

**So thou, O son of man,
I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel;
therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth,
and warn them from me.**

Ezekiel 33:7



<http://www.EarnestlyContending.com> LUJesus

A.B. Trenchard

Pentecost 16

September 24, 2017

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS) & Preschool

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GATHERING RITE ON HOLY BAPTISM

God's people long to gather together for strength from God and for mutual encouragement. This alternate beginning for worship is intended for use not only when there is a baptism but may be used on any occasion to remind God's people of Baptism's continuing blessings.

The minister conducts the gathering rite at the font.

[M]: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

[C]: *(spoken)* Amen.

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 1

Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your
Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to
sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

[M]: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. (*John 3:5*)

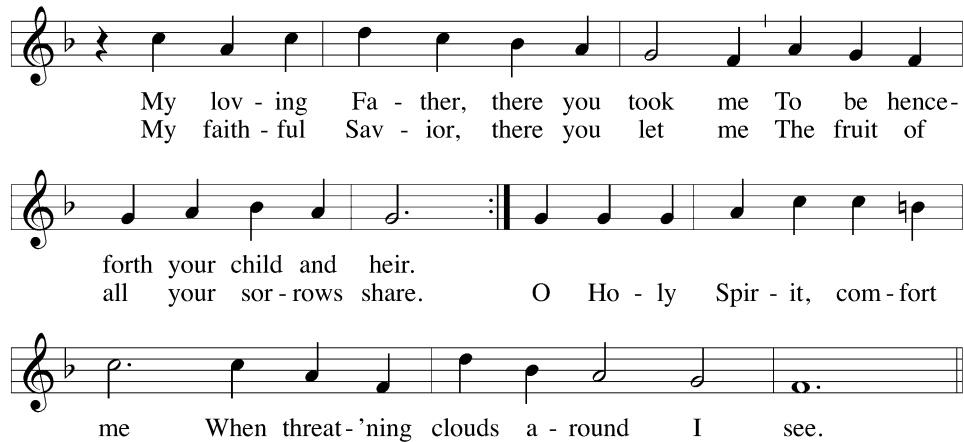
[C]: **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** (*John 3:6*)

[M]: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us. (*Psalms 51:5*)

[C]: **But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.** (*1 Corinthians 6:11*)

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 2



My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To be hence -
My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of
forth your child and heir.
all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort
me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.

[M]: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

[C]: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 3



My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your pro - mise
Oh, cast me not a - way for - ev - er If words and
sure - ly will en - dure.
deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -
filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.

[M]: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Eph 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit.

[C]: (*spoken*) **Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (10:30 service)

[M]: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, Matthew Thomas and Laura Ellington have brought their son to be baptized. Jesus told us: “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God’s Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

[M]: Luke Murphy Thomas, receive the sign of the cross on your head and on your heart (✝) to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

Luke Murphy Thomas, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you. Amen.

[M]: Brothers and sisters in Christ: Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us to assist these parents in whatever manner possible so that Luke Murphy Thomas may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

[C]: Yes, as God gives me strength.

[M]: Let us pray: Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on Luke Murphy Thomas and grant him a rich measure of your Spirit that he may grow in faith and godly living. Make the members of Prince of Peace Lutheran church willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

[C]: Amen.

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 4



All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it
Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly, And help me
all, O Lord, from me.
your own child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or
own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[M]: Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C]: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON:

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Since the time of Cain, man has hated being his brother's keeper. Are we any different today? Are we little Pharisees who enjoy pointing out others' sins? But God tells us the task is not optional. No one wants to wake up their next door neighbor at 6:00 am on a Saturday. But if his house were burning, and you let him sleep, you are not just loveless and careless. You are a killer. In the same way God drops on us the heavy message of being a watchman for our brother. God's judgment on fallen man is as clear as it is severe. If we fail to do the job God has assigned us, God promises to hold us accountable. With the Law driven deeply into our hearts, God then reminds us why he has given us this job: because of his grace and his desire for the salvation of all mankind! The responsibility of waking our neighbor asleep in a burning house becomes a joyful privilege when he emerges safely from the smoke. May our task of being our brother's keeper always be one done with such responsibility and joy!

⁷ "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade him from his ways, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. ⁹ But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his ways and he does not do so, he will die for his sin, but you will have saved yourself.

