



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
December 14, 2025
The Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome to worship at Prince of Peace!

Pastor, Rev. Alex Hinojosa
Music Director, Karen Turgeon
Office Manager, Laura Dygert
Church Office Hours: T-F 8a.m.-4pm

As we gather today, our hope is that through this time of hearing and reflecting on God's Word, your faith is strengthened for service in Christ's name. Our mission is to Know Jesus Christ and to Make Him Known.

We pray that you will feel comfortable and at home during your worship experience. If you are here for the first time, please stop by our Welcome Center in the narthex. There you will find information about the church and ministry activities. Please fill out the welcome book located in the welcome center, so we may acknowledge your visit with us.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a congregation that is a part of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and we adhere to the practice of closed communion. We ask that all visitors please seek to speak to Pastor Hinojosa before the service begins if you wish to receive the sacrament.

To limit contact, our offering envelopes are available as you enter the sanctuary and may be left in the plate. We appreciate your support.

Thank you for joining us today as we worship our Lord and Savior.
May you be richly blessed by our Prince of Peace!

Worship Today - 9:30 a.m.

Faith Focus this Month

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

Visit us on the web at — **www.princeofpeacehills.org**
Phone: (248) 553-3380

December 14, 2025
Third Sunday of Advent

Confession and Absolution

Opening Hymn 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!

2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.

3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

4 Lay on the sick Thy healing hand And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Text: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our
sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit *Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4–5*

P Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

C Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

P LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

C You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.

P Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

C Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

Sing:

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world be without end. Amen.

P Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

C Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

Kyrie *LSB 186*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 40:1–11*

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle *1 Corinthians 4:1–5*

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia *LSB 190*

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Matthew 11:2–11*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! “Christ is near,” we hear it say.
“Cast away the works of darkness, All you children of the day!”

2 Startled at the solemn warning, Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.

3 See, the Lamb, so long expected, Comes with pardon down from heav’n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, One and all, to be forgiv’n;

4 So, when next He comes in glory And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with His mercy And with words of love draw near.

5 Honor, glory, might, dominion To the Father and the Son
With the ever-living Spirit While eternal ages run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Offertory *LSB 192*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 194*

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, ...

Sanctus *LSB 195*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer *LSB 196*

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.

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 197*

Pax Domini *LSB 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Please Sit

Distribution Hymns

627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

1 Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior, Turned away God's wrath forever;
By His bitter grief and woe He saved us from the evil foe.

2 As His pledge of love undying, He, this precious food supplying,
Gives His body with the bread, And with the wine the blood He shed.

3 Jesus here Himself is sharing; Heed then how you are preparing,
For if you do not believe, His judgment then you shall receive.

4 Praise the Father, who from heaven To His own this food has given,
Who, to mend what we have done, Gave into death His only Son.

5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed, By hearts that long for peace and rest.

6 Agony and bitter labor Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose You need not Him who died and rose.

7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor, And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill Need no physician's help or skill.

8 "For what purpose was My dying If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food If you yourself were pure and good?"

9 If your heart this truth professes And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior's guest, Be at His banquet truly blest.

10 Let this food your faith so nourish That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.
Text (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): Public domain
Text (sts. 3, 6, 8, 10): © 1980 and 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002518

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing, And with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing, Proclaim the wonders God has done,
How His right arm the vict'ry won. What price our ransom cost Him!

2 Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;
Death brooded darkly o'er me. Sin was my torment night and day;
In sin my mother bore me. But daily deeper still I fell;
My life became a living hell, So firmly sin possessed me.

3 My own good works all came to naught,
No grace or merit gaining; Free will against God's judgment fought,
Dead to all good remaining. My fears increased till sheer despair
Left only death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suffered.

4 But God had seen my wretched state

Before the world's foundation, And mindful of His mercies great,
He planned for my salvation. He turned to me a father's heart;
He did not choose the easy part But gave His dearest treasure.

5 God said to His belovèd Son:

"It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown,
And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free;
Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."

6 The Son obeyed His Father's will,

Was born of virgin mother; And God's good pleasure to fulfill,
He came to be my brother. His royal pow'r disguised He bore;
A servant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the devil captive.

7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me,

I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be;
For you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, and you are Mine,
And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.

8 "Though he will shed My precious blood,

Me of My life bereaving, All this I suffer for your good;
Be steadfast and believing. Life will from death the vict'ry win;
My innocence shall bear your sin, And you are blest forever.

9 "Now to My Father I depart,

From earth to heav'n ascending, And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,
The Holy Spirit sending; In trouble He will comfort you
And teach you always to be true And into truth shall guide you.

10 "What I on earth have done and taught

Guide all your life and teaching; So shall the kingdom's work be wrought
And honored in your preaching. But watch lest foes with base alloy
The heav'nly treasure should destroy; This final word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the
face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people
Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction *LSB 202*

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn 333 Once He Came in Blessing

1 Once He came in blessing, All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us; Hope and freedom gave us.

2 Now He gently leads us; With Himself He feeds us
Precious food from heaven, Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish Souls that they may flourish.

3 Soon will come that hour When with mighty power
Christ will come in splendor And will judgment render,
With the faithful sharing Joy beyond comparing.

