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FAITH ↓

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 16, 2024 ✠ 9:00 AM

# 50 PRINCE OF PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

WEBSITE  
popslc.org



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## A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- \* Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- \* The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as you're comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- \* We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- \* If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

## FROM THE TINIEST SEED

### GROWS THE LARGEST KINGDOM



Usually, a kingdom advances and is secured through things like military might or political force or worldly wealth. It can be tempting to believe the same holds true in the kingdom of God. Perhaps we think churches would flourish if we had the right rulers passing and enforcing the right laws. Or we believe that for a church to do good requires a robust budget. Political force. Worldly wealth.

This way of thinking is breathtakingly wrong.

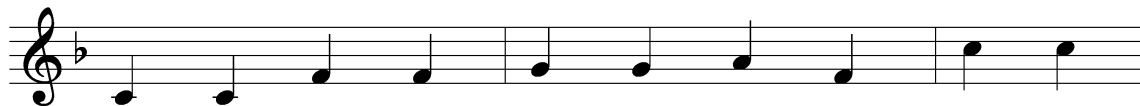
We need God to give us the top-down faith that grasps the fact that kingdom of God advances in ways that are imperceptible. Through something that seems insignificant to most—the gospel—the King of kings establishes his reign in human hearts. Even Jesus himself taught that the gospel seems unimpressive, for he often compared the gospel to a tiny seed. Yet within a seed is hidden life. As the seed of the gospel is planted, the largest of all kingdoms grows.

# THE DIVINE SERVICE

∞ The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD type**.

Hymns not printed in this service folder are found in the blue hymnals in each pew. ∞

## Hymn | 981 In This Place Your Word Is Planted



1 In this place your Word is plant - ed; on our  
2 Let your plant - ing not be wast - ed, wilt - ed  
3 Help us trea - sure ho - ly wis - dom, sa - vor  
4 Blest are they who, truth re - ceiv - ing, know its



path the seed is sown. To the Church your  
soon in ston - y field. Let our world - ly  
ev - 'ry word you give. Help us cher - ish  
val - ue more than gold. Blest are they who,



Word is spo - ken; in our hearts a light has shone.  
cares not choke it, rob - bing you of right - ful yield.  
Je - sus' gos - pel, bread by which your peo - ple live.  
per - se - ver - ing, bear good fruit a hun - dred - fold.

*Please stand at the minister's direction if you are able*

## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 28:19*

**Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

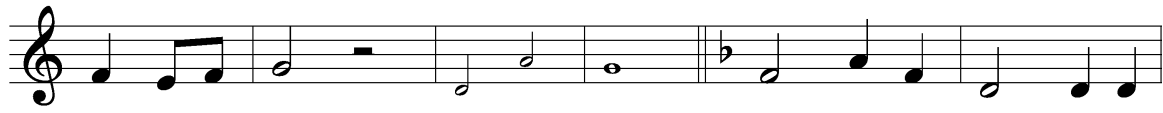
**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**







glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his




peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on




us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on



earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy and bring forth fruits in faith, hope, and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

### First Reading

*Ezekiel 17:22-24*

*Through the prophet Ezekiel, the LORD promised that the kingdom of God would grow large and strong and provide safety and shelter for God's people.*

<sup>22</sup>“ This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find shelter in the shade of its branches. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the forest will know that I the LORD bring down the tall tree and make the low tree grow tall. I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

“ I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it. ”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# How Truly Blest Are They

Psalm 1



1 How tru - ly blest are they who shun the  
 2 But make the law of God their stud - y  
 3 They like a tree shall thrive with wa - ters  
 4 The wick - ed are not so! They no such



sin - ners' ways, a - mong their coun - sels  
 and de - light a - mid the la - bors  
 near the root. Fresh as the leaf their  
 bless - ing find. Their hopes shall flee like



nev - er stand, nor take the scorn - ers' place,  
 of the day and watch - es of the night.  
 name shall live; their works are heav'n - ly fruit.  
 emp - ty chaff be - fore the driv - ing wind.

5 How will they bear to stand  
 before that judgment seat  
 where all the saints at Christ's right hand  
 in full assembly meet?

6 God knows and he approves  
 the way the righteous go,  
 but sinners and their works shall meet  
 a dreadful overthrow.

