

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



April 28, 2024

***Peace Lutheran Church***



***West Seattle, Washington***

*This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.*

*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.*

*A blessing of the quilts made by the Peace Piecers will take place after the Hymn of the Day.*

# ✝ GATHERING ✝

P – *Presider*    C – *Congregation*    L – *Lector*    A – *Assisting Minister*  
ELW – *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

P Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## GATHERING HYMN

### *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!*

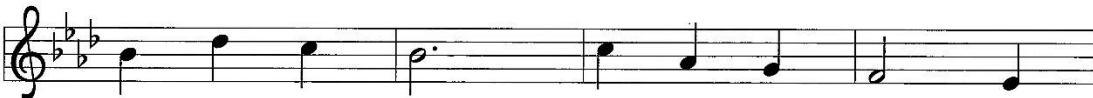
ELW #377



1 Al - le - lu - ia!            Je - sus is ris - en!  
2 Walk - ing the way,        Christ in the cen - ter  
3 Je - sus the vine,         we are the branch - es;  
4 Weep - ing, be gone;      sor - row, be si - lent:  
5 Cit - y of God,            Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem,    Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb,        heav - en for - ev - er!  
break - ing our bread,        giv - ing us glo - ry:  
heav - en to earth,          Christ to the peo - ple,  
Cher - u - bim sing:         O grave, be o - pen!  
riv - er of life,             saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

### *Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

## GREETING

**P** The grace of the risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE *This Is the Feast of Victory for Our God!*

ELW p. 122



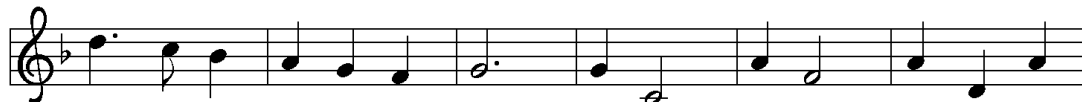
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**+ WORD +**

**FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40**

Scott Sunde

*Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him.*

*Upon coming to faith in Jesus, the Ethiopian is baptized by Philip.*

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
 and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
 so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they

came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION HYMN *Please rise in body or spirit to receive the gospel.*

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

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter

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

**GOSPEL: John 15:1-8**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him.*

*Those who abide in his word and love would bear fruit, for apart from him, they could do nothing.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ!**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Nicole Klinemeier

**SERMON**

Pastor Erik Kindem

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*O Blessed Spring*

**ELW #447**



1 O bless - ed spring, where word and sign em - brace us  
2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain  
3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their  
4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our  
5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to  
faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing  
heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will  
last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take  
this blest mys - ter - y: that word and wa - ter thus re -



be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.  
rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.  
move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.  
wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.  
vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

## QUILT BLESSING

*We bless the quilts produced by the Piece Peacers quilting group and send them off to fulfill their purpose in the world.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Paul Bliss

A Rejoicing that Jesus has risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*Petitions are offered that end with:*

A God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

*When all petitions have been offered:*

A Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected living Lord.

**C Amen.**

## + MEAL +

## THE PEACE

P The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

*We share a gesture of peace with our neighbors.*

## 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

***God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending***

TUNE: BEACHSPRING

God whose giving knows no ending from your rich and endless store:

Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door.

Gifted by you we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;

Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through pow'rs your grace conferred;

Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.

Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,

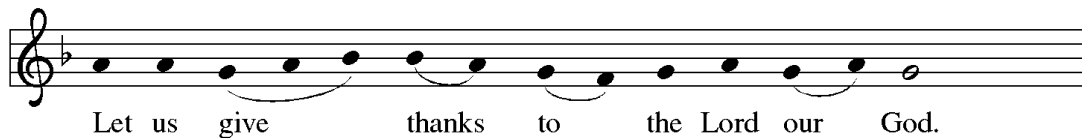
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Risen One,

