



PRINCE OF PEACE

Love God. Love People.

April 25 – 26, 2026

Sacred Cow

1 Samuel 21:3-6; Leviticus 24:5-9;
Matthew 12:1-4



MUSIC THIS WEEKEND

CONTEMPORARY | SATURDAY, 5:30 pm

Get Together
Waterlife
Way Beyond Me
Day by Day

CLASSIC | SUNDAY, 9:00 am

Christ Is Alive
Choir Anthem: Above All Else
Brass: Musical Offering
All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

CONTEMPORARY | SUNDAY, 10:30 am

So So Good
This Is Our God
Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing
Make Room

MESSAGE: Paul Dean

COMMUNION: (5:30 pm Saturday)

LOOKING FOR PRAYER?

Prayer ministers are available after both Sunday services to pray with you in the lounge through the doors at the back of the sanctuary.

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

Reconciling our Differences | Wednesday, April 29 | 6:30 pm
Mary Frances of Frances Consulting & Coaching, Inc. will lead us in reflection, learning and faithful conversation.

Men's Ministry Breakfast | Sunday, May 3 | \$8 per person
Join us for our final breakfast of the season! Enjoy an omelet bar with celebrity chef Pastor Paul Gauche. Proceeds will sponsor students at Doulos Discovery School in the Dominican Republic.

Vacation Bible School | June 15–18 | 9:00 – noon each day
We need adult, high school and middle school volunteers to lead kids at this fun summer camp. Come make great memories! Sign up to volunteer or register a camper at popmn.org/register.

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 has begun, which is an exciting step forward! To reach our goal and complete the project without outside financing, we still need \$178,000.

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!



SAVE THE DATE:

LEGACY EDUCATIONAL FORUMS

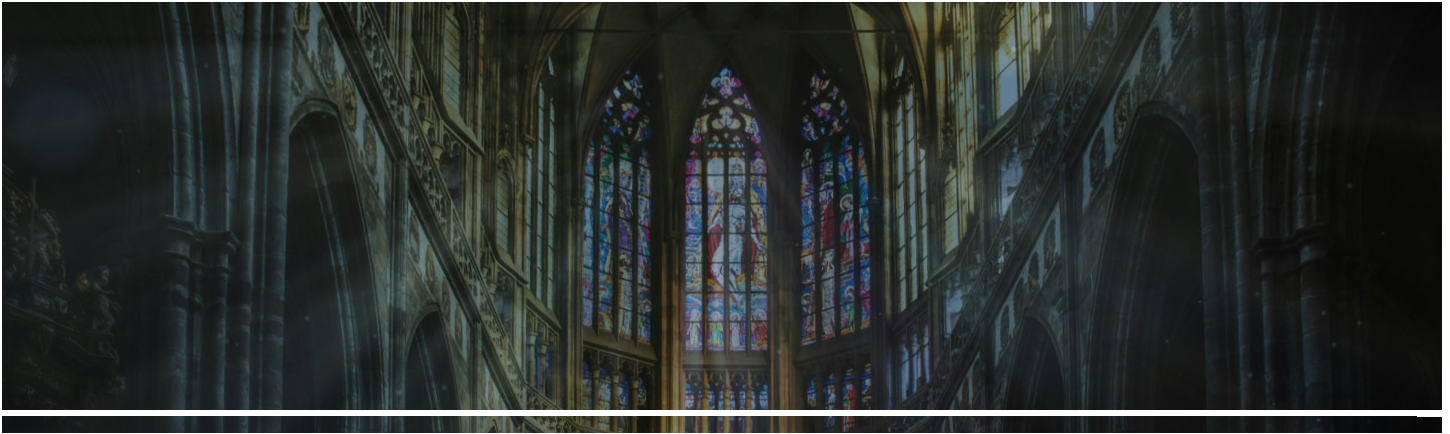
Sunday, May 10 | In Between Services | Chapel

An introduction to legacy giving presented by Scott Larson, PIM Portfolio Manager & Senior Wealth Advisor

Wednesday, May 20 | 6:30 - 7:30 pm | Chapel

A deep dive into legacy giving presented by Tharan Leopold, St. Paul Area Synod Regional Gift Planner

Learn how you can leave a legacy at POP: popmn.org/legacy.



WHAT'S YOUR SACRED COW?

A “sacred cow” is a long-held belief or unproductive practice that is untouched, unchallenged, and uncriticized even though it’s inefficient and perhaps illogical. “Killing the sacred cow” is essentially daring to examine ingrained beliefs or practices and making changes. It’s challenging the status quo.

In today’s reading from 1 Samuel, David and his men are on the run from Saul. They enter a holy place of worship where the only food is sacred bread reserved for the priests. David and his men are in need, so they eat the forbidden bread. (Please note that they are not struck by lightning here.)

Jesus does the same kind of thing. In Matthew 12, the hungry disciples pick some heads of grain on the sabbath, which was classified as “work” and therefore forbidden. The Pharisees are not happy about this. They call Jesus out on all kinds of sabbath-breaking, including healing the sick.

Read on through Matthew 12:14. The Pharisees are so incensed by Jesus healing someone on the sabbath – or failing to keep the sacred cow sacred – that they actually plot to kill him.

*Why do you think the Pharisees are angry to the point of murder?
What do they have to lose when Jesus challenges the status quo?*

*What are some examples of sacred cows? Think about traditions, beliefs, habits, work and more.
When do these things bring life, and when do they get in the way?*

*Think about conflicting rules: compassion versus rigidity or love versus ritual.
Is it ever important to let even cherished traditions go for the sake of relationship, compassion or inclusion?
Is the concept of mercy part of the way we construct our systems, rules and ways of doing things?*

*What are your personal sacred cows?
How do they prevent you from living fully or experiencing deeper relationships?*

*What changes if our community’s sacred cow is actually imbued with love and mercy?
What would change if the thing that went unchallenged at Prince of Peace was actually our ridiculously unconditional love for God and others?*

