



March 8 – 9, 2025

## God Hears

Exodus 2:23-25, Luke 10:23-37

### MUSIC THIS WEEKEND

#### CONTEMPORARY

SAT 5:30 pm | SUN 10:30 am

Battle Belongs

Build My Life

Lord I Need You

The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)

#### CLASSIC | SUN 8:45 am

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

Build Your Kingdom Here

Who You Say I Am

CHOIR ANTHEM: Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God

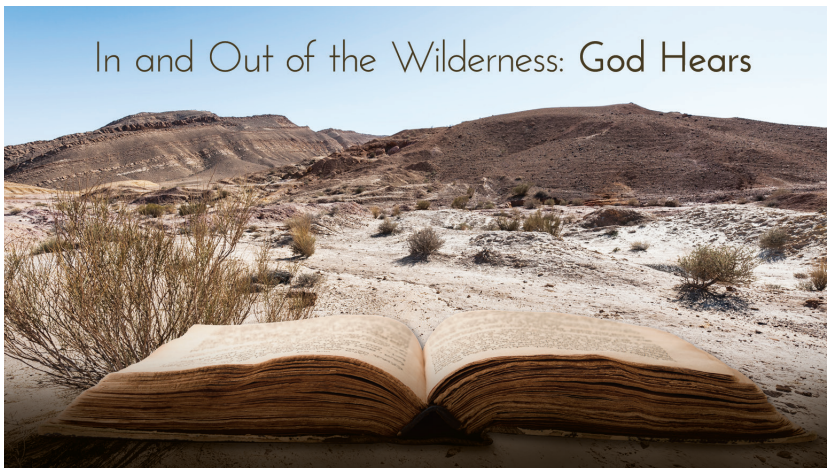
Go My Children, With My Blessing

MESSAGE: Paul Dean

Communion (Saturday 5:30 pm)

Baptism (Saturday 5:30 pm) - Ariana Elena Quevedo Nordin

## In and Out of the Wilderness: God Hears



### JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

**Classic: Sun 8:45 am | Contemporary: Sat 5:30 pm, Sun 10:30 am**  
Resources, livestreams, playlists and podcast links at [popmn.org](http://popmn.org)

**Welcome Wartburg's Ritterchor | Sunday, March 16 | 8:45 am**  
Ritterchor will help lead our classic worship service

**Artist in Residence: Jason Gray | Saturday, March 22 | 7:00 pm**  
RSVP for this free concert: [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register)

### JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY

**Congregational Vote | Sunday, March 23 | Both worship services**  
Vote to call Associate Pastors of Engagement and Family Ministry

**New Member Classes | Sunday, March 23 and 30**  
Interested in joining Prince of Peace?: [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register)

**Family Ministry Flower Fundraiser | Presale orders due March 17**  
Order at [popmn.org/register](http://popmn.org/register) to support youth attending Wapo

**Board Member Applications due March 31**  
We're accepting Board applications: [popmn.org/leadership](http://popmn.org/leadership)

**Feed My Starving Children South Metro Meal Pack**  
Scan the QR code to make a donation towards POP's pledge of \$50,000 to the meal packing event.



### JOIN US IN GENEROSITY

**Thank you for your gifts for mission and ministry!**



## Connect With Us

We are here to love God and all people by being the heart, hands and feet of Jesus in the world so that all might know that they are loved. We are an open and affirming church. We value growing a relationship with God and with each other, and showing up for people in need in this community and beyond. **Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church!**



**Connect** with Prince of Peace! Scan here to join our mailing list and find ways to get involved.

Follow us on social media:  
**Facebook: @popchurch**  
**Instagram: @popburnsville**  
Listen to our Trust the Story Podcast:  
**YouTube: @PrinceofPeaceLutheranChurch**  
**Spotify: @POPmn**



Scan here to make a **prayer request** or to have a member of the Spiritual Care Team contact you.

PAPER COPIES OF THESE FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CONNECT DESK.



## Trust the Story | In and Out of the Wilderness | **God Hears**

In Luke 10:23-37, we get the story of the Good Samaritan. We have all probably heard this story many times over the years, and gratefully refer to people who offer us help as “good Samaritans.” Those words have become a title or a label we use without thinking about where the words actually come from.

Samaritans, as a whole, were widely despised. They were essentially the descendants of blended marriages (Jews and Gentiles) that took place during times of occupation and exile. Jews who would marry outside their own culture were seen as traitors, and they either developed a hybrid lifestyle and culture with their spouse or else dropped their Jewish ways completely. These people were seen as weak and ended up being shunned by both cultures.

So the Samaritan in this story is not just a regular guy, or a foreigner, or a Gentile. He is a man that everyone else in this story would have truly hated.

- How does it change the story to know that the people you’d expect to show compassion – the church insiders and widely-proclaimed “good people” – are the ones who pass by? And that it’s the enemy who is able to show a self-sacrificial kind of compassion?
- When we say that our neighbor is anyone in need, do we usually include the people we despise? Or the people who despise us? Does our need to be recognized, thanked, appreciated for our good deeds keep us from extending a hand to those who cannot or will not return the favor? In other words, do we have a tendency to make acts of compassion about ourselves? Why, or why not?
- Does this feel like a story you’re observing instead of placing yourself in the narrative? How does it feel to be the one asking Jesus the question, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” What do you think Jesus would say to you? Would his answer be different for someone else?
- How would it feel to be the people who pass by? Have you ever been in that role?
- How would it feel to be the one who stopped to help, who invested extended time and resources in the hurting man’s recovery? Have you ever been in that role?
- Is it more difficult to imagine yourself as the man laying on the side of the road? Why? Why do you think we prefer to be an observer, or a helper, instead of the one who needs help?
- What changes when we’re vulnerable enough to realize that a need for each other and for God is a core part of who we are? Does it feel okay to be vulnerable to express need? Why, or why not?

In our other reading, Exodus 2:23-25, the people are captive, slaves, oppressed, anguished, and crying out to God in despair. Different translations say God heard them, God was concerned, God remembered them. The Message Bible simply says, “God understood.”

- How does it feel to have a God who understands? What does it feel like to be understood? How is God able to have a real understanding of human-ness, even long before the birth of Jesus?
- Is empathy – God’s for us, and ours for each other – an asset or a curse? Are we better off when we spend our lives taking care of each other, or going it alone? Are we better off when we draw boundaries between “us” and “them,” or when we erase them? What happens in our community if we all answer that question differently? How do these two readings relate to each other and to our world today?