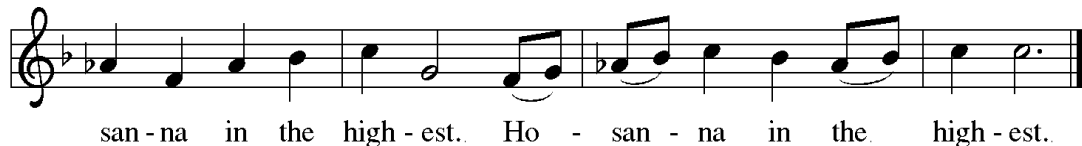
**C you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



♪ *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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Creator, source of life, God of eunuchs and evangelists, vintners and gardeners, by your promise you join us to Jesus, the True Vine, and with hands both strong and tender prune and shape us that we might bear the fruit of his self-giving love. We remember how, in the night of his betrayal, our Lord took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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.**

**P** With this bread and cup we member his life laid down and lifted up  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**C** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

**P** Abide in us at this Table; send your Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make of us a fertile vineyard, producing a harvest of community and inclusion for all,  
through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER *(ecumenical)*

**P** With resurrection joy we are bold to pray:

**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** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's 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 the 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



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

*Taste and See*

**ELW #493**

*Refrain - All*

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

*Leader or All*

1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall

al-ways be on my lips; my soul shall glo-ry in the

Lord; for God has been so good to me. *Refrain*

2 Glo-ri - fy the Lord with me. To - geth - er let us

all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who an - swered

me; from all my trou-les I was set free. *Refrain*

3 Wor-ship the Lord, all you peo-ple. You'll want for  
noth-ing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is  
good; in God we need put all our trust. *Refrain*

**What Feast of Love**

**ELW #487**

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?  
3 What wine of love is of-fered here, what crim-son drink 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?  
What stream of ev-er-last-ing life, what pre-cious blood 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.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine of 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!  
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv-en!

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C** Amen.

**BLESSING**

**P** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

**C** Amen.

# + SENDING +

## SENDING HYMN

### *There in God's Garden*

ELW #342

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"  
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.  
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
 see there the ten - drills of our hu - man  
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,  
 this my resurrection;  
 into your hands, Lord,  
 I commit my spirit.  
 This have I searched for;  
 now I can possess it.  
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,  
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion  
 offers in mercy  
 healing, strength, and pardon.  
 Peoples and nations,  
 take it, take it freely!"  
 Amen! My Master!

## DISMISSAL

- A Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
A Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.  
C **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE



## CONTACT INFORMATION

8316 39 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Seattle, WA 98136	206-935-1962
Pastor Erik Kindem's mobile phone number:	206-930-3172
Pastor Erik Kindem's email:	Pastor@PeaceLutheranSeattle.org
Peace Lutheran web page:	www.PeaceLutheranSeattle.org
Kathleen Keyes Office Admin.	Office@PeaceLutheranSeattle.org
Church Office hours:	Tuesday through Thursday 10:00am-3:00pm
Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director	206-427-6496
Jon Lackey, Minister of Music	Music@PeaceLutheranSeattle.org
Find us on <a href="#">facebook</a> at <b>People of Peace Lutheran</b>	

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music	Jon Lackey
Liturgical Assistant	Paul Bliss
Acolyte	Mateo Leon-Stephens
Lector	Scott Sunde
Children's Sermon	Nicole Klinemeier
Greeters	Marcia Olson, Shannon Williams
Ushers	Alan Jarvimaki, Barbara Hillier
Altar Care	Boots Winterstein
Communion Assistants	Sonja & Juliana Outlaw
Coffee Server	Heidi & Ruth Eilers
Production Techs	Joey DiJulio, Alex Wren
Counters	Kathleen Keyes, Joey DiJulio
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy

## OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

*At the Congregational Meeting on February 4, we embraced a plan for funding our mission in 2024. That plans anticipates offering income averaging \$26,477 monthly. Thank you for your gifts which support God's mission at Peace, in the larger community, and internationally through the ELCA!*

