

# LIVE STREAM WORSHIP



## SEASON of CREATION: RIVERS ~ WEEK ONE ~ June 6, 2021

*Peace Lutheran Church*



*West Seattle, Washington*

*There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.*

**Psalm 46:4-6**

## + OUR SACRED RIVERS +

**WELCOME!** During Season of Creation: RIVERS we're exploring the connection between rivers and our Christian faith.

*The great rivers of our land not only return the rain and snow back to the sea, they are life-bringing highways, concentrating and distributing nutrients, feeding wildlife, irrigating crops, transporting fish, and shaping the landscape; sources of the fresh water upon which all life depends. Rivers are the circulatory system of Planet Earth. In our short-sighted zeal to master rivers for human industry we have turned vital streams of life into noxious streams of death. Industrial wastes, pesticides, fertilizers, prescription medications, leaking oil and sewage run off each contribute toxic ingredients to the mix, polluting the very marine estuaries that allow life to thrive. In spite of local abundance, fresh water around the world is becoming more and more scarce. Earthkeeping calls us to a renewed understanding of our relationship to the rivers and waters of our region, and it all starts in our backyard.*

*The author of Genesis puts life sustaining water at the heart of creation, and the Psalmist speaks of flowing water as the source through which God sustains all living things. What is your relationship with the streams and rivers that surround the place you live?*

**IN WEEK TWO** we'll be joined by Rev. John Rosenberg, Lutheran pastor and student of salmon and watersheds. Then, **in WEEK THREE**, we'll be joined by BJ Cummings, author of The River that Made Seattle, along with James Rasmussen, Duwamish Tribal member and Duwamish Superfund Manager. A **WALKING TOUR** along the Duwamish River is set to take place this coming Saturday, June 12 @ 1:00pm.

## + GATHERING +

**PRELUDE**

*Wade in the Water*

African American Spiritual  
James Jelasic, piano

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Standing at the shore of local waterways,  
Barbara Hillier and Katharine Menstell lead the Call to Worship.*

L In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life,  
in the name of Christ, the pulse of life,  
and in the name of the Spirit + the breath of life. Amen.

**C Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with God's presence.**

L We invite the rivers to worship with us:

**C The Duwamish, the Cedar, the Snoqualmie and Tolt, the Green  
and the mighty Columbia—all the rivers that flow to the sea!**

L We invite the creeks to sing with us:

**C Salmon hatchlings, streaking trout, cruising sturgeon, and gurgling springs!**

- L We invite the fauna to praise God with us:  
 C **Loon, heron, and mallard duck, dragonflies and croaking frogs!**  
 D We join the waters in praising God:  
 C **Tide pools, waterfalls, waves dancing at the river's mouth.**  
 L We celebrate the song of the river!  
 C **Sing, river, sing!**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*As Rivers Flow from a Distant Spring*

ACS #1046



1 As riv - ers flow from a dis - tant spring  
 2 As trees rise up from the for - est floor  
 3 As woods make shel - ter with - in its shade  
 4 So let us praise you, Cre - a - tor God,



to quench our thirst and feed the earth,  
 by roots that feed each limb a - bove,  
 for beasts to feed and birds to nest,  
 for worlds that wit - ness to your care,



so let our lives flow from you, our Source,  
 so let our lives rise in praise to you  
 so let our lives be a shel - tered space,  
 that show your pres - ence in ev - 'ry place,



to coun - ter death and nur - ture birth.  
 from hearts we root in your deep love.  
 a ref - uge for the worn to rest.  
 your glo - ry shin - ing ev - 'ry - where.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P The Creator be with you.  
 C **And also with you.**  
 P Let us pray.  
 C **God, our Creator, whose glory fills our planet home, help us to discern your vibrant presence among us, especially in the riches of our rivers. Help us to stand in solidarity with rivers and their creatures who are suffering. Lift our spirits to rejoice with the vibrant world of life-bearing streams. We ask this in the name of Christ, who reconciles and renews all things in creation. Amen.**

## + WORD +

### READING: Genesis 1:20-23

Helen Hundley

*In the first Creation account, God calls forth life from the waters of Earth and blesses them.*

And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God!**

### PSALM 104:3, 10-17, 24

Helen Hundley

*Psalm 104 celebrates divine creativity, which is amply evident wherever we look, fed by the waters through which God brings forth all that is needed for life.*

O God, you lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above;  
you make the clouds your chariot;  
you ride on the wings of the wind.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;  
they flow between the hills,  
giving drink to every wild animal;  
the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

By the streams the birds of the air have their home;  
they sing among the branches.

From your lofty home you water the mountains;  
the earth is satisfied with the fruitfulness of your creation.

