



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 8, 2024 ✠ 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM

50 PRINCE OF PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

WEBSITE
popslc.org



MAIN OFFICE
(801)261-3808

DAVID M. BOETTCHER | PASTOR
CELL: (385)409-1653
david.boettcher@popslc.org

TYLER R. PEIL | PASTOR
CELL: (402)936-3655
tyler.peil@popslc.org

MICHAEL E. PAULSEN | PRINCIPAL
CELL: (262)490-4772
mike.paulsen@popschool.org

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 your 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.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

REST IN REPENTANCE



People tend to feel a lot of pressure this time of year. We want our houses to look good for out-of-town guests. We want to impress people with the thoughtfulness of our gifts. What a welcome relief, therefore, to hear what is required to meet the Lord: only repentance. Jesus is not someone we need to impress with our good works. Indeed, repentance is the opposite of work. It is the candid and honest admission of our sin combined with the joyful trust that everything needed to bring us close to God has already been done by Christ.

The call to repent is not another demand to do something more. It is gracious invitation to set down our work to make way for Christ's work.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord Jesus, you call the weary and burdened to yourself, to refresh them and give rest to their souls. Let me experience your love through your Word and Sacrament today. Remove the rags of my flesh and adorn me with the garment of your goodness. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and receive my thanks and praise for your glory. Amen.

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. 

Invocation

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

In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Matthew 28:19

Isaiah 40:3a,4a

A voice of one calling in the wilderness
"Prepare the way of the LORD.

Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain made low."

Lighting the Advent Candle

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Today we light two Advent candles remembering the peace that is ours in Jesus.
May Christ's peace reign in our hearts.

Prepare the way of the Holy One!
Our eyes will see the salvation of God.

Luke 3

The congregation sings:

(Hymn 333, st. 2)

**For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to all the earth.**

Confession and Absolution

So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found
spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

2 Peter 3:14

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed.

Isaiah 40:5a

The peace that we have in Christ transcends all understanding. It guards our hearts and minds
in Him (*Philippians 4:7*). At His invitation, we confess together:

**We have sinned and fallen short of Your glory. We are unworthy of Your grace. Savior of the
nations, come. Make our hearts Your home. Abide with us, our Lord Immanuel.**

silence for reflection

Christ came to earth to save you. He died for your sins. "For in this hope we are saved." (*Romans
8:24a*) As a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name
of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!

Luke 2

Song of Praise *(Hymn 313, st. 1,4)*

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; 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.

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading

Through God's Word and the messengers who proclaim it, the Lord humbles his people, purifying our hearts so that we might stand on the Last Day.

¹"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty.

²But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

Malachi 3:1-7b

⁵"So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me," says the LORD Almighty.

⁶"I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them.

Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

sung by ensemble

Come, thou long-expected Jesus born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

God produces love and humility within us. He began his good work at our baptism and He will carry that

work to completion.

³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I

long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4

Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.
Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

This lesson is the basis of the sermon today.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Tracoonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.
⁵Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.
⁶And all people will see God's salvation.’

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day | 316 On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry

Sermon Luke 3 This is the Moment We've All Been Waiting For

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

*Romans 10:10; Dt 6:4
Matthew 6:9; Ex 6:3
Genesis 1:1; John 1:1
Colossians 1:16*

Romans 10:9

the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one being with the Father.
 Through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation,
 he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
 and became fully human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory
 to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Matthew 16:16
John 3:16
John 1:1,8:12,17:22
Colossians 2:9
John 1:2
John 10:30
Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3
1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23
John 6:41; Luke 15:20
Luke 1:34-35
John 1:14
Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18
Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53
1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6
Acts 1:9
Acts 7:55
Matthew 26:64
Acts 10:42; My 3:12
2 Peter 1:11

Jn 14:26; Acts 2:38
Genesis 1:2; John 3:6
John 15:26
Mt 3:16-17; Lk
Ez 11:5; 2 Pt 1:20-21
1 Peter 2:5; Eph 2:19-22
Ephesians 4:5; Acts 2:38
1 Co 15:35-49; 1 Thes 4
Psalm 106:48

Prayer of the Church

Lord God, in the fullness of time You sent
 Your servant John to be a voice crying in the
 wilderness, preparing the hearts of the
 people for the coming of Jesus Christ. Bless
 also the pastors You have sent out among
 Your people in our generation, that they
 would faithfully proclaim Your Law and
 Your Gospel for the saving and comforting
 of many souls. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear
 our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You gather Your people
 together in Christ and make them partakers
 of Your grace. Strengthen the faith of those
 You have gathered into this congregation,
 that their love may abound more and more
 with all knowledge and discernment. Lead
 us to approve what is excellent and be pure

and blameless for the day of Christ. Lord, in
 Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, Your forerunner prepared
 the way for the One who is mightier than
 all: Your Son, Jesus. For Christ's sake, we
 entrust to You those in need of healing,
 comfort and rescue. Have mercy upon
 them, deliver them according to Your will
 and strengthen them in faith, that they
 might be assured of Your faithfulness. Lord,
 in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for...

*Harry Calvert (Nancy Brandt's brother-in-law with
 serious health struggles), Sam (cancer), Frankie
 (Robyn's young friend with cancer), Chaunc
 (Krystal's son), Nathan (Zahn's nephew on military
 deployment), JoElla (recovering from radiation
 treatment), Craig (chronic back issues), Janice and*

Julia (cancer diagnosis), Kathy (Tom and Robyn's sister-in-law in ICU), Paul (Pam Farrel's nephew with serious health issues), Angie (Mert and Francine's daughter with health issues), Kaylee Hahn's grandmother (in hospice)...

