

**JANUARY 25, 2026**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING SONG**

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

**ELW 841**

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,  
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,  
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty,  
felt in the days when hope un - born had died;  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,  
yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet  
thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;  
we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,  
out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last  
shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

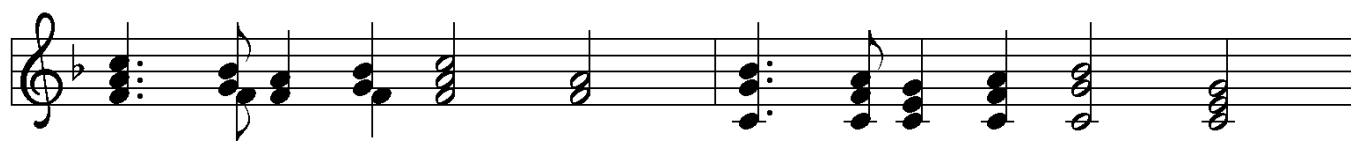
let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938  
Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

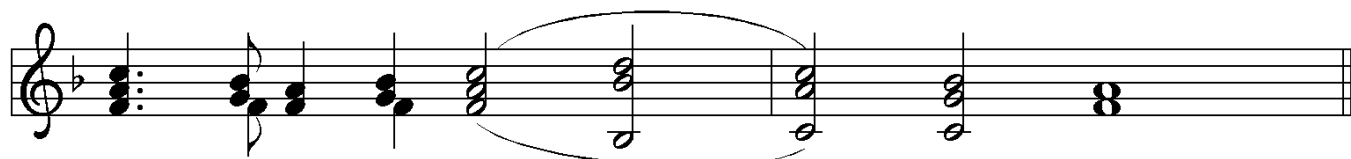
## GREETING

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

## Lord, Have Mercy



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

## KYRIE

For jealousies that divide families and nations,  
and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ,  
and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

## SONG OF PRAISE

### Let Us Enter In



1 Let us en-ter in to the song of thanks - giv - ing and free - dom.  
2 Let us en-ter in to the place where our God has pre - ced - ed.  
3 Let us en-ter in to the heart of a world that is bro - ken.



Let us en - ter in to the long line of peo - ple in need.  
Let us en - ter in to the face of the fear and the pain.  
Let us en - ter in to the start of a hope we can share.



Let us en-ter in to the strong mind that God is still liv - ing.  
Let us en-ter in to the grace of the love when it's need - ed.  
Let us en-ter in to the part where we call one an - oth - er



Heal - ing, for - giv - ing— Let us en - ter in.  
Death is de - feat - ed! Let us en - ter in.  
sis - ter and broth - er. Let us en - ter in.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, you give birth to us by water and Spirit. Help us live into that new life, refreshed and renewed for your work of love. **Amen**

## CHILDREN'S BIBLE STORY

### FIRST READING Psalm 139:13-18

<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> **I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**  
**Wonderful are your works;**  
**that I know very well.**

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you,  
 when I was being made in secret,  
 intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
<sup>16</sup> **Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.**  
**In your book were written**  
**all the days that were formed for me,**  
**when none of them as yet existed.**  
<sup>17</sup> How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
 How vast is the sum of them!  
<sup>18</sup> **I try to count them—they are more than the sand;**  
**I come to the end—I am still with you.**

## Acclamation

The assembly stands.

### Come, Holy Spirit, Descend

\*Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, de - scend on us, de -  
 scend on us. We gath - er here in Je - sus'  
 name. (hm)

The Holy Gospel according to John the 3rd chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **Gospel: John 3:1-21**

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

## Borning Cry



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;  
 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.  
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.  
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."  
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."  
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
 Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker  
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## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
 God's 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 to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come  
 to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition the congregation responds: God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*Repeat To You All Hearts Are Open*

### To You All Hearts Are Open

To you all hearts are o - pen, to  
 you all de - sires known. To you there are no  
 se - crets, al - mighty - y God; we come to you.

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### Offertory Song

#### As a Mother Comforts Her Child



As a moth-er com-forts her child, so God will com - fort you.



As a hen gath-ers her brood, so Christ will gath - er you.



As a wise one coun-sels her friend, so the Spir-it will coun-sel you.



The Trin - i - ty of love will be with you.