4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus, From our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing, That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006
Text (sts. 1, 4): Public domain
Text (sts. 2–3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002518

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Peace Notes

Flowers on the altar are offered in celebration of Erik Walker's birthday! Happy birthday, Erik.

The Novi Choralaires, Novi's Community Chorus, will present '*Tis the Season*', TODAY here at Prince of Peace beginning at 4 pm. Tickets are \$15 for Adults, \$10 for Seniors and Students. Tickets are available at the door. Children under 6 are free. Thank you to all who donated cookies!

Join us for worship **December 17th for our Hymn Sing**. Start in the fellowship hall at 6 pm with dinner, then worship at 7pm.

Prayer Update Requested. We are looking to make updates to the prayer list. If you have a name on our current list, please contact the church office to let us know of any updates or changes.

Today is the last day to order poinsettia. Envelopes are available in the narthex. Cost is \$15 per plant and should be taken home after worship on Christmas day!

Updates from the church office:

- ♦ Laura will be on vacation January 20 through January 23. We are looking for someone to cover her office hours during that week. If you are interested, please contact the church office. Training will be provided!
- ♦ Please be sure all bulletin and/or prayer list updates are sent to the church office by Wednesday evening to be sure they are included in the Sunday bulletin.
- ♦ Christmas/New Year office closures: The church office will be closed December 24, 25 and 26, January 1 and 2. And will close at noon on December 31.

Our financial snapshot: As we quickly come to the end of 2025 we thank you for your support throughout the year so far. Please consider an additional contribution before the end of the year as we look forward to continuing our mission to Know Him and Make Him Known into 2026!

2025 YTD November

Contributions	\$211,964
Expenses	\$248,049
Difference	\$(36,085)

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today

Bible Study 8:30am

Worship at 9:30am

Novi Choralaires 4pm

Monday, December 15

Family of God 5pm

Tuesday, December 16

Prayer Team 7:15 pm

NA meeting 7:30 pm

Wednesday, December 17

Advent:

Supper 6 pm

Service 7 pm

Hymn Sing

Friday, December 19

NA meeting 11 a.m

AA Meeting 8 p.m.

Office closing at 3:30pm

Sunday, December 21

Bible Study 8:30am

Worship at 9:30am

COMING UP

Monday, December 15

Family of God 5 pm

Wednesday, December 17

Hymn Sing 7 pm

Wednesday December 24

Christmas Eve

worship at 5pm

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day

worship at 10am

Wed-Fri, Dec. 24, 25, 26

Church office closed

Keep in Prayer this week

- ✚ For healing and quick recovery for Lillian Harmon as she continues to recover from recent surgery and her husband, Dave, who is feeling under the weather.
- ✚ For God's peace for Marcia and Greg Geisert as Greg has been placed in hospice care awaiting His Savior to take him home.
- ✚ For hearts to be open to come for Christmas services
- ✚ For quick recoveries for those fighting flu and seasonal viruses
- ✚ For God's blessings for those we partner in ministry with at Family of God and AWPC and their staff.
- ✚ For all those experiencing extreme weather - from flooding to earthquakes
- ✚ For the friends and family of Katherine Hanaway who passed away on November 19. And friends and family of Shirley Tadrzynski who passed away this week.
- ✚ For healing and recovery for Beth Lange as she recovers from a recent surgery.
- ✚ For the health concerns of: Gail Fisher, Helen Nye, and Rachel Svoke, Dennis Coffey, Barb Dunigan, Betty Burrell, Barbara Moore, Bob Traum, Trish Jones, Kyle Duby, Quinn Fox

Readings for the Week *The Time of Christmas*

14 Dec: Is 30:15–26; Rev 2:1–29
 15 Dec: Is 30:27—31:9; Rev 3:1–22
 16 Dec: Is 32:1–20; Rev 4:1–11
 17 Dec: Is 33:1–24; Rev 5:1–14
 18 Dec: Is 34:1–2, 8—35:10; Rev 6:1–17
 19 Dec: Is 40:1–17; Rev 7:1–17
 20 Dec: Is 40:18—41:10; Rev 8:1–13
 21 Dec: Is 42:1–25; Rev 9:1–12

Faith Focus this Month

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

Catechism Recitation - The Apostles' Creed
 The Third Article: Sanctification

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Online Giving:

Follow these simple steps if you would like to make a donation to Prince of Peace using our online donations page.

1. Scan the QR Code below to be directed to our webpage.
2. Click Donate Now. You can check out as a guest or create an account for reoccurring donations.

Our system is simple and safe to use. Call the church office if you have any questions. (248) 553-3380

PrinceofPeacePhills.org



Service Schedule

	14-December	21-December	28-December
	9:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	9:30 a.m.
ELDER	Mike Beyersdorf	Charley Staab	Dick Walker
GREETER	Chris Moses	Susan & Kurt Vaaler	Sharon & Ed Kaiser
VIDEO OPERATOR	Ed Kaiser	Jesse Brindle	Chris Moses
TELLERS	Doug Butler Dick Walker	JoAnn Lind	Sharon Moses Irene Rothschild
USHERS	Greg Echols Charlie Staab Joe Svoke	Mark Wells Kurt Vaaler Doug Butler	Charley Staab Jesse Brindle Joe Svoke