¹⁰ "Son of man, say to the house of Israel, 'This is what you are saying: "Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?" ' ¹¹ Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'

THE PSALM OF THE DAY: 51a

(CW page 86)

THE EPISTLE LESSON:

Galatians 2:11-21

Being your brother's keeper will lead at times to uncomfortable situations or even confrontations. Here Paul tells how he had to oppose Peter to his face. Paul did not do this out of jealousy of this reputed pillar of the disciples; this was no power play pitting the Apostle to the Jews against the Apostle to the Gentiles. This had to do with the eternal salvation of everyone involved. Trusting in anything other than Christ is like sleeping in a burning house. Paul took his job of being a watchman seriously; if righteousness could be gained through the Judaizer's demands, then Christ died for nothing! So Paul woke his sleeping neighbor with the harsh reality of Peter's hypocrisy. But the Word did its work; Paul didn't merely keep his brother, he won his brother over!

¹¹ When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. ¹² Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. ¹³ The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

¹⁴ When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"

¹⁵ "We who are Jews by birth and not 'Gentile sinners' ¹⁶ know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

¹⁷ "If, while we seek to be justified in Christ, it becomes evident that we ourselves are sinners, does that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! ¹⁸ If I rebuild what I destroyed, I prove that I am a lawbreaker. ¹⁹ For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

THE GOSPEL LESSON:

Matthew 18:15-20

The importance of Christian discipline lies in the fact that the ministry of the keys have been placed into the hands of the church and in no other. The Christian and the Church are a fallen sinner's only life line. Satan tries to make Christian discipline seem like the height of hypocrisy or meddling. But his is a self-interested motive: he wants the fallen brother's sins bound like his for an eternity in hell. Only love could lead the Christian and the Church to go to a fallen brother. Only love led our Savior to command it. Even the manner Jesus prescribes shows great love for the fallen. First, privately, so that offense and embarrassment might be contained, and pardon and forgiveness might all the more readily flow. Then with two or three, that the matter might be underscored without gossip spreading throughout the congregation. Finally, also in love, the Church calls and, if necessary, shuns the impenitent. Such a great privilege and power has Christ bestowed on us! It leads us to even greater reliance on prayer for guidance and dependence on Christ's promise to be with us in his work!

¹⁵ "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. ¹⁶ But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ "I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ "Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE SERMON HYMN: # 304

"Jesus Sinners Does Receive"

(the congregation sings verses 1-3, the pastor sings verse 4, the congregation sings verses 5-7)

THE SERMON:

Ezekiel 33:7-11

The LORD Takes No Pleasure in the Death of the Wicked

- 1. publicize that*
- 2. personalize that*

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

THE OFFERING

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.**

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING PRAYER

[M]: As baptized children of God who received the blessing of Aaron at the baptismal font, receive it today with great joy and renewed courage to live your life arrayed in the garment of salvation with which Christ enwrapped you on the day of your baptism:

**The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.”**

[C]: Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN: # 391

“God Loved the Word so that He Gave”

This Week at Prince of Peace

Today	8:00 am	Worship Service
	9:15 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service
Wednesday	10:00 am	Bible Class – The Synoptic Gospels
	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
	6:30 pm	Choir
	8:00 pm	Bible Class – The Synoptic Gospels
Friday	6:00 pm	Pizza Central – Congregational fellowship outing
Next Sunday	8:00 am	Worship Service w/communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/communion
	11:30 am	Sunday School Teachers Meeting
	11:30 am	Fall Festival Planning Meeting

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Happy birthday to Nathaniel Johnson! He is celebrating his birthday on Thursday. He purchased the chancel flowers today to praise and glorify God for all the blessings he continues to enjoy as His child. What an encourager Nate is to all of us! Nate never complains about the health limitations he endures. Instead he lives each day as a thankful and forgiven child of God! As we celebrate the gift of physical life, we especially celebrate the eternal life that Nate enjoys along with all who believe God's wonderful promises to us in Christ! Happy birthday dear friend!



USHERS NEEDED:

Some of our usher teams are getting thin on help. We could use help! If you would like to serve on an usher team, speak to David Deines.

