



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Love God. Love People.

April 11 – 12, 2026

Capstone
Trust the Story

Trust the
Story



MUSIC THIS WEEKEND

CONTEMPORARY

SATURDAY, 5:30 pm | SUNDAY, 10:30 am

Great Things
This Is Our God
The Blessing
It Really Is Amazing Grace

CLASSIC | SUNDAY, 9:00 am

All Creatures
Choir: We Walk In Love
Handbells: Musical Offering
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

MESSAGE: Paul Dean

COMMUNION: All services

We offer prayers and sympathy to
the family of **Bonnie Boberg**.

Upcoming Celebration of Life Service:
Bonnie Boberg – April 16
Sandra Bergsten – April 24

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.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Classic: Sun 9:00 am | Contemporary: Sat 5:30 pm, Sun 10:30 am
Resources, livestreams, playlists and podcast links: popmn.org

JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY

New Member Orientation | Sundays, April 19 & 26

Are you interested in becoming a member at Prince of Peace?
Take the next step in your faith journey by attending our new
member orientation series. Register at popmn.org/register.

CDLC Preschool Carnival | Saturday, April 18

Join us for a fun-filled family carnival to help support the school.
Would you like to volunteer during the event? Sign up at
popmn.org/register.

Spring Tea: All You Need is Love

Saturday, April 25 | noon – 2:00 pm | Community Room

Join Women's Ministry for a delightful spring tea featuring a
light lunch and Beatles sing-along with Pastor Paul Gauche and
Handt Hanson. Register at popmn.org/register.

Eye Clinic Volunteers

Are you an optometrist, or know of one, looking to give back
to the community? The Eye Clinic at Mission Outpost is looking
to add more optometrists to the rotation so we can serve
more people. Contact Dallas at dgeisinger@popmn.org.

JOIN US IN GENEROSITY

Thank you for your gifts for mission and ministry!



Preserve • Open • Plant Capital Campaign: Fundraising for the Roof

Our sanctuary roof replacement begins April 13, which is an
exciting step forward! To reach our goal and complete the
project without outside financing, we still need \$350,000.

Every gift, large or small, makes a difference. We invite you to
learn more about the capital campaign and this initiative by
visiting popmn.org/preserve-open-plant. Thank you!



We have been on quite a journey these past two years. Our story started at “the beginning,” when we learned that rest is at the heart of the creation story. What happens when we rest and when we don’t affects how we show up for each other, turning what might sound simple into a radical truth. We learned that God has called us good from the beginning, before we did anything to earn that description. Contrary to the messages of original sin and angry gods, the core of this story is belonging, affirmation and love.

This story about a God who loves, and people who are declared good, begins with a call to move forward, out of comfort zones – to leave the garden, to build an ark, to give up personal safety and security in order to venture forth and bless others. It is a constant, consistent pull towards more expansive grace and love spread to more and more unexpected people in more and more unexpected ways. This God is going somewhere, and everyone is invited.

Along the way we learn what impedes this journey: jealousy, greed, the need for power, the inability to trust. As the stories of Cain, Noah, Abraham, Sarah – even the tower of Babel – unfold, one thing stays consistent: God’s presence. In the peoples’ worst moments, God does not abandon them. As Adam and Eve leave the garden, God walks with them into the untamed wilderness outside and has been there among us all this time.

This is a God who is relentlessly with us all.

In the wild story of Abraham and Sarah’s travels and legacy, we glimpse family dynamics and struggle, issues of inheritance, family members vying for power and the voiceless (usually women) finding ways to be heard. It’s been said that throughout the Bible, what upsets God more than anything is a failure of hospitality. In these Old Testament stories, when are strangers not welcomed? When do people fail to provide for family, widows, orphans, children, guests, foreigners, travelers? In these stories we see how things can go awry when people simply don’t do what we were created to do – be a blessing to each other.

What do we see in these stories? A God who punishes our mistakes, seeking retribution? Or a God who is heartbroken over our attempts to reject the community we were made for? How does your answer affect the way you trust this story, and the way you talk about God?

Next, we follow the people as they escape captivity in Egypt. God hears the peoples’ cries and – through floating baskets and defiant midwives, through princesses and plagues, through hardened hearts and rushing waters – makes a way where there is no way. It begs the question: does it matter how you read these stories? On what level are they true? In your life, has God made a way where you didn’t think there could possibly be a way?

We join the Israelites as they wander in the wilderness for 40 years, as old ideas die and new ones are born. They had been slaves and now they are free. But what does freedom look like? The wilderness is a time to learn how to live a new way. The laws and boundaries described in Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy are guidelines to help these newly-freed people live together in community. How should they honor each other and God, and work for mutual thriving? How should we do that today? What systems oppress people, even unintentionally, and how are those systems addressed? What is our responsibility in the work of dismantling oppressive systems now, and how does a God who has no tolerance for a lack of hospitality, welcome and belonging factor in?

Then we meet Ruth, an outsider, who speaks the famous words: “Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.” In Ruth’s story, the big ideas we’ve been discussing all along play out in an intimate story about a family. There is loss and grief, loyalty and sacrifice, leading to provision and family. Ruth gives up her family to find family, gives up her life to find an abundance of life, even a spot in the genealogy of Jesus. God repeatedly shows up in the people who “should not” be in the story, and makes a way where there is no way. How has God shown you provision in unexpected ways?

Throughout Joshua, Judges and 1 Samuel, we find stories of calling. How are these characters called to live into this story? How are you called to live into this story? What gifts do you have to share? How can we muster up patience and discernment in troubled times? We’re reminded that God sends us messengers of encouragement, often with the words “do not be afraid.” After all of these stories – some that are beautiful and some that are violent or horrifying – this God who called us good, who created us for community and mutual thriving, who encourages us to rest and regenerate from the toil, is still relentlessly with us. When have you noticed God’s presence in your life lately? What can you trust about God’s story?