LIVE STREAM WORSHIP

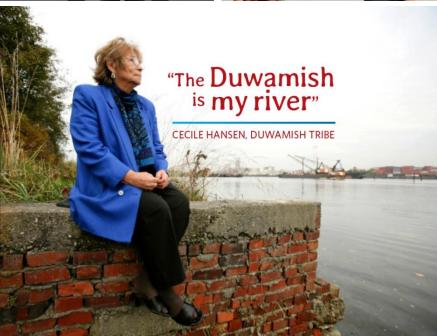












SEASON of CREATION: RIVERS ~ WEEK THREE ~ June 20, 2021

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

+ OUR SACRED RIVERS +

WELCOME TO <u>Season of Creation: RIVERS</u>, when we explore 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. Nowhere has his been more true than with Seattle's only river—the Duwamish. Industrial wastes, pesticides, fertilizers, prescription medications, leaking oil and sewage run off have each contributed toxic ingredients to the mix, polluting the very marine estuaries that allow life to thrive. In spite of local abundance through the protected Cedar River Watershed, 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 at home.

The writer of <u>Revelation</u> envisioned the "river of the water of life, bright as crystal" flowing through the center of the City of God. Jesus promised his own "living water" as a source of life that would never go dry. What is your relationship with the streams and rivers that surround the place you live?

THIS WEEK OUR FOCUS IS ON SEATTLE'S ONLY RIVER—THE DUWAMISH.

To help us explore the complex history of the Duwamish and the many changes that have been wrought through the years both to the river and those who depend upon it, we're joined by <u>BJ Cummings</u>, author of <u>The River that Made Seattle</u>, and <u>James Rasmussen</u>, Duwamish Tribal member and Duwamish Superfund Manager, whose 40 minute interview with Pastor Erik Kindem and Kathleen Fueger is a central part of today's service. Both guests have been working for decades on restoring the Duwamish River to health.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

Down by the Riverside

Mahalia Jackson

CALL TO WORSHIP Michael and Vinh lead us in the Call to Worship from Fauntleroy Creek

- 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! 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!

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

GATHERING HYMN

Wakantanka taku nitawa

ELW #837

Lakota Hymn



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 your river creatures who are suffering. Lift our spirits to rejoice with the vibrant world of the rivers. We ask this in the name of Christ, who reconciles and renews all things in creation. Amen.

+ WORD +

READING: Revelation 22:1-12

When creation is restored, a river will flow directly from God with trees of life growing on either side to bring healing to all nations on Earth.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

THE GOSPEL: John 7:37-38

Throughout of Gospel of John, Jesus returns to Jerusalem for Festivals. In chapter 7, the festival at hand is the Feast of Booths, which recalls Israel's 40 year sojourn in the wilderness. One of the wilderness miracles was God's provision of water from the rock at Meribah.

³⁷On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

CHILDREN'S TIME

Laura, Carmen, and Alice Lunde

INTERVIEW WITH BJ CUMMINGS & TRIBAL LEADER JAMES RASMUSSEN

Today we welcome two leading advocates for restoration of the Duwamish River—<u>BJ Cummings and James Rasmussen</u>. Ms. Cummings, author of <u>The River that Made Seattle: A Human and Natural History of the Duwamish</u>, is founder of the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition and previously served as executive director of Sustainable Seattle. She is currently manager of community engagement for the Superfund Research Program at the University of Washington. James Rasmussen is Executive Director of the Duwamish Tribe Advisory Council and plays a fundamental role in the EPA's formation of the Duwamish Superfund Roundtable, which will inform the next phase of the Cleanup Plan. His primary focus in his current role is elevating those most in need of climate justice, including low-income community members, POC, youth, and elders.



+ PRAYERS +

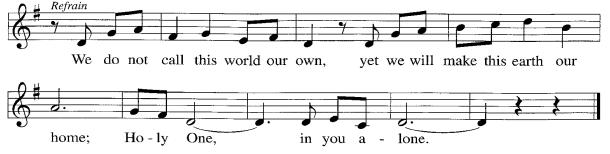
We stand on holy ground.

PRAYERS

A Creator of all, teach us to care.

C S Refrain: Holy One, In You Alone

The animals will teach.

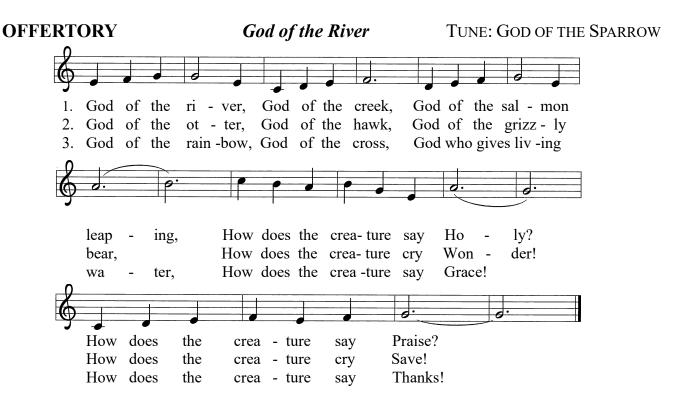


THE PEACE

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

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 <u>Tithely Giving Page</u>. Whatever size, your gift makes a difference—thank you for your support!



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 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.

 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!



DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace, serving Christ and loving Earth.
- C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Deep River

Jon Lackey, tenor & James Jelasic, piano Performed at the National Gallery of Art in DC



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A NOTE ABOUT TODAY'S HYMN OF THE DAY

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week, June 27, we return to our regular summer liturgical rhythm. Pastor Chelsea Globe will be our guest preacher and Heidi Eilers will serve as worship Host. Please join us!

Re-opening of Peace. The Safe Opening Task Force and Church Council are working together on a 3-stage plan for re-opening the church building and programs. The first stage involves re-opening to small groups. This will take place beginning July 1. If you have questions about the small group process, contact Kathleen in the church office. The 2nd and 3rd stages of re-opening are under development and will be communicated soon!

Our three part <u>Season of Creation: RIVERS</u> series will be accessible through our website homepage throughout the summer months: <u>www.peacelutheranseattle.org</u>.

Beginning June 27 we return to our Summer Liturgy rhythm and the texts of the Revised Common Lectionary.

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: Boots Winterstein, Children's Minister: Laura Lunde Musicians: Minister of Music Jon Lackey, Accompanist James Jelasic

Lector: Graham Johnson

Production Techs: Alex Wren, manager,

Dustin Smith, Joey DiJulio, Scott Sunde, Alan Jarvimaki

Office Administrator: Kathleen Keyes

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

www.PeaceLutheranSeattle.org

Peace Lutheran Church

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