

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Brookfield, Connecticut



17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

9:00 a.m. Inside Service

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Lutz

PRELUDE

Grant Underwood

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, †one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

A Kyrie may be spoken.

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy people, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me

that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,

let us cut him off from the land of the living,

so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,

let me see your retribution upon them,

for to you I have committed my cause.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 54

¹Save me, O God, by your name;
in your might, defend my cause.

²**Hear my prayer, O God;**
give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life,
those who have no regard for God.

⁴**Behold, God is my helper;**
it is the Lord who sustains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me;
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice**
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble,
and my eye looks down on my enemies.

Second Reading: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

L: A reading from James, the third Chapter

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. ^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

L: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia. God has called us through the proclamation of the good news, that we may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia. (2 Thess. 2:14)

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the ninth chapter

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."³² But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?"³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."³⁶ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P. The Gospel of the Lord

C. Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Lutz

SERMON

Pastor Lutz

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

New Disciples: *Linda Sutton Burns, Bernard Webb*

Leader: The church is a family of people with varieties of gifts, united by the Spirit revealed in Jesus of Nazareth.

Congregation: **it is the Spirit of caring for one another, of forgiving, of helping each other, of weeping and rejoicing together, it is the Spirit of love revealed in the life and death of Jesus.**

New Disciples: **We want to share in that Spirit.**

Leader: The church is a family of people with a diversity of needs, ideas, and visions, inspired by the Spirit burning through the words and deeds of Jesus as recorded in Scripture.

Congregation: **it is the spirit of openness to the world and to all persons as our sisters and brothers, of continual searching and learning, of saying, "we believe; help our unbelief." it is the stirring toward growth and renewal; which takes many forms. It is the Spirit of truth which Jesus made known to people.**

New Disciples: **We want to share in that spirit.**

Leader: The church is a family of people with different concerns, convictions, and tasks, led by one Spirit who through the ages encourages, renews, and reforms the church.

Congregation: **it is the Spirit which was in Jesus who, for us, is God's example of what it is to be human and faithful. It is the hope leading us to seek a better world, free of poverty and war and oppression and everything that dehumanizes people. It is the Spirit of justice and peace revealed in Jesus.**

New Disciples: **We want to share in that Spirit.**

Leader: So do we, and we want to share in it with you. We are glad for you, and acting for all the disciples of this church, I welcome you into our faith community here. We offer you ourselves and our love. May the gift of the Spirit of Jesus Christ be yours!

All: **may this gift of the Spirit be ours together, this season and always, uniting, inspiring, leading and calling us, and the whole world, to newness of life. We are thankful for you and glad our lives are bound together and to God: through Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P. Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P. God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of creation, we pray for this hurting earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for this world and empower us to support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal our environment. Lord, in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P: God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict. Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P. God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak (especially). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P. God of compassion, we pray for the young people of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith and our commitment to them. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P. God of consolation, we give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today. Shine your grace on all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P. Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

OFFERING MOMENT AND PRAYER

- P. Jesus said: "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me." Precious Lord, your love for us is amazing. You have blessed us in so many ways. The children of this congregation are an extraordinary example of your blessing. We are thankful for the numerous ministries of this church that reach out to children and families. May a portion of this money continue to support those ministries that welcome children in our midst.
- C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING**DIALOGUE**

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

- P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

- P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C. Amen.

THE 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.

COMMUNION

- P. The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
C. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P. Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C. Amen.

BLESSING

- P. People of God
you are Christ's body,
bring new life to a suffering world.
May the holy Trinity, + one God.
Bless you now and forever
C. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in Peace. Walk in the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Grant Underwood

The flowers at the altar are in memory of Renate Nalley's mother.

WORSHIP

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the building, in-person.

- **No online registration**. Everyone will be, however, asked to sign in upon arrival.
- **Masks are NOW required** regardless of vaccination status.*
- The single-use bulletins will remain, but the **hymns will be sung from the hymnal**.
- While social distancing will be encouraged **worshipers may sit wherever they prefer**.
- Communion will continue to use **the communion kits** where worshipers are seated.
- **The offering will be gathered** when worshipers arrive and brought forward during the service.

***from the Town of Brookfield - Effective Monday, August 16th, the use of face masks that cover the nose and mouth is mandatory in all indoor areas, both public and private, regardless of vaccine status, where safe social distancing cannot be maintained. This includes all indoor spaces that are open to the public.**

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. will also be on Zoom and streamed to our Facebook page.