You make the grass to grow for the cattle,  
and plants for people to use,  
to bring forth food from the earth,  
and wine to gladden the human heart,  
oil to make the face shine,  
and bread to strengthen the human heart.

The trees of the Living God are watered abundantly,  
the cedars of Lebanon that you planted.  
In them the birds build their nests;  
the stork has its home in the fir trees.

O Living One, how diverse are your creatures!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the Earth is full of your creatures.

### CHILDREN'S TIME

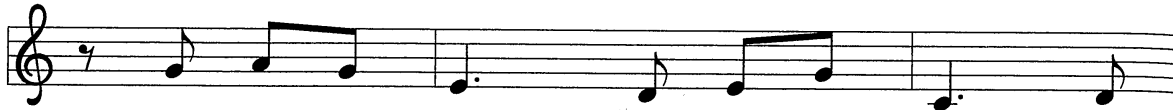
Sarah Bliss

HYMN OF THE DAY

In Sacred Manner

ACS #1071

TUNE: SEATTLE



1 In sa - cred man - ner may we walk up -  
 2 In sa - cred man - ner may we see the  
 3 In sa - cred man - ner may we touch the  
 4 In sa - cred man - ner may we hear the



on the fair and lov - ing earth, in beau - ty move, in  
 lu - mi - nous and lov - ing stars, with won - der and with  
 sus - pir - ant and lov - ing green, give hon - or and give  
 pound - ing waves, the sear - ing fire, the rush - ing wind, the



beau - ty love the liv - ing round that brought us birth. We  
 awe be - hold their ev - er - new cre - a - tive pow'rs. The  
 grat - i - tude for shade, for bloom, for gift un - seen. The  
 sing - ing night, the for - est hymn, the lov - ing choir. The



stand on ho - ly ground. We stand on ho - ly ground.  
 heav - ens show us God. The heav - ens show us God.  
 trees shall shout for joy. The trees shall shout for joy.  
 morn - ing stars shall sing. The morn - ing stars shall sing.

5 In sacred manner may we live  
 among the wise and loving ones,  
 sit humbly, as at sages' feet,  
 by four-legged, finned, and feathered ones.  
 The animals will teach.  
 The animals will teach.

6 In sacred manner may we walk  
 upon the fair and loving earth,  
 in beauty move, in beauty love  
 the living round that brought us birth.  
 We stand on holy ground.  
 We stand on holy ground.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From: *Seven Songs of Creation: Liturgies for Celebrating and Healing Earth* by Norman Habel

P Let us confess our faith.

**C We believe in God who creates all things,  
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,  
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.  
We believe in God as the source of all life,  
who baptizes this planet with living water,  
who heals all the wounds of Earth.  
We believe in the book of Earth, the book of life unfolding,  
the book revealing the mysteries of God's wisdom.  
We believe in Jesus Christ as the revelation and Wisdom of God,  
Joining the web of life as human flesh,  
Jesus is the love of God immersed in the cosmos.  
We believe in an Earth community,  
a community where lives of all creatures and habitats are interconnected.  
We believe in Life forever,  
empowered by the breath of the Spirit of God,  
connected with our cosmic Christ  
and celebrated by all creation.**

## + PRAYERS +

### PRAYERS

*Petitions are offered that end with the refrain:*

A Creator of all,  
C **teach us to care.**

*After all petitions have been offered:*

A Jesus, Incarnate one, teach us to be at one with Earth.  
C **Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation, cries for justice from the rivers, the creeks, the streams. Make our faith sensitive to the groans of the Spirit from estuaries and forests, mountains and Salish Sea; make our souls sensitive to the call of our kin, species in pain calling from the land, the sea, and the air.  
Christ, teach us to care. Amen.**

### THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C **And also with you.**

*Time to share a greeting of peace with those who are with you physically, and a virtual greeting with those who are part of your circle of concern. Today our peace sharing includes virtual greetings from a variety of Peace families.*

## OFFERING

Your monetary gifts support the ongoing ministry of our congregation and ELCA ministries around the world. You can give an offering today by connecting to our secure [Tithely Giving Page](#). Whatever size, your gift makes a difference—thank you for your support!

## OFFERTORY

### *God of the River*

TUNE: GOD OF THE SPARROW



1. God of the ri - ver, God of the creek, God of the sal - mon  
2. God of the ot - ter, God of the hawk, God of the grizz - ly  
3. God of the rain - bow, God of the cross, God who gives liv - ing



leap - ing, How does the crea - ture say Ho - ly?  
bear, How does the crea - ture cry Won - der!  
wa - ter, How does the crea - ture say Grace!



How does the crea - ture say Praise?  
How does the crea - ture cry Save!  
How does the crea - ture say Thanks!