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Offering



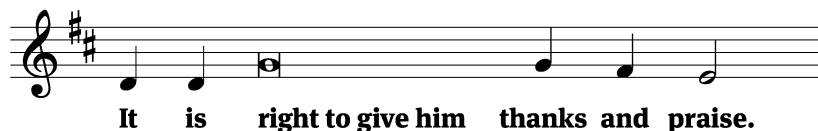
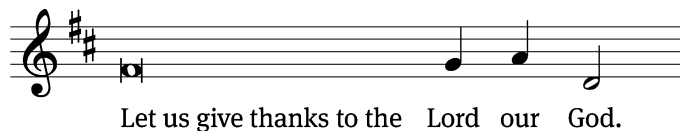
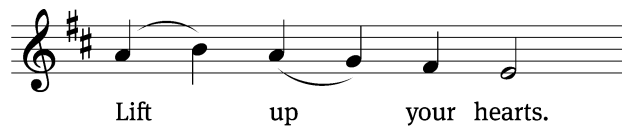
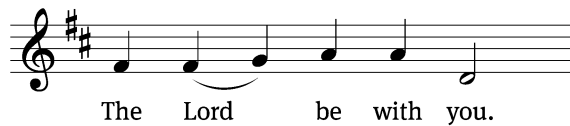
Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give 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.*

THE SACRAMENT

Stand



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, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

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 hosts,
heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Blessed are you, O Lord, because you have brought us from death to life.

With humble and repentant hearts, we praise and thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ,

who became our substitute under your holy law,

who destroyed the works of the devil by his perfect obedience to your will,

who willingly carried a cross to pay the debt of the world's sin,

who lives and reigns to give us life.

Through his body and blood, once given and poured out for us, forgive our sins and strengthen us for our journey heavenward.

Unite us to our crucified and risen Lord, that we may believe in him, confess him, call on his name, and finally be delivered from this world to the feast of the Lamb, whose kingdom has no end. Hear us as we pray the words He taught us...

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 Jesus

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 + 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 + 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.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us, grant us peace.

Be seated

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

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. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

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

Hymn 956 | Holy Is Your Name

The soloist sings the verses. The congregation sings along with the refrains.

My soul is filled with joy
as I sing to God, my Savior.
You have looked upon your servant,
you have visited your people. (Refrain)

Refrain **And holy is your name through all generations!
Everlasting is your mercy to the people you have chosen, and holy is your name.**

2 I am lowly as a child,
but I know from this day forward
that my name will be remembered,
and the world will call me blessed.
(Refrain)

3 I proclaim your pow'r, O God!
You work wonders for your servants;
you have scattered the proudhearted,
you have lifted up the lowly. (Refrain)

4 To the hungry you give food,
send the rich away with nothing.
In your mercy you are mindful
of the people you have chosen. (Refrain)

5 In your love you now fulfill
all you promised to your people.
I will praise you, God, my Savior,
everlasting is your mercy. (Refrain)

Hymn 302 Prepare the Royal Highway

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.
Go in peace. Your † sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

Prayer and Blessing

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

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

1 Corinthians 11:26

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Numbers 6:24-26

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn Arise, O Christian People (Hymn 310, st. 3,4)

The humble heart and lowly
God raises up on high;
beneath his feet in terror
the haughty soul shall lie.
The heart sincere and right,
that heeds God's invitation
and makes true preparation—
it is the Lord's delight.

Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus;
turn not from me aside,
and help me to receive you
this blessed Advent-tide.
From stall and manger low
come now to dwell within me;
I'll sing your praises gladly
and forth your glory show.



We thank the Lord for Kryssi Heckman, Amy Sehloff, Tori Diersen, Chandra Lange and Sophie Leng and for their musical gifts used to serve us and our Savior this morning!

Repentance in the Lutheran Confessions

The Lutheran Confessions teach that repentance is not something you do. God works repentance in you.

In the Augsburg Confession, Melanchthon writes that “strictly speaking, **repentance consists of two parts.**

One part is contrition, that is, terrors striking the conscience through the knowledge of sin.

The other part is faith, which is born of the Gospel (Romans 10:17) or the Absolution and believes that for Christ’s sake, sins are forgiven.” - Augsburg Confession, Art XII

In the Apology Melanchthon adds that if someone wants to add as a third part “fruit worthy of repentance, that is, a change of the entire life and character for the better,” he will not oppose that three-part definition. But in the Augsburg Confession and the Apology **works are a fruit of repentance. They follow contrition and faith**, the two proper parts of repentance.

Contrition Contrition is “the true terror of conscience, which feels that God is angry with sin and grieves that it has sinned. This contrition takes place when sins are condemned by God’s Word.”

Faith Faith in Christ—the belief that for Christ’s sake, their sins are forgiven—cheers, sustains, and enlivens the contrite. This faith obtains forgiveness, for it grasps the forgiveness of sins offered for Christ’s sake.-(Apology to the AC, Art XII)

Certainty and Repentance There is comfort found in the Lutheran understanding of repentance. Including faith in repentance lifts yours eyes off of yourself and a vain attempt to determine if your repentance is genuine enough to obtain forgiveness. Instead, by including faith, the Lutheran Confessions direct your eyes to Jesus, that you may be comforted by the forgiveness freely offered to you in Jesus through faith. This teaching can set you free from doubt, giving you the confidence found in Christ alone.

-Aaron Moldenhauer