Sundays from 10:15 to 10:50 a.m. Sunday School in-person in the Green Room or playground (weather permitting) for children 1st-5th grade. See the Sunday School page on our website for details.

Sundays at 11:00 a.m. outdoor, parking lot, worship with communion. This service will not be on Zoom or streamed. Park in the lower parking lot and walk toward the church with your folding chairs. Bring your own bread and wine or use the kit provided. **In case of inclement weather, service will be broadcast over FM radio in the parking lot.** Those fully vaccinated do not need to wear masks.

Flowers at the Altar

Most Sundays during the year, we have a beautiful bouquet of flowers at the altar that was created by the members of Altar Guild. Those flowers are dedicated and paid for by members of the congregation. The donor or recipient of the flowers are welcome to take their arrangement after the last service on Sunday.

The arrangements cost \$25.00. If you would like to dedicate altar flowers in memory of a loved one, to the glory of God, or in honor of a person or event, you can sign up for your chosen date on the Flower Chart between the bathrooms in the Narthex. You also need to fill out a flower request form, which is located next to the Flower Chart, and put it in Rene Tuccillo's mailbox. Your name and dedication will appear in the worship bulletins. If two people sign up for the same date, flowers can be placed in other locations in the Sanctuary, such as on the organ or piano or at the baptismal font. We do not have flowers at the altar during lent.

Dear Members of Prince of Peace:

We hope that you are all well and enjoying the Summer. We are excited about the increasing opportunities for in-person worship and our steady return to more in-person fellowship.

These positive changes enable us to now shape our identity and focus relentlessly on our mission and purpose for the future. As mentioned in previous communications this Spring, the Congregational Council together with the Forward Leadership Team have been working to organize a series of small group discussions with all of you to help us shape our mission and define our calling as a church family.

We kicked off these conversations in May and after a pause for the busy Summer we are now resuming. These conversation will take place in groups of four members and facilitated by two members of the Forward Leadership Team/Council. We intend to keep the session to one hour and focus the conversation on the following three questions:

1. What brought you to Prince of Peace for the first time?
2. What keeps you coming to Prince of Peace?
3. What do you love about Prince or Peace?

Through these questions, we intend to gain insights on our core strengths as a congregation and use those strengths to define our “why” and establish a roadmap moving forward.

The upcoming dates and times are as follows:

Tuesday 9/21/21 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)

Sunday 9/26/21 9:50 a.m. (Prince of Peace - Outdoors)

Sunday 10/3/21 9:50 a.m. (Prince of Peace - Outdoors)

Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48ada72ba5f8c07-prince> to sign up for the date and time convenient for you. If you are uncomfortable using Sign-up Genius, you can also call the church office and Rene will put you on the schedule. It is very important that you make sure to sign up in a timely fashion to help us with planning and implementation.

We encourage you to join us on this exciting journey and thank you for your commitment!

In Christ,

Council and Forward Leadership Team.



Giving Statements

Giving Statements for the YTD through 08/31/21 have been emailed on 9/12 (regular mail to follow). If you have any questions or would like to switch to email delivery, please contact Nicole Cable at andcable03@yahoo.com or 203.775.8358.

A Place for YOU in Sunday School? There are opportunities for caring adults...

We are looking for caring adults and high-schoolers to serve as leaders and helpers for our 30-minute Sunday School. See our weekly announcements for the Sign-up Genius link or talk to Heather. You can volunteer for 1 Sunday or as many as you like. The only prep before class is to read over the curriculum which will be sent to you by Heather after you sign-up. All supplies needed will be waiting in the classroom.

Dress A Girl Around the World Sew-A-Thon

Please Sign up in the narthex for the Sew-A-Thon on October 2 at 9:00 a.m. or contact Nancy Carlson. Please tell us whether you will bring your sewing machine to sew or help with other related tasks. You can press fabric, trim threads or sort dresses for sending. We also need a few people to provide snacks and several people to help clean-up when we are done.

Calling All Adults!

Join us every Sunday at 10:15 a.m. for a 30-minute conversation about the Sunday scripture (primarily the Gospel) story. Come explore—What scares, confuses, or challenges me in this text? What delights me in this text? What stories or memories does this text stir in me? What is God up to in this text? What questions do you have? What is God saying to you? to us as a congregation? No Experience Necessary. Join us in the receptionist area of the church office. Bring your bulletin, coffee, and your questions. See you there and then.

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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

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