

All Creation Waits
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Art by Sharon Spitz

December 10, 2023

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington



“In late fall, in the world’s north, the sun glides low in the sky.

Light dims, the air cools, signaling every living thing.

Animals know what to do when the season of dark and cold spreads over the earth.

Every creature makes changes to its home, its body, its habits.

Every creature makes ready to wait until the earth wakes again into the light & warmth of spring.

Waiting in the cold dark will be hard but each creature knows...

The dark is not an end. It’s a door. It’s the way a new beginning comes.”

- Gayle Boss, All Creation Waits



Open Table ~ Open Invitation

We celebrate Christ’s presence in the Sacrament of the Table each week at Peace. Christ, our Host, meets us in this meal of grace and offers himself, fully embodied, in the bread and wine. He invites all to come and meet him in this Holy Meal.

KYRIE

Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son,
Ky-ri - e e - le - e - le - i - son.
Ga - thered by your love, we pray for hea - ling and hope. Lord,
give us peace, make us one, sal - va - tion come.
From your per - fect love, bring your per - fect reign to
ev' - ry heart, ev' - ry home; let love be known.
Lord our God have mer - cy, Je - sus Christ have mer - cy,
Save us by your mer - cy Lord. _____

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

ADVENT LIGHTING DIALOG

Heidi, Wyatt, & Astrud Gray

ADVENT LIGHTING PRAYER

L Let us pray. Dear God, as we light the second candle on this wreath, we remember our brothers John the Baptist and Porcupine. Kindle your fire within us this season, and make straight the path that leads us into your presence. In the name of the Holy One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C Amen.

The Second Advent Candle is lit.

PASS THE HAT

Lutheran Disaster Response/Middle East Crisis

+ WORD +

READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

Nancy Hauger

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet known as Second Isaiah announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. The Lord will deliver Israel in an exodus more magnificent than the exodus from Egypt. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of the Lord.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the
LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be
made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the
mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the
LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good
tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs
in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

L Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95

The assembly joins the cantor on each refrain:

For you, O Lord, my soul in still - ness
waits, tru - ly my hope is in you.

Cantor: O Root of Life, implant your seed within us,
And in your advent, draw us all to you,
Our hope reborn in dying and in rising.

O Key of Knowledge, guide us in our pilgrimage,
We ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain,
Open to us the pathway of your peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st Chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,' "

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after

me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Nicole Klinemeier

SERMON

Pastor Erik Kindem

HYMN OF THE DAY

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW #264



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 jus - 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:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Laura Bermes

A With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for church and world, all creation, and all who await God's day of restoration.

Petitions are offered that end with:

A Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

When all petitions have been offered:

A Listen to these and all our prayers, O God, and restore us with your great and tender mercy.

C **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Your financial gifts today support the ongoing ministry of our congregation, cooperative ventures of ELCA congregations throughout Western Washington, and Evangelical Lutheran ministries around the world. We invite you to give generously! You can place your gift in the offering plate, mail in a check, or connect to our secure [Tithely Giving Page](#) via this QR CODE. Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!



OFFERTORY HYMN

We Raise Our Hands to You

ELW #690



1 We raise our hands to you, O Lord, like
2 What good and blessing you bestow are
5 Through grace your new creation lies in



emp - ty ves - sels. Oh, come to us and
free - ly giv - en. Your pow'r will make the
hands held o - pen. O Giv - er of all



give us life from springs where liv - ing wa - ters flow.
weak - est strong and bar - ren branch - es start to bud.
good - ness, come, dwell with us in our earth - ly home.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. God our provider,

C **by your merciful hand abundance springs up from Earth.**

Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.

**Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts!

C **We lift them to the Lord!**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and altender God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new when he brings his reign of justice and peace. And so, with Earth and all her creatures, with the church on Earth and all the host of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life;
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

P On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**C Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.**

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

**C This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*ecumenical*)

P Gathered as one, we pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.
Come, take your place at the table.