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty,  
no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.  
Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Invite those communing at home

This is Christ's table and Christ welcomes each and every single one of you.

## Communion Hymn

### This Is Christ's Body

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with

mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,

bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

#### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All who desire the Lord's Supper are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion. Following the usher's invitation, come forward along the side aisle and remain standing as you gather around the altar railing. When everyone has gathered at the railing, you may kneel or remain standing. Receive the wafer of bread in your hands. You may also request a gluten-free wafer. Then take a small cup from the tray: white grape juice is in the center and red wine is around the edge. Deposit your cup in the basket when you are finished and return to your seat down the center aisle. We invite children and those not receiving the bread and wine to come forward to receive a blessing at the altar railing.*

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION

Sing verse 1 and 4

### The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



- 1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in Je - sus' name
- 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the bur - dened free;
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter joy like seed
- 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel to pro - claim.



to bring glad tid - ings to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.  
and, all our days, to cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
God's Spir - it has em - pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

Leader  
C

G C F C

God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun - sels guide, up - hold you,

G C C F G C

with a shep - herd's care en - fold you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Congregation  
C

F C G

Till we meet, \_\_\_\_\_ till we meet, \_\_\_\_\_ till we meet at Je - sus' \_\_\_\_\_ feet;

C F C G C

Till we meet, \_\_\_\_\_ till we meet, \_\_\_\_\_ God be with you till we meet a - gain.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Annual Meeting of the congregation is  
today, January 25  
immediately after church

If you aren't attending church that day, please be in the  
Community Center by 10 AM

Bring a dish to pass for the potluck brunch!

Please bring your packet of reports with you.

Activities will be available for younger kids  
with help from our catechism and High School youth

All voting members of the congregation are encouraged to **attend the Annual Meeting** today, approve the 2026 budget, elect our new church Council members, and join in the discussion of any questions that may be raised.

There's still time to **volunteer to serve** on our **Church** Council. You may volunteer or accept a nomination at the meeting.

The Annual Report packets are ready. If you picked yours up already, please bring it to the meeting with you.

Your **2025 Financial statements** are located on the table near the high school room, near the new offering envelopes.

**The 2026 offering envelopes** are available for pick up. Please, look at them and make sure that the number on the label matches the number on the envelopes in the box *and* that your name is correct. If you notice any problems or cannot find your envelopes contact the church office.

You may also direct deposit or scan to donate an offering:



**Serving our congregation this morning:**

Acolytes – Shane Clark

Altar Guild – Mindy Stadler, Kim Zietlow, Kim Cramer

Fellowship Hour – Annual Meeting Potluck

Liturgical Minister – Kim Zietlow

Media – Kelsey Creguer

Organist – Ray Smith

Ushers – Andy McCain, Head Usher; Judy, Madison, Zoey McCain

**Schedule:**

Sunday: Holy Communion - 9:00 AM

Annual Meeting & Potluck

Monday: Dartball – PoP @ Immanuel N Blissfield - 7:30 PM

Tuesday: Bible Study – 9:30 AM

Alcohol Anonymous - 7:00 PM

Wednesday: Mid-Week Worship Service – 7:00 PM

Thursday: Pickleball – 6:00 PM

**Coming Soon**

Feb 01 – WELCA Meeting

Feb 01 – Personal Care Item Collection Begins

Feb 05 – Blood Drive

Feb 08 – 6-8 Grade Milestone Class

Feb 18 – Ash Wednesday 12 PM; Drive-Up 3 PM; Service 7 PM

Feb 18 – Soup Lunch 12:30 PM

Feb 18 – Pancake Supper 6 PM

## M I L E S T O N E S

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.  
Proverbs 22:6

Faith +  
Family



**Parents, Grandparents, Godparents and anyone wanting to cultivate faith come along and attend with their young people.**

**Grades 6-8  
10 Commandments Milestone  
SUN FEB 8 @ 10:15AM**

# Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026

12:00 Noon Worship  
Luncheon Following

.....  
3:00-6:00 Drive Thru  
Ashes and Prayer  
.....

6:00 Pancake Supper  
7:00 Evening Worship



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

## PANCAKE DINNER YOUTH FUNDRAISER

18 FEB  
2026

SCAN ME



TO GIVE



6:00 PM

JOIN US