### **Offering Income received April 2024**

04/07/24	\$ 2,990.00
04/14/24	\$ 1,126.00
04/21/24	\$ 1,488.00
<u>Electronic</u>	<u>\$11,563.53</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,167.53</b>

## SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING MAY 5th

**A special congregation meeting has been called by the Church Council for Sunday, May 5th** to discuss and approve recommendations for fixing our HVAC Heating System. A quorum of 45 voting members is required to act on the proposal. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend so that we can move forward on a solution. More details will be forth coming regarding the proposed fix and options for funding it. After “making do” for three months with a temporary solution, we’re all eager to see a permanent fix implemented! Please plan to join us in making this step on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

## QUILT BLESSING SUNDAY TODAY

The quilts that bedeck our sanctuary today are the fruit of the *Peace Piecers ministry*. These quilts, adult and baby size, will be given to Lutheran World Relief and Westside Baby. Lutheran World Relief distributes thousands of quilts each year, made in the U.S., to countries that need help for their people. Westside Baby, here in West Seattle, gives hundreds of layettes to poor women each year, all of which include a blanket or quilt. We are grateful for all the volunteers—from within and beyond our congregation—who give their time and energy to this ministry. They are: Carrol Anderson, Betty Beller, Sharon Clark, Colleen Cooke, Marty Dedrickson, Jacquelyn Nash, and Barbara Hillier. We thank God for you!

## THIS WEEK’S ACT FOR CREATION

**What’s next?** Perhaps you’ve already switched to reusable water bottles, stainless drinking straws, canvas grocery totes, natural-fiber clothing, and compostable trash bags. What’s next? This week, take a look around your home and identify an item made from or packaged in plastic. Then, see if you can find an alternative: Dental floss? How about a spool made of bamboo? Phone case? There are plant-based options! Try searching for “plastic-free,” “plant-based,” “zero-waste,” or “biodegradable” items; it’s amazing (and encouraging!) to find sustainable, creation-friendly choices. Try to replace a different single-use plastic item each month or each week!

**Pray for Creation:** We pray that springtime sowing and planting are acts of healing for the land and for all our kin in creation.

## REVISIONING AT PEACE SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

### **Please Sign Up!**

The Re:Visioning Team would love to invite you into a conversation with your fellow community members at Peace Lutheran Church! We are hoping to create a vision and plan for what the next 10+ years will look like for our congregation. Your thoughts and ideas are welcome, encouraged, and needed! Please choose a date and time that will work for your household...we are expecting these meetings to last about 60-75 minutes. A huge thank you to the wonderful folks who are willing to host!

Please note: We have added another meeting after church at Peace 4/28 which will have childcare available in the nursery. **Sign up online or on the hard copy in the narthex.**

Sign Up Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4EAAAAA2EA5FC1-48238442-revisioning>.



## BLOOD DRIVE AT PEACE FRIDAY MAY 3rd

**Bloodworks Northwest** will be hosting another blood drive on Friday, May 3 from 10 am to 4 pm. You must register with Bloodworks Northwest in order to donate.

<https://www.bloodworksnw.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/redirectgroup.html?s=437B>



## PRAYER LIST

**Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: Sick/Recovering:** Cay Bell; Laura Bermes; Jan Burt; Rick & Charlene Coulson; Marsha Davis; MaryAnne DeVry; Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; Joe Flint; Deena Fuller; Donna Heiland; Jerry Heiland; Verna Hernandez; Maria Iriarte; Mary Jacob; Jeff & Dolly; Ken Keyes; Nancy Krueger; Dee Levy; Evelyn Martinez; Pete McIntyre; Steve Metzler; Bill Morrell; Susan Munn; Eleanor Ness; Penelope Grace; Michelle Pierce; Jill Remsey; Joey Roberts; Rosemary; JoAnne Spangler; Pat Spangler; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Karin & Wade VanSant; Pam Webber; Roger Wingfield; Patti Wunder; Inta Zagars; Audrey Zemke.

**Homebound:** Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Marjorie Johnson; Jan Madsen

**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.*



## PERMISSIONS

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