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**P** God, our Creator,

**C** through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for all in need, including the beings and habitats with whom we share this planet home. With all creation, we bless you. Amen.

## + SENDING +

## THE CALL

**P** Christ calls you to be his disciples,  
to serve him with love and compassion,  
to serve Earth by caring for creation  
to serve by caring for all creatures and their habitats.

Will you care for creation?

**C** **We will care for the rivers!**

**We will nurture our planet!**

**We will care for one another!**

**We will celebrate life!**

# SENDING HYMN

## *Crashing Waters at Creation*

ELW #455

1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,  
 2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem-bled as the cap-tives passed on through,  
 3 Cleans-ing wa - ter once at Jor-dan closed a - round the one fore-told,  
 4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end-ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.

first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright-ness of night's death.  
 wash - ing off the chains of bond-age—chan-nel to a life made new.  
 o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.  
 Well-spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry-ness, make us whole.

### DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, serving Christ and loving Earth.

C Thanks be to God!

### POSTLUDE

*Deep River*

African American Spiritual  
Performed by Cora Voce



*Next Sunday, June 13, we will be joined by Rev. John Rosenberg, who will share insights about watersheds, salmon, and the theological connections with our Christian faith.*

**OUR HYMN OF THE DAY** by Susan Palo Cherwien, set to the tune SEATTLE, by Robert Buckley Farlee, traces its lineage to two primary sources: the Lakota teaching of the prophetic *White Buffalo Calf Woman* that human beings walk on Earth in a sacred manner; and the Biblical creation story from Genesis 1. While working toward a Master of Liberal Studies degree at Mundelein College, Ms. Cherwien took an interdisciplinary course entitled FATE OF THE EARTH, and set a goal of writing a hymn text that would reflect the key ideas of the course. She writes of the hymn:

*"I began the text with the guidance that White Buffalo Calf Woman gave to the Lakota, to walk on Earth in a sacred manner, for Earth is sacred. I believe that, had the European settlers been open to the wisdom and knowledge of the Native American nations they were encountering, the Earth would not be in such danger. We can still learn from this wisdom, and so I began the hymn stanzas with the image of walking in a sacred manner. The stanzas move roughly in the order of the days of creation in the Genesis 1 creation story. Then I closed each stanza with a passage from the Bible: Exodus 3:5, Psalm 19:1, Psalm 96:12, Job 12:7, and Job*



38:7. It was important for me to show that the interrelatedness and sacredness of all things are not outside of the Jewish and Christian traditions and scriptures. Now hopefully, we can sing those important thoughts into ourselves, into the world.”

- From correspondence with Pastor Kindem

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SEASON OF CREATION

**Our Season of Creation celebration continues through Sunday, June 20. You can read about it in Pastor Erik Kindem's [Pastor's Pen](#) article in the June edition of [Peace Notes](#).**

Next week we'll be joined by Rev. John Rosenberg will be with us talking about WATERSHEDS from a geological/theological point of view. Then, on June 20, BJ Cummings, author of [The River That Made Seattle](#), and Duwamish Tribal member and River advocate James Rasmussen.

### ECOTOUR OPPORTUNITY: SEE THE DUWAMISH RIVER SHORELINE

On Saturday, June 12, beginning at 1:00 pm, you are invited to a walking tour along the west side of the Duwamish River. A restoration ecologist will discuss the geographical, cultural, and political history of the river and the impacts on the Duwamish people. The tour is appropriate for school-age children as well as the rest of us! To find out more, go to <https://www.duwamishtribe.org/ecotours>. Our group is already signed up, so you do not have to fill out the scheduling form. Simply print the waiver and fill it out before you arrive. Extra waiver forms will also be available at the Longhouse. So that we have an approximate count, please contact the church office if you are planning to join us. We will meet at the Longhouse, 4705 W Marginal Way SW. You may park at the Longhouse or at Herring's House Park, 4570 W Marginal Way SW.

## RECONCILING IN CHRIST AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

*Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, in a world that can be filled with alienation and brokenness. In faithfulness to the Gospel and to our Lutheran heritage, we answer Christ's call to be agents of healing and safety, particularly for people who have been marginalized by our society. As a Christian community, we invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the meaning of grace for our lives. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities into the life and mission of our congregation.*

## CONTRIBUTORS TO TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher and Presider: Pastor Erik P. Kindem

Assisting Minister: Marcia Olson, Children's Minister: Sarah Bliss

Musicians: Minister of Music Jon Lackey, Accompanist James Jelastic

Lector: Helen Hundley

Production Techs: Alex Wren, manager, Dustin Smith

Office Administrator: Kathleen Keyes

*To learn more about our congregation and its mission, contact us:*

[www.PeaceLutheranSeattle.org](http://www.PeaceLutheranSeattle.org)

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