

Prince of Peace

Faith, Family, Community



I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD.



THE GOOD
SHEPHERD
LAYS DOWN HIS

LIFE FOR
THE SHEEP.

JOHN 10:11



President: Pastor Cassandra Langr **Preacher:** Pastor Bob Castro
Pianist: Linda Chartrau **AV:** Stacy Diemel **Acolyte:** Dan King
Ushers: Andrew Langr & Kara Wallace **Reader:** Connor Diemel
Communion Assistants: Nancy Freedlund & Sherre Faulkner
Counters: David Baird & Pam Novotnak

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www.poprockton.com
815-624-2115
Church Office Hours:
M-F 8:00 am -12:00 pm

**10:30 am
Service**

Interim Pastor Bob Castro
Tues & Th 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Intern & Contract Apprentice
Pastor Cassandra Langr
Tues-Fri 9:00 am-12:00pm

April 30, 2023

Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(please rise)

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
(Silence for reflection.)

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONGS: presented by Country Gentleman and Ladies Chorus

“Sweet Hour of Prayer”

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY:

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.**

P: Let us pray...

C: **God of all power, you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep. Send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with knowledge and understanding; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

(please be seated)

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47 (pew Bible p. 884)

SECOND READING: I Peter 2:19-25 (pew Bible p. 981)

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 23

L: The LORD is my shepherd,

C: I lack nothing.

L: He makes me lie down in green pastures,

C: he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul.

L: He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

C: Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

L: I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

C: your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

L: You prepare a table before me

C: in the presence of my enemies.

L: You anoint my head with oil;

C: my cup overflows.

L: Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

C: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

(please rise)

ALLELUIA: (green LBW p. 62)

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL TEXT: John 10:1-10

“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice.” Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(please be seated)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Road to Zion” by Petra

(please rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

L: Lord, in Your mercy...

C: **Hear our prayer.**

LORD’S PRAYER:

C: **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**

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

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 God thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed their unending hymn.

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION:

We celebrate the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. We understand this to mean that Jesus is truly present with us in His body and blood through the bread and wine. We welcome all baptized adults and children who have been instructed to receive Holy Communion to share in the Lord’s Supper.

(Help yourself to either wine (purple) or grape juice (white). Children not yet receiving may come forward for a blessing.)

DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

“Blessed Assurance” (WOV #699)

Blessed assurance
Jesus is mine
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood

Chorus

**This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long**

Perfect submission
Perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love

Chorus

Perfect submission
All is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest
Watching and waiting, looking above
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love

Chorus

(please rise)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen**

POST COMMUNION HYMN: (green LBW p. 72-73)

C: **Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-
one what he has done. Let all who seek the
Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people
forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG:

“Praise Ye The Lord The Almighty”

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Church Happenings

Praying Together—Gather with us for National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 4, at noon in the gazebo at Settler’s Park in Rockton. The theme for 2023 is “Pray Fervently in Righteousness and Avail Much” from James 5:16b. In case of rain, the event will be moved to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

Lawn Mowers Needed—Spring is here and the grass is growing. We need volunteers to help with lawn mowing. Please complete a sign-up sheet or contact the office by Sunday, May 7.

Honoring Our Grads—If you or someone in your family received any type of degree, received a professional certificate, or completed an apprenticeship this school year, please contact the office or complete a Connection Card by May 10.

Book Club—Join the Prince of Peace book club as they read Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng. The group will meet for discussion and fellowship on Wednesday, May 24 at 6:30pm at the church.

In Our Prayers

Healing, strength, and guidance for: Isla, Adrian, Jim K., Charlotte, Barb G., Emily, Jerry, Lois, Marcy, Jimmy, Melissa, David, Denette, Linda, Mary, Dona, Debbie Tracy, Bob, Kristan, Andy, Nancy, Hope, Tom & Jean Lenhart, Mason, Blakely, Jack P., Brian, John, Julie M., Robbie K., Joyce Olson, Shirley, Norbert, Gabe, Jessica, Dawn, Tricia, Carter, Phil, Nerrezi, Michelle, Pat Mohns, Marr, Cyndy King, Everett Pfile, Tracy W., Lisa, Dave D., Jason Kruckenberg, Shari, Norm, Dean, Jim, Kim, and Mary Ann Stewart.

For those suffering loss: The family and friends of John Curtright and Gene Seifert. Bob and Karen Lowery upon loss of son Shawn. Sara and JD upon loss of father. Sherry upon loss of husband Dan. Nancy Laursen and family upon loss of daughter Kathy Esselman. Mike Kerr upon loss of wife Karen.

Weekly Schedule

Monday (May 1)

9:30am Prayer Group

Thursday (May 4)

8am-3:30pm Annunciation Co-op

12:00pm National Day of Prayer at Rockton gazebo

Saturday (May 6)

7:00am Men’s Group

*Pastor Cassandra will be out of the office May 3-6.

Volunteer Schedule

May 7

AV: Elliott Diemel

Acolyte: Ava Lynch

Ushers: Greg & Luann Bartz

Reader: Darran Landenberger

Communion Assistants: Lora

Conrad & Amy Lynch

Counters: Sandy Buske & Kathy Leahy

May Pew Stock: Nancy Wuthrich

May 14

AV: Stacy Diemel

Acolyte: Damon Lynch

Ushers: Jim Freedlund & Pam Novotnak

Reader: Steve Shrider

Communion Assistants: Nancy Freedlund & Darran Landenberger

Counters: Greg Bartz & Steve Shrider

The flowers on the altar are in honor of Reita Baird and Sue Peterson.