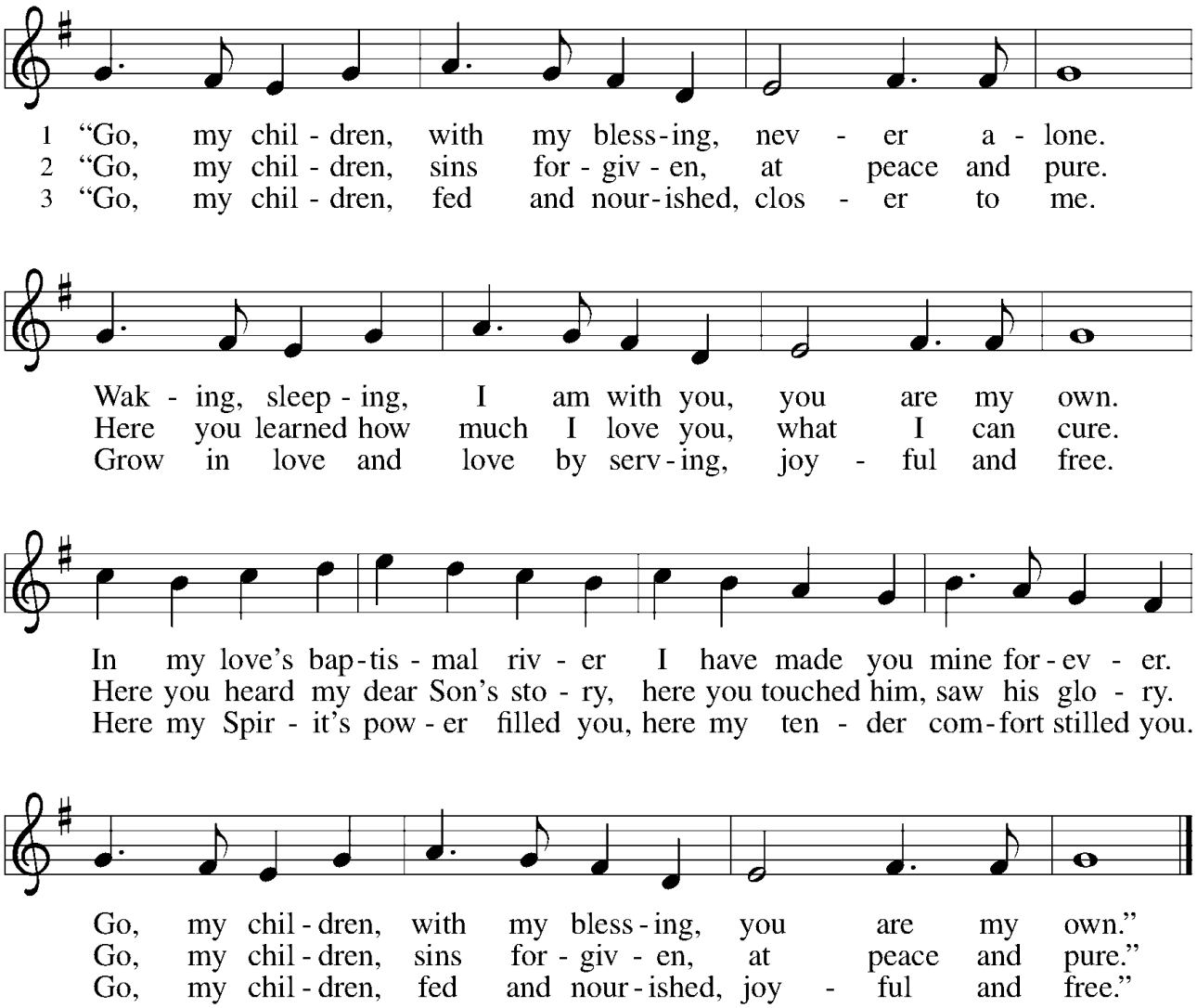
Communion Music *Adoro te devote, from Five Liturgical Inventions*
Victor Togni

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.**

*Sending Hymn Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Dismissal

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

Postlude *Postlude in D major* Healey Willan

Thanks to our worship participants:

Tech Team: Ethan W., David L., Leila S.
Guest Pastor: Rev. Mary Blessing
Ushers: Todd H.
Reader: Connie C.
Altar Guild: Carol B. & Dave B.
Coffee Host: Theresa & Satish R.

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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