

February 4, 2024 | Fifth 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: Billie Keller Cleo Dillabough Martha Weld

Donna Hesse Betty Schroeder

Prelude

Welcome and Prayer

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

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

Silence for reflection

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- P: 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.
- P: 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

Here I Am, Lord

ELW# 574

I. "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
 I have heard my people cry.
 All who dwell in dark and sin
 my hand will save.
 I, who made the stars of night,
 I will make their darkness bright.
 Who will bear my light to them?
 Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

- 2. "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away.I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain
- 3. "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

 I will set a feast for them.

 My hand will save.

 Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

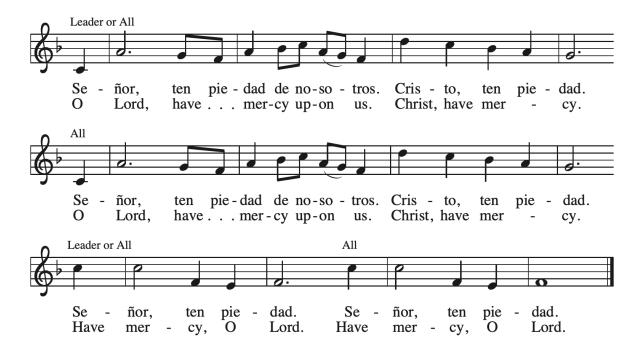
 I will give my life to them.

 Whom shall I send?" 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

Holy Jesus, you sent many into the world to proclaim your kingdom on earth. Send us, equip us, and walk with us so that everyone can learn of your abundant love. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Special Music

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

POP Bells

Children's Message

Announcements

Gospel: Mark 6:1-29

¹He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. 4Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them. ¹⁴King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." 15But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

L: This is the Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Message

The Sending

Pastor Rick Sherrill

- 1. Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in living echoes of your tone; as you have sought, so let us seek your straying children, lost and lone.
- 2. Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.
- 3. Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the precious truths which you impart; and wing our words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.
- 4. Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord, until our very hearts o'erflow in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

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.

Holy, Holy, Holy



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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW# 547

1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living, the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

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.





Sunday February 4th is designated Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to the Boy Scouts of America. Prince of Peace has served as the Chartered Organization for Boy Scouts Troop 6 for decades and this past year expanded its charter to include the Cub Scout Pack 6 Unit. The Cub Scout program is geared towards boys and girls in kindergarten through 5th grade. As the Chartered Organization, POP manages the troop and pack units and controls the program of activities to support the goals and objectives in scouting. Please contact our Chartered Organization Representative, Brad Beebe, at brad_beebe@yahoo.com for more information.

Initially chartered in 1934, Troop 6 enjoys a rich history in Arizona Scouting and remains one of the most well-established and accomplished Boy Scout Troops in Arizona today. Arcadia Troop 6 has produced 230 Eagle Scouts. Troop 6 currently has 49 Scouts and meets weekly at POP. Cub Scout Pack 6 is one of the oldest Cub Scout Packs in the State of Arizona and primarily serves youth in the Arcadia, South Scottsdale, and East Phoenix areas. Pack 6 currently has 70 Scouts with some of the dens meeting monthly at POP.

Doing service projects together is one way that Scouts keep their promise "to help other people." Our Scouts support POP with service projects to maintain the church campus as well as events like the Arcadia Cares Packathon. The scouts provide service to our local community through the Arcadia Osborn Neighborhood Association Fall Festival, Arcadia Camelback Mountain Neighborhood Association Meeting Color Guard, 4th of July Arcadia Neighborhood Parade, Scouting for Food and Feeding Students USA Pantry, and the Veteran's Day Flag Retirement at Evelyn Hallman Park.

The values instilled by the Scout Oath and Scout Law represent the highest ideals of God, country and self.

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. Often called the fundamental principles of Scouting, the Scout Law describes the values that every Scout should follow to become an upstanding member in their community.

Scouting Founder Robert Baden-Powell

"Religion is essential to happiness. ... This is not a mere matter of going to church, knowing Bible history, or understanding theology. ... Religion very briefly stated means: Firstly— recognizing who and what is God. Secondly— making the best of the life that He has given one and doing what He wants of us. This is mainly doing something for other people."

Congregational Meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2024.

- Article X of the articles (page 5) specifies that the articles may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the "members" (i.e., the congregation) "if the meeting notices stated that such amendments were to be considered." The articles were reviewed by an attorney with expertise in corporate and non-profit legal issues.
- The only significant change is elimination of the requirement to establish separate restricted accounts to hold designated gifts.
 - Historically, the foundation has received very few specifically designated gifts.
 - When designated gifts are received, we honor the requests of the donors and track the amounts received and spent for the designated purposes in our records.
 - Creating separate accounts would be an added burden on the foundation without any apparent benefit.