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS – Live Streaming



On Wednesdays, we are studying the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke alongside one another. This week we will look at the angel announcements of Christ's coming to Mary and Joseph and note their responses to the message. If you can't be here in person, you can watch it on Facebook during the 8:00 pm class. Hopefully, this week we will also have the handout available on line for you to follow along. Thanks to Ann Smith for making this possible! We offer the course at 2 different times for your convenience: 10:00 am or at 8:00 pm! Join us one way or the other!

LWMS MISSION OFFERING PROJECTS

There will be a door offering collection for the LWMS Mission – Bulgaria Project **through Sunday October 6**. What is it?

BULGARIA PROJECT - Five national pastors carry on work in the capital city, Sofia, in Varna, in the East along the Black Sea, and in Dunavtsi, a gypsy village in northwest Bulgaria. One man continues his seminary studies and one man was ordained in September 2015. One deaconess continues her ministry as a nationally known pro-life speaker. Through her pro-life counseling and speaking opportunities it brings many people to her Bible study classes. Special gospel outreach efforts include children's Bible camps in Dunavtsi and movie evenings in Sofia in which the public is invited to view Bible based videos that guide people into conversations on Scripture. Your gift will supply materials for the children's Bible camps and cover expenses for Bible-movie evenings.

Please place your Mission Offering in the basket or offering plate (marked for mission). If donating with a check, please make it out to **Prince of Peace** as we will be sending in one total check. Any questions or concerns please contact Barbara Smith.

DON'T WRITE CHECKS ANYMORE? NO PROBLEM, YOU CAN NOW GIVE ELECTRONICALLY!

Prince of Peace would like to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much needed donation consistency for our congregation. You can start electronic giving by going to www.popwels.org and clicking on the on-line-giving menu tab. We also offer mobile giving by going to your app store (android or iPhone) and searching for "give+". You should see a "give+ Vanco" free app. Install the app and you can set up mobile electronic giving. Start enjoying the benefits of electronic giving today.

NEW DRIVEWAY AND EXPANDED PARKING

At the church council meeting last week approval was given to use funds to get an architectural drawing done for a driveway around the building so that we will utilize both entrances to our property. As soon as the drawings are available, they will be posted for all to see. A congregational decision on this project will be presented at the October meeting. Questions about this project may be directed to Chris Deines.

FELLOWSHIP OUTING!



Friday, September, 29th meet at Pizza Central in Evans, for good food and fellowship with your church family. Please sign up on the bulletin board so we have an idea how many are joining us.

FALL CLEAN UP DAY AT CHURCH

Mark your calendars for November 4th. We have a lot of work to do inside and outside at church. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Watch upcoming bulletins for lists of things that need doing!



FALL FESTIVAL WITH A GERMAN THEME



Sunday, October 29th, we will be hosting our annual fall festival. This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation (October 31, 1517). Rick Ruby is preparing medieval games for the children. We will have inflatables as well. But concerning the food, we will need your help! We hope to have a menu of ONLY German foods. There will be a meeting after the 10:30 service on October 1st to finalize the menu and other plans for the day. If you can help with this work, we would appreciate it! Speak to Rick Ruby or Gina Olson for more information!

JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE

Peace Lutheran in Aiken is hosting an area Reformation service. Hope Lutheran in Irmo and our congregation will join them in worship at a special service at 6:00 pm on October 22nd. What a great opportunity for us to get to know our brothers and sisters in the faith from our neighboring WELS congregations and to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation together! See you there!



Reformation Day

CRAFT FAIR

On Saturday, November 18th, our church grounds will host a craft fair for the many folks who have small businesses that they run out of their homes. There will be about 40 vendors here.



We will have a booth as well. At our booth, we will pass out information about our church and preschool inviting all to come and join us. We are hoping to have teams of members manning the booth for an hour at a time. The craft fair will run from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm. Ray Bain and Doug Kuehl will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs for sale at the fair. Questions? Talk to Ray Bain or Christina Brockway.

Operating Offerings

9/17/17	\$ 2,884.10
Rec'd Sept	\$ 8,997.04
Sept Budget	\$ 16,595.00

Attendance

9/17/17	113
8:00 am	43
10:30 am	70

Mortgage Progress

9/17/17	\$ 800.00
Rec'd Sept	\$ 2,300.00
Monthly Pmt	\$ 2,867.00