



PRINCE OF PEACE

Love God. Love People.

October 11 – 12, 2025

See

Ruth 1:19-22 | Matthew 14:14-21

BENEVOLENT



MUSIC THIS WEEKEND

CONTEMPORARY | SAT 5:30 pm

Come and Dance
Be My Home
Come and Taste
Go, Make Disciples

CLASSIC | SUN 9:00 am

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
CHOIR/PIANO: Prayer of St. Francis
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

CONTEMPORARY | SUN 10:30 am

This Amazing Grace
The Way
Trust in God
I Thank God

MESSAGE: **Rory Philstrom**
Communion (Saturday 5:30 pm)

We offer sympathy and support to the family and friends of **Kenneth Wuori** as they grieve his death.

Upcoming Celebration of Life Service:
Sharon Norrbom (December 12)

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Classic: Sun 9:00 am (sanctuary)

Contemporary: Sat 5:30 pm (chapel) | Sun 10:30 am (sanctuary)

Resources, livestreams, playlists and podcast links: popmn.org.

JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY

Trick-or-Treat bags for Mary's Place

Decorate bags and fill them with small toys, stickers, and candy. Bags are available on Sundays in the Community Room through the month of October. Return your filled bags by October 26.

Estate Planning | October 14 | 6:30 – 8:30 pm | Chapel

Learn about trusts, wills, probate and getting things in order for you and your loved ones. Led by licensed attorney Scott Becker.

Beer Church | October 15 | 6:30 – 8:30 pm | Ineffable Brewing

Come to enjoy live music and a fascinating speaker, share stories, have fun, and engage in community.

Trail Church | October 18 | 9:00 am | Murphy-Hanrehan Park

Join Pastor Rory for a Saturday morning hike. Make new friends, immerse yourself in nature, participate in a devotion and enjoy some snacks! All ages are invited.

Women's Ministry Fall Retreat | Registration ends October 19

This is your last chance to register for the fall retreat, taking place November 15-16 at Mount Olivet Retreat Center in Farmington.

Repurposed Adults | Sundays in October | Between Services

Learn about this group for empty-nesters, retirees and those taking care of aging parents. Visit our table in the community room.

JOIN US IN GENEROSITY

Thank you for your gifts for mission and ministry!



Welcome to Prince of Peace!

We are an open and affirming community, here to love God and all people.



Connect with Prince of Peace!

Scan here to join our mailing list and find ways to get involved.

Paper copies of this form are available at the Connect Desk.

Growing Excitement!

RSVP for the all-congregation celebration on November 2 at

popmn.org/give/preserve-open-plant/





Trust the Story | Benevolent | See

When Naomi returned to Bethlehem after losing her husband and sons, the people of her hometown barely recognized her. “Is this Naomi?” they asked. But Naomi replied, “Call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt bitterly with me.”

Grief had changed her so deeply that even her own name (meaning “pleasant”) no longer seemed to fit. She saw only loss, emptiness, and despair. Yet notice what happens next: the people of Bethlehem never call her Mara. They see her grief, but they also see beyond it. They hold her story, her pain, and her humanity, and they refuse to let despair have the final word.

God does the same. God sees our grief, our limits, our scarcity, and God sees beyond them.

When Jesus stood before a crowd of five thousand hungry people, the disciples saw only what they lacked: five loaves, two fish, and no plan. Jesus saw more. He saw compassion. He saw community. He saw the possibility of abundance in the very place the disciples saw only impossibility. “Bring them here to me,” he said. And when they did, something miraculous happened. Whether through divine multiplication or the transformation of human hearts, scarcity became abundance. Everyone ate. Everyone was filled. And there were leftovers!

This is the good news: despair is not the end. “Despair is only for those who see the end beyond all doubt. We do not,” wrote J.R.R. Tolkien. God’s vision stretches farther than ours. Where we see finality, God sees resurrection.

If we live long enough, we will all walk through the valley of loss. But even there, we are not unseen. God sees the pain we carry, but also the hope that still flickers within us. God sees our limits... and sees beyond them.

Let us, too, learn to see as God sees: beyond scarcity to abundance, beyond grief to resurrection, beyond despair to hope. For the worst thing is never the last thing. Christ lives, and because he lives, we shall live also.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where in your life do you feel the weight of scarcity, loss, or limitation—and what might it mean to trust that God sees beyond it?

How might your perspective shift if you began to see yourself, others, and your circumstances as God sees them—with compassion, abundance, and hope?