

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars...

December 1, 2024

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

Welcome to Peace! We pray you experience God's presence as you join us in worship.

As the sun's light wanes and nights grow longer, Advent begins. The color of this season is deep blue—the color of the night just before dawn, and the growing circle of candles on the Advent wreath are signals to us that “in the deep midwinter” darkness and light will once again perform their sacred exchange. From the beginning darkness and light have both been part of God's plan for creation. This year we are exploring the gifts that darkness brings as we seek to move beyond a paradigm that declares all things “dark” to be bad or inferior and all things “light” to be good and superior.



There are times during the service when you'll be invited to “rise in body or spirit.”

You have full permission to care for yourself and your physical well-being, so if getting up and down is difficult, we encourage you to do whatever you need to do to care for yourself, including remaining seated.

Parents, know that if your young ones need to move around, we're cool with that!

We celebrate Christ's presence in the Sacrament of the Table. 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.

✚ GATHERING ✚

P – *Presider* C – *Congregation* L – *Lector* A – *Assisting Minister*
ELW – *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ACS – *All Creation Sings*

PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

Johann Walther

WELCOME

LITANY FOR ADVENT *Please rise in body or spirit as worship begins.*
Today's Captivities

Brian Wren

- P Christ our Savior, save us from today's captivities.
From the need to have more; and from having our identity and self-worth defined by what we possess.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**
- A From the need to be satisfied without waiting;
and from anxiety when material longings are deferred.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**
- P From paralysis and confusion, in the face of so many needs, so much information.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**
- A From hyperactivism that denies our limitations,
and from apathy that denies our God-given powers.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**
- P From trying to replace you as Savior, by taking the world on our shoulders.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**
- A From ignorance or denial of what drives us;
and from captivity to personal drives and needs.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**
- P From embarrassment in speaking about your love; from not knowing what to say;
And from the shame of being misunderstood, scorned, or ignored.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**
- A From captivity to anger, bitterness, and disappointment;
and from captivities we cannot speak about, or name.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.**

GATHERING HYMN *Each Winter As the Year Grows Older* ELW #252 verses 1-3



- 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!

GREETING

P The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
 the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds,
 and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

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.

Continued on next page →



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare a pathway for your Christ. By his coming speak peace to your people and turn our hearts toward you, that your saving grace and splendid glory may dwell in all the earth; through Jesus Christ, whose day draws near.

C **Amen.**

ADVENT SONG *Please be seated.*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verses 1 & 2

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Sonja & Juliana Outlaw

The candles on the Advent wreath are lit progressively as we prepare to welcome Christ.

L What are these candles for? *This is an Advent candle ring. It shows the circle of God's unbroken love. There are five candles. We will light a new candle each Sunday from now until Christmas.*

Why are we doing this? Because the old proverb is true: What I hear, I forget. What I see, I remember. What I do, I understand.

C **As we light our Advent candles, may they bring us together in the warm light of God's love.**

L The Gospel of Luke speaks about the future:

"There will be signs in the sun the moon, and the stars, and on the earth, distress among nations. People will faint from fear and foreboding."

Because our world is full of fear and distress, we light our first candle, trusting that Christ is alive on earth and that the Spirit of Christ lives among us.

The first candle is lit.

L Let us pray. Living Christ, give us faith to trust you, hope to follow you, love to live for you, and wisdom to know you.

C **We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.**

READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

In the Hebrew Scriptures, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The Lord is our righteousness”—proclaims that even now during captivity the Lord is working to bring safety and wholeness to God’s exiled people.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

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: Creator God, you brooded o’er the waters, Sonja Outlaw
 made both the night and day to serve your world
 Reveal your heart through light and dark and shadow. *Refrain*
 O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits,
 Our thirsty hearts are yearning for your Word,
 Come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts. *Refrain*

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st Chapter.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Julie Ward

SERMON

Pastor Erik Kindem

HYMN OF THE DAY

In a Deep Unbounded Darkness

ACS #1093



1 In a deep, un - bound - ed dark - ness, long be - fore the
2 Though our world is ev - er - chang - ing, you are con - stant,
3 Joy trans - forms our lips to boast - ing on - ly in your
4 God of Ha - gar, God of Sa - rah, God of no - mad



first light shone, you, O God, be - yond all mer - it
firm, and sure, faith - ful to your cov - 'nant prom - ise.
match - less grace, send - ing Christ to dwell a - mong us,
A - bra - ham; God of Mir - iam, God of Mo - ses,



worked a won - der faith makes known: in your mer - cy,
Trust - ing you, we live, se - cure: sing - ing prais - es,
Word made flesh in time and space: Friend and Sav - ior,
Fi - 'ry Pil - lar, great I AM: lead us home - ward,

in your mer - cy, you em - braced us
sing - ing prais - es, long as heart and
Friend and Sav - ior, in whose life we
lead us home - ward, to the love - feast

as your own,
breath en - dure, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
glimpse your face,
of the Lamb,

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *From the Iona Community*

- P With the whole church,
C We affirm that we are made in God’s image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.
P With people everywhere,
C We affirm God’s goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.
P With all creation,
C We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God’s presence.

