

PRINCE OF PEACE

Spokane, Washington

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

(9am)



*denotes to stand if you are able

Welcome in the name of Jesus. If you are exploring faith in God for the first time, or if you are seeking a new church home, or if you've been coming here for years, we welcome you. *We welcome children in worship and we recognize their wiggles and giggles as a sign of the joy of the Lord within them.* We warmly invite you to take part and see the difference God can make.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcome

***Order for Confession and Forgiveness**

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

P: Recognizing our need for God's mercy, let us confess our sin, and seek reconciliation with God and each other.

Silence for reflection.

P: God of justice and compassion . . .

All: We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word,

and deed. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves, we have not been faithful stewards of your creation. We have failed to share the bounty of your harvest with the poor and needy. Forgive our sin, increase our faith, strengthen us in service, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen

P: Heaven rejoices when a sinner repents and a lost sheep is found. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle / Prayer

Hymn

"O Come, O Come Emanuel"

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, Who to your tribes on
 3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 4 Oh, come, blest Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by your

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 Si - nai's height In an - cient times once gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 In cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: Pallenolum Canticorum Catholicorum, Köln, 1710, or John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
 Tune: French processionals, 15th cent.

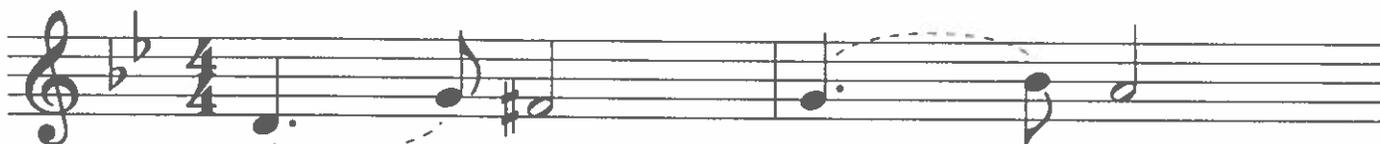
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*Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

*Kyrie



1. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e,
2. Chri - ste, Chri - ste,
3. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e,



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chri - ste e - le - i - son.
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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Music: *Mass for John Carroll*, Michael Joncas, © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

*Prayer of the Day

L: Let us all pray together:

All: **Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

Special Music

"Mary Did You Know"

Men's Choir

Children's Sermon

Readings

Isaiah 35:1-10

The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

L: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:5-10

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;
⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;**

who keeps promises forever;
⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.
⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up
those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**
⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

James 5:7-10

In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia

2 times through

Sung to the tune of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Alleluia, Alleluia

A-lle-lu-ia

***Gospel**

Matthew 11:2-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 11th chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴ Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹ "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Joel Skindlov

***Hymn**

Comfort, Comfort Now My People



1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook-ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain!



Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign!



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.
Let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611–1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt.
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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Baptism Service of Holy Baptism pg. 121 in green hymnal

*The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***The Prayers**

Response: L: Lord, in your mercy.
All: hear our prayer.

***Passing of the Peace**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
All: And also with you.

Meal
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offertory

"People Look East"

Verses 1 & 2



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



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east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
 Music: BESANÇON, French carol
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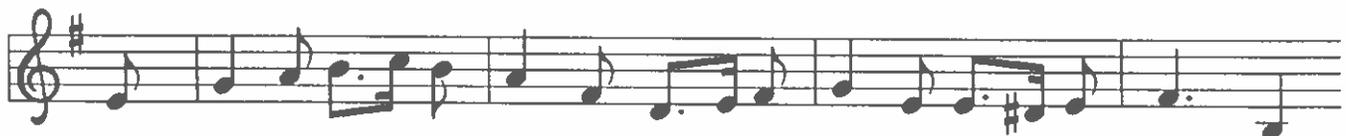
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***Offering Hymn**

Verses 1 & 2

What Feast of Love



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner OSB, b. 1939
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.
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*Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray...

All: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen

*The Lord's Supper

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
 he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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***Words of Institution**

*The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen



"All who believe that Jesus Christ is present in this bread and wine as He has promised are welcome to join in the Lord's Supper."

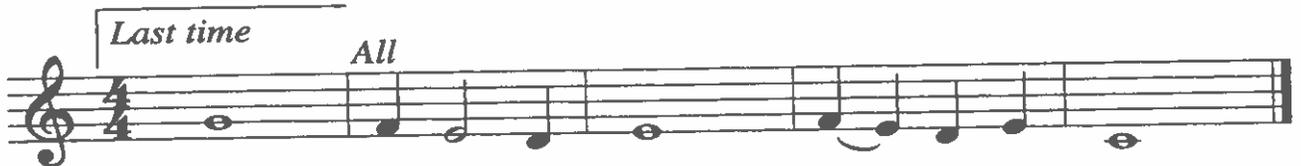
Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
Bread of Life,
Sav - ing Cup,



world: have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy on us.



world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Communion Hymns

One Bread, One Body



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,



wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

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Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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"Come Let Us Eat"

1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
 3 In . . . his pres-ence now we meet and rest,
 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
 In . . . his pres-ence now we meet and rest.
 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.

Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,

Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

© Text: *Billema Kwilla*, b. c. 1925, sts. 1-3; *Gilbert E. Doan*, b. 1930, u. 4, alt.
 tr. *Margaret D. Miller*, h. 1927, us. 1-3, alt.
 © Tune: *Billema Kwilla*, b. c. 1925

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On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
 Music: PUER NOBIS. European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

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*Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Live in peace, your sins are forgiven.

All: Amen

*Prayer after Communion

L: Let us pray . . .

All: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

New Member Welcome
pg. 198 in green hymnal

Announcements- Please use the microphone

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

*Hymn

Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and ius - tice. truth. and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Prince of Peace Christmas Worship Schedule



Holden Evening Prayer
Wednesdays during Advent
December 17th
at 7pm



Christmas Eve Worship Services: Wednesday, December 24th
Candle Light Service— 7pm

Prayers of the Church

New requests of prayers for hope and healing for:

Sharon Ballou, Michelle Buckley (daughter of the Hendricksons), Maya Burnett (Shadle HS student), MarJean Redinger (friend of the Sanborns), the family of Rev. Ron Rentner (retired pastor/pulpit supply), Judy Runion (sister of Curt Froscheiser), Melissa Skindlov, and Lindsay Steiner (friend of Skindlovs).

Continued prayers for:

Pam Carlson, Joyce Cleveland (friend of the Renfords), Amy Colwell & family (cousin of Joy Liezen), Denise, who struggles with mental illness & homelessness, Lewis Dennie (former member), Bill Dupuis, Laney Floyd (Kim & Diane Floyd's granddaughter), the great nephew of Froscheiser's, Josh Hawley, Sara Jahay (granddaughter of Sanborns), Gary & Sandy Johnson (friends of the Sanborns), Mike Kaszycki (friend of the Elliotts), Dora & Curt Larson (sister & brother in law of Iris Pehan), Doug Moeller (brother of Dave Moeller), and Hannah Stewart Longhurst (friend of Frank Christoff).

Prayers of safety for:

Alex Holden, Seth Hertel, Nolen Kajiwara (friend of Ashley Christoff), and all Armed Forces serving around the world. We also pray for peace and comfort for their families during their time of separation.

If you have a prayer request, please contact the church office at: 509-465-0779 or popoffmgr@comcast.net. Requests will remain on the list for a month unless the office is contacted to extend the request. Thank you.

Announcements

Tree of Sharing-wrapped gifts due back 12/14– TODAY!!

Please select a tag and write your name on the sheet next to the tag number. Wrapped gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 14th for distribution. This is always a greatly supported outreach to the community and the congregation's generosity is very much appreciated!

Advent Worship Schedule

Wednesday Advent Worship Services will be held at 7pm on December 17th. Please come and prepare for God's gift to us, his only Son, our Lord. We use Holden Evening Pray, a favorite of many!

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve will be celebrated with one candle light service at 7pm. Bring your family and friends to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

2025 Charitable Donations

If you are looking to bolster your charitable donations for 2025, all contributions need to be in the church offering by Sunday, December 28.

Your financial support of Prince of Peace is always appreciated.

Congregational Budget Meeting

On Sunday, January 11th following Worship Service. Please plan on staying and participating.

Annual Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, January 25th following Worship Service. Please plan on staying and participating, so that we have a quorum.

Trespassing

There have been some incidents of trespassing and illegal camping on the church property. If you happen to travel past the church and see anything suspicious, please call crime check.

The address for the church is 8441 N. Indian Trail Rd.

Crime Check #-509-456-2233

POP Pantry – The Cupboard is bare!

Food:

Small peanut butter jars, jelly/jam, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, canned tuna/ chicken, individual trail mix, meat sticks, granola bars, soup, & boxed meals.

Necessities:

Toothpaste, wrapped toothbrushes, deodorant, little lotions and dish soap



Can You Help?

Does anyone have washer/dryer in need of a home? If you or somebody you know has replaced their washer and dryer and have the old ones that still work, please contact Rebecca Hendrickson.

Birthdays	Anniversaries
December 1-Randy Fleiger December 5-Karen Heimbigner December 8- Marie Tamura December 14-Cliff Hendrickson December 16-Helen Cogley December 21-Stephanie Feist December 22-Delores Shelton December 26-Carol Hawley Sue Parrish	December 21- Bill & Sue Burgermyer 

Serving You Today...

<p>Pastor: Joel Skindlov Worship Assistant: Randy Holland Keyboarding: Janet Robel Altar Guild: Susan Ames</p>	<p>Fellowship: Jan Gilliam Ushers: Doug Elliott Media: John Renford & Amie Elliott Communion Servers: Susan Ames</p>
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This Week at Prince of Peace December 14-21, 2025

SUNDAY	9:00 am	Worship Service/Sunday School POP Pantry Sunday
	10:30 am	Council Meeting
MONDAY		
TUESDAY	12:00 pm 5:30 pm	Church Office Closed Praise Group
WEDNESDAY	6:15 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Men's Choir Advent Service Adult Choir (following service)
THURSDAY	1:00 pm	Bible Study
FRIDAY		Church Office Closed
SATURDAY	7:00 am	Men's Breakfast
SUNDAY	9:00 am	Worship Service/Sunday School Program

To Contact Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Office Phone: 509-465--0779	Website: www.pospokane.org
Office Hours: 9 am – 3 pm / MON – THU	E-mail Contact: officemanager@pospokane.org