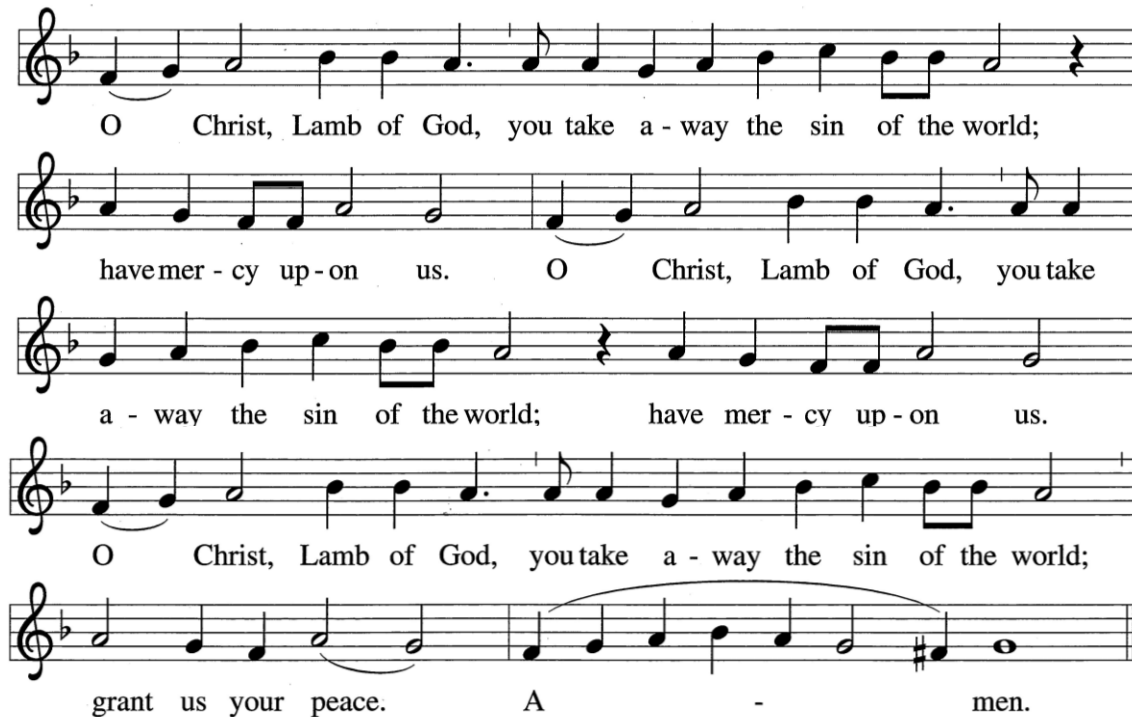
C Thanks be to God!

DISTRIBUTION

We commune processionally. Extend your hands to receive bread. A gluten free wafer is also available. Both wine (dark) and grape juice (light) are available in ceramic cups. Place your empty cup in the box at the end of the front pew on your way back. Children are welcome to receive when their parents believe they are ready, with the support of the pastor. Any who prefer a blessing may cross their hands over their chest as they come forward.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW #196



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

COMMUNION HYMN

Each Winter as the Year Grows Older

ELW #252



1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,
2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for
3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from
4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the
5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and
too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the
war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and
death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -
ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.
scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.
we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.
kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.
new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you,
and the power of the Spirit + give life to you, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hark the Glad Sound

ELW #239

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

A Go in peace. Christ is near.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Rondo for Advent

Henry Purcell



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director
Jon Lackey, Minister of Music

Tuesday through Thursday 10:00am-3:00pm
206-427-6496
Music@ PeaceLutheranSeattle.org

Find us on  at **People of Peace Lutheran**

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music	Jon Lackey
Advent Dialogue	Heidi, Wyatt & Astrud Gray
Cantor	Sonja Outlaw
Liturgical Assistant	Laura Bermes
Acolyte	Luna Churchill
Lector	Nancy Hauger
Children's Sermon	Nicole Klinemeier
Greeters	Marcia Olson, Corinne Otakie
Ushers	Barbara Hillier, Scott Sunde
Altar Care	Chris & Naomi Kindem
Communion Assistants	Randy Hernandez, Naomi Kindem
Coffee Server	Jean Sides
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy
Production Techs	Joey DiJulio, Alex Wren
Counters	Jim Lukens, Joey DiJulio

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

*Our mission goal for 2023 anticipates receiving offering income of \$25,819 each month.
At the end of October we were approximately \$8,500 under our giving goal year to date.*

Offering Income received November 2023

11/05/23	\$ 6,574.00
11/12/23	\$ 3,370.00
11/19/23	\$ 1,726.00
11/26/23	\$ 443.00
Electronic	<u>\$12,621.67</u>
Total	\$24,734.67

*Thank you for your gifts which support God's mission at Peace, in the larger community,
and internationally through the ELCA.*

THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

Still have some gifts to buy? This year, skip the packaging (and transportation pollution) and think outside the gift box! Presents don't have to be tangible "things." A decade-long Cornell University study showed experiences contribute more to happiness than stuff. Would someone on your list like yard care, dog walking or house cleaning services? How about dinner at a favorite restaurant? Concert, theater or sports tickets? Dance, art, or baseball lessons for a young dancer, artist or slugger in your family? Gift a pollinator garden *you plant* next spring and you'll give endangered birds, butterflies, and native plants a hand as well! Get creative and you'll give experiences your loved ones will love.