## Second Reading

Colossians 1:3–8

*We thank God that the seed of the gospel is producing fruit throughout the whole world.*

<sup>3</sup>We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup>because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— <sup>5</sup>the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel <sup>6</sup>that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. <sup>7</sup>You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, <sup>8</sup>and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

2 Peter 3:18

**Alleluia, alleluia. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

**To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. Alleluia!**

## Gospel

Mark 4:26–34

*The kingdom grows when the seed is sown. The Word works.*

<sup>26</sup>He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup>Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. <sup>29</sup>As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup>Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. <sup>32</sup>Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup>With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. <sup>34</sup>He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**Hymn of the Day - 859 Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure**

CW 859

**Sermon**

*Celebrate the Growth of the Kingdom!*

*Stand*

**Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

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

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

**Prayer of the Church**



## Offering



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Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him. There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give a gift in that way. To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to (833) 693-7056. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.

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## The Sacrament

Stand

### Preface

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

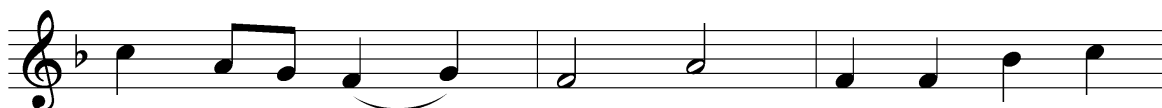
### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might.



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**Amen.**

### 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.**

### Words of Institution

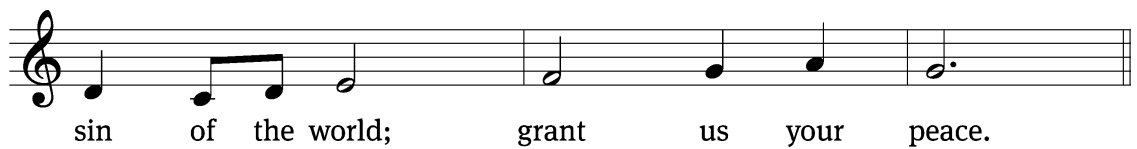
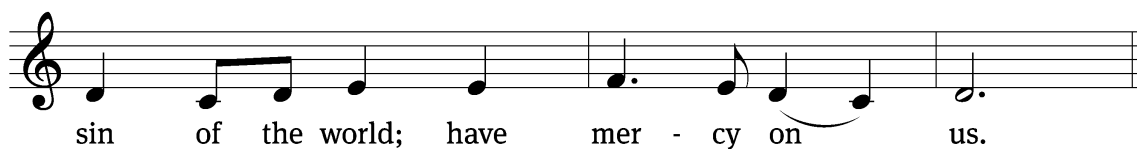
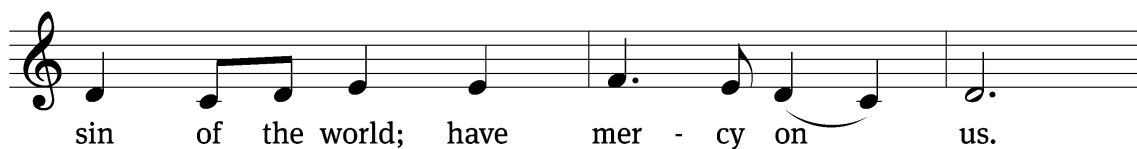
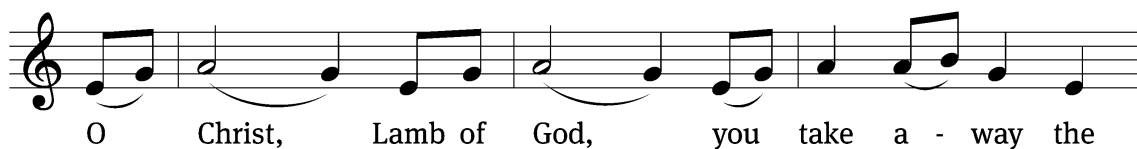
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my  $\dagger$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my  $\dagger$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## O Christ, Lamb of God



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*Be seated*

## Distribution

### A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS

*Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this. Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how.*

*Please speak to Pastor Peil or Pastor Boettcher about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. Thank you for your understanding!*

**Distribution Hymns | 595 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing  
878 Christ Alone the World's Redeemer  
644 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast**

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.  
Go + in peace.

**Amen.**

*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

## 925 On What Has Now Been Sown

+ + +

*Thank you to Neil Woller for serving us and our Savior with music this morning!*