



PRINCE OF PEACE

Love God. Love People.

May 9 – 10, 2026

Quick to Judgment

1 Samuel 24:1-7



MUSIC THIS WEEKEND

CONTEMPORARY

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

This Is Our God
Build My Life

A Mighty Fortress (*Sunday 10:30 am only*)
Washed By The Water

CLASSIC | SUNDAY, 9:00 am

We Are Called

Choir Anthem: Waters of Grace

Chamber Choir / Piano: When Memory Fades

Chamber Choir / Piano: I Will Sing

MESSAGE: Paul Dean

COMMUNION: Saturday 5:30 pm

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 the sanctuary.

We offer prayers and sympathy for the family and friends of **Sawyer Richardson**.

Wishing all the mothers and mother figures a **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

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

Outdoor Worship | Saturdays, 5:30 pm | Sundays, 10:30 am

We're excited to begin the season of outdoor worship for the contemporary services! **The start date will depend on the completion of the roof construction.** We'll keep you updated.

We're looking for volunteers to help with outdoor worship setup, takedown and livestreaming. Contact Chris: cwhite@popmn.org.

Artist In Residence: Juan John de Hoyos | June 7 | 4:00 pm

Let's welcome this amazing guitarist and entertainer to POP!

JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY

Mother's Day Flower Sale | May 9-10 | Before and after worship

Support students heading to Camp Wapo and Wisconsin Dells!
Hanging baskets: \$28. Patio pots: \$35.

Educational Forums

Sunday, May 10, between services | Wednesday May 20, 6:30 pm

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

Vacation Bible School | June 15-18 | 9:00 – noon each day

We're looking for adult, middle and high school volunteers to lead kids at this fun summer day camp! popmn.org/register.

Women's Ministry Fall Retreat | October 2-4 | Crosslake MN

Nancy Lee Gauche is the speaker during this weekend of renewal and connection at Boyd Lodge. Cost: \$225. popmn.org/register.

JOIN US IN GENEROSITY

Thank you for your gifts for mission and ministry!



THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY,

we've fully funded the ROOF PROJECT, raising the entire \$1.55 million ahead of the June deadline. This is a huge milestone, possible only with your support.

Because we exceeded our goal, **we now have the opportunity to add solar without taking any debt.** Let's keep the momentum going! **Thank you!**



JUDGMENT AND RESTRAINT

As today's story begins, we learn that Saul – a powerful king backed by an entire army – has been violently pursuing David – the young shepherd who has become his son's soulmate and a bit of a celebrity after killing the warrior Goliath. Saul sees David as a threat to his throne and his family, and wants him dead.

In a profound, poetic, movie-worthy moment, Saul enters a cave where David and his men are hiding. Saul is alone, stopping in the cave either to relieve himself or to get out of the hot sun to rest. In this moment Saul is basically a sitting duck, extremely vulnerable to retaliation and violence at David's hand.

What do you think about this situation?

Is it okay in this scenario for David to protect himself and the people he loves by killing Saul?

Would that act of violence be justified? Why, or why not?

If you were David, would you believe that this encounter was pure chance, or that God delivered Saul into your hands on purpose?

Do you think God works that way? Why, or why not?

David secretly cuts a piece of Saul's cloak and immediately regrets it. He feels terrible about being disrespectful to "the Lord's anointed," despite Saul's constant threats. David and his men do not attack, and Saul eventually leaves the cave unharmed and goes on his way.

How does this story feel? Is David's restraint admirable in the story? Would it feel admirable in real life today?

Think about the ways we feel threatened:

- *as a global community (climate change, scarcity, migration, borders, wars, bombs, blockades);*
- *as a nation (unpredictable leaders, state-sanctioned murder in the streets, wide economic disparity);*
- *as a community (personal safety, locked doors, gun violence, food insecurity).*

Is restraint possible in those situations? Are we required to accept these conditions? What should we do?

Does restraint ever feel ridiculous in the face of violence? Could it cost lives? Could restraint feel like betrayal? What should restraint look like when our loved ones and neighbors are threatened and terrorized?

Does Jesus ever justify violence? If Jesus embodies God, what does your answer say about the nature of God?

Later, David shows Saul the piece of fabric he cut from Saul's cloak, attempting to prove that he is no threat and that the future is in God's hands.

Do you think God avenges our enemies if we don't? Does God create our future?

What changes about this story, and David's restraint, when we remember that David beheaded Goliath just a few chapters earlier? Was that violence different? Is an Israelite life worth more than a Philistine life?

How should we faithfully navigate a world that's full of complexities and widespread complicity?

How can we shine the light of God in a world that's dripping with violence, injustice and complacency?

Is it possible to truly, actively love God and love all people without getting our hands dirty?

How are Jesus followers called to break cycles of violence?

How can we, in our families and with our friends, show more restraint?