Pray for Creation: We pray that we remain mindful of our responsibility to the Earth during the colder and darker months of the year.

PASS THE HAT 12/10 LDR/MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

Lutheran Disaster Response has a long time relationship with partners in the Holy Land, including:

- **Augusta Victoria Hospital.** The hospital procures medical supplies and provides accommodations for patients and staff unable to return to their homes in Gaza.
- **The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.** The church provides emergency education support for families who have lost income due to the war and are unable to pay school fees.
- **ACT Alliance.** Through implementing partners Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, ACT Alliance responds to immediate needs for psychosocial support, shelter, household items, public health centers and direct cash assistance, focusing on the Palestinian communities in Gaza, East Jerusalem and the West Bank. **Checks can be payable to Peace with the notation: Middle East Crisis.**

DECEMBER 13, 20 – Midweek Advent Services

This year's Midweek Advent Services are being hosted by Boots and Paul. Join us for a simple soup meal @ 6pm followed by simple service @ 7:00pm. Come for one of both! (Note: one of the soups each week will be vegan 😊) **Our theme this Advent is PAUSE – PREPARE – PONDER**, and links us to the emphasis we're observing in our homes and in Sunday worship with: *All Creation Waits*. Join us for a reflective and hospitable evening! For more information call: 206/762-1362.

DECEMBER 17: A FIRST LOOK AT FUNDING OUR MISSION

Early in December each year the council provides an opportunity to preview and comment on the coming year's draft budget, which is now under development for 2024. This year, that opportunity is scheduled for Sunday, December 17th following Worship. This meeting will be in-person only.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Poinsettias will once again beautify our sanctuary this Christmas.

Plants are **\$11.00 each** and you can mail your order in/drop it off/or place it in the offering plate.

We need to receive your order by Sunday, December 17th. Please include the number of plants you wish to sponsor, the name(s) of the person(s) you are honoring, and your name.

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT/CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24th is doing double duty this year – as both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. The Worship Planning Team has set the schedule as follows:

4th Sunday of Advent Worship @ 10:30am (Live streamed) No Sunday School or Adult Forum.

Christmas Eve Family Service @ 5:00pm with costumes! Come one and all and be part of the drama.

Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service @ 9:00pm, lessons and carols, message, Eucharist.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS FOR WELCOME TABLE!

As in past few years, Peace members are invited to fill a big bag with essentials and some fun things, too. Find 15 large plastic bags in the Narthex; list of needed items included. Please consider signing up for one (or more!) bags. You can return your filled bag to Peace by December 15 -- or take it directly to the WIN Holiday celebration on Saturday, December 16 at the Body of Christ courtyard - just two blocks east of McClendon's Hardware. This is a great family project! Questions: Marcia Olson

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: Sick/Recovering: Kathy Anderson; Cay Bell; Joyce Bitner; Mary Brocker; Jan Burt; Melanie Coulson; Heidi Coy; Karl Coy; Marsha Davis; Laura Dwyer; Joe Flint; Marge Flint; Dawn Gringorten; Signa Gustafson; Donna Heiland; Liz Hernandez; Mary Jacob; Ken Keyes; Dee Levy; Justin Makboul; Evelyn Martinez; Eddie McDaniel; Ken McPherson; Erin McPherson; Steve Metzler; Katrina Moore; Bill Morrell; Penelope Grace; Michelle Pierce; Rachel; Irma Runge; JoAnne Spangler; Pat Spangler; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Pam Webber; Judy Wiggins; Patti Wunder.

Homebound: Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Lee Lamson; Jan Madsen

We express our Christian sympathy to the Bernd family on the death of Ron Bernd, Steve’s father, on December 6.

PROTOCOL FOR PRAYER LIST We will keep people on the prayer list for one month unless otherwise specified or unless you contact the Peace office to extend the time.

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.



Cover art by Sharon Spitz (original color revised to blue). From *All Creation Waits*, Children’s Edition, written by Gayle Boss, illustrated by Sharon Spitz. (Brewster, MA: Paraclete Press, 2023.)

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS



If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias for the Christmas Season, please complete the information below.
Cost is \$11.00 per plant.

You can complete the form and drop it along with your check in the offering plate, mail it in, or drop it by the church office **no later than Sunday, December 17, 2022.**

Given _____ in memory of _____ **OR** _____ in honor of _____ **(circle one)**

Name _____

OR “Given to the glory of God” **(circle if desired)**

BY: _____
(print legibly and exactly as you would like it printed)



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