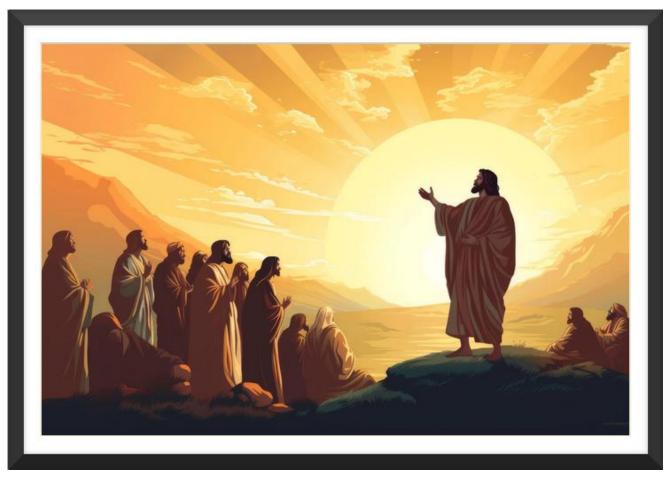


January 14, 2024 | Second Sunday After Epiphany

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Welcome! Prince of Peace is more than a place on a map. We are a beautiful mosaic of dedicated and diverse people who love Jesus and our neighbors. We care deeply about each other, our community and our world. We are a church on the move with Jesus as our inspiration. Thanks for adding your voice to God's song of love this morning. Once again, welcome!

Partnering in Prayer: Cleo Dillabough Martha Weld Jan Moore Donna Hesse Betty Schroeder

Prelude

Welcome and Prayer

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

L: We begin in the name of the God who loves us, in the name of the Creator, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the good people you've created us to be.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

L: Most merciful God,

- C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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.
- L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. By grace we have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. Now celebrate – God is good and we are empowered to change the world.
- C: Amen.

Opening Hymn	I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light 1. I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.	ELW#815
	<i>Refrain</i> In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.	
	 2. I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. <i>Refrain</i> 	
	3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.	

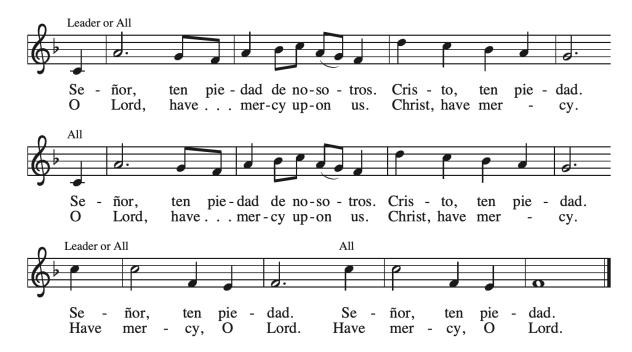
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Apostolic Greeting

- L: 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



Kyrie



Hymn of Praise



Prayer of the Day

Prayer written by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being, we humbly confess that we have not loved you with our hearts, souls and minds, and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us. We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ. We often give in order to receive. We love our friends and hate our enemies. We go the first mile but dare not travel the second. We forgive but dare not forget. And so as we look within ourselves, we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against you. But you, O God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be. Give us the intelligence to know your will. Give us the courage to do your will. Give us the devotion to love your will. In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

Children's Message

Announcements

Gospel: Mark 4:1-34

¹Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. ²He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: ³Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. ⁶And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. ⁸Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold." ⁹And he said, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" ¹⁰When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. ¹¹And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; ¹²in order that 'they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven."¹³And he said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? ¹⁴The sower sows the word. ¹⁵These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. ¹⁶And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. ¹⁸And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, ¹⁹but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²⁰And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold." ²¹He said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? ²²For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light. ²³Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" ²⁴And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. ²⁵For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away." ²⁶He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

- L: This is the Word of Life
- C: Thanks be to God.

Message

Parables

Pastor Rick Sherrill

For the Fruit of All Creation

Hymn

1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

2. In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

Prayers of the Community

The Celebration of Holy Communion

- L: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- L: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.





3. For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.For the good we all inherit,

thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

5

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.

Lamb of God



Distribution

Benediction

Closing Hymn

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

ELW# 694

1. Sing to the Lord of harvest your songs of love and praise; with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise; by him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move; sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.

3. Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave, the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.

2. God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring, the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing. God fills them with his fullness, all things with large increase and crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace. Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall, and with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.

Postlude

Please join us for fellowship in Gangsei Hall immediately following worship!





POP Announcements

Thank you for continuing to support Prince of Peace. You can mail offerings to the church office or signup for online giving. You can also use our Text to Give system – text the amount you want to give to 833-441-0048.



Outreach for January - Hygiene Drive for Yavapai Elementary Title 1 School

Deodorant Tooth Brush Hair Ties Shampoo/Conditioner Liquid Soap Pencils Tooth Paste Hair Brush Pencil sharpeners

Got Extra Bed Sheets or some that need replacing? The Sew and Tie Quilters can use gentlyused sheets of any size, flat or fitted. They make great backs for the charity quilts we make. For more information, please call or text Suzy Steinmetz at 480-332-8754.

Save the Dates!

The next Packathon is scheduled for March 1 & 2 of 2024!

Congregational Meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2024.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church | 480.945.9537 | office@popphoenix.org | www.popphoenix.org