Petitions are offered that end with:

- A Lord, in your mercy,
C receive our prayer.

When all petitions have been offered:

P Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

+ MEAL +

THE PEACE

- P The peace of the 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

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

emp - ty ves - sels. Oh, come to us and
 free - ly giv - en. Your pow'r will make the

give us life from springs where liv - ing wa - ters flow.
 weak - est strong and bar - ren branch - es start to bud.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Creator God,
C you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: May God be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to God.

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

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P Truly it is right and joyous to offer thanks and praise to our gracious God in all places and in all circumstances of life, but especially so on this day as we anticipate the coming of our Savior, the light which can never be extinguished. And so with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with all the saints and angels in heaven and on earth, we raise our voices with this never-ending hymn of praise!

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Page 190



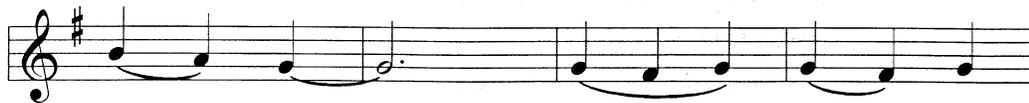
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. _____



God of po - wer and might. _____



Hea - ven and earth _____ are filled _____ with your



glo - ry. _____ Ho _____ san _____ na



in _____ the high - est. Bless - ed is _____ the



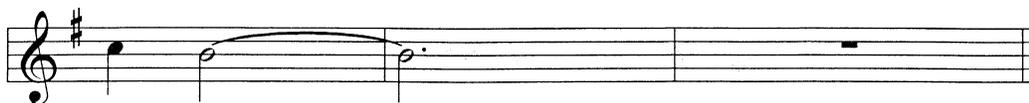
one who comes in your name. _____ Ho -



san _____ na in _____ the high _____ est. _____ Ho -



san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na _____ in the



high - est. _____

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P Gracious God of life and light our hearts are full of gratitude...
...in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread... took the cup...
poured out for you for the forgiveness of sin, Do this for the remembrance of me.
- C **We remember, O God, and with this bread and cup we feast at your table
in joyful anticipation of that day when all creation will find its home in you.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(traditional)*

- P Trusting in the One who made his home with us, we pray the prayer of Jesus:
- C **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to 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.

CALL US HOME

God, Cre - a - tor, call us home. God, Christ
Je - sus, call us home. God, Ho - ly Spi - rit, call us
home. God, we're long - ing to come home. home.

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with
mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,
bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P God of endings and beginnings, God I the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever.

C Amen.

+ SENDING +**SENDING HYMN**

Each Winter as the Year Grows Older

ELW #252, verses 4-5

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
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -
kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.
new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE



CONTACT INFORMATION

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206-930-3172

Pastor Erik Kindem's e-mail

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Peace Lutheran web page:

www.peacelutheranseattle.org

Kathleen Keyes Office Admin.

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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  at **People of Peace Lutheran**

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music	Jon Lackey
Liturgical Assistant	Heidi Eilers
Acolyte	Ben Ward
Advent Readers	Sonja and Juliana Outlaw
Lector	Julie Ward
Cantor	Sonja Outlaw
Children's Message	Julie Ward
Greeters	Ruth Eilers, Corinne Otakie
Ushers	Kristin Gimelli Hemme, Barbara Hillier
Altar Care	Will & Ben Ward
Communion Assistants	Will Ward, Sarah Bliss
Coffee Server	Jean Sides
Counters	Jim Lukens, Kristin Gimelli Hemme
Production Techs	Alex Wren, Paul Bliss
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

*Thank you for your gifts which support God's mission at Peace, in the Northwest region,
and internationally through the ELCA!*

Offering Income received in November 2024

11/03/24	\$ 2,390.00
11/10/24	\$ 3,315.10
11/17/24	\$ 6,620.00
11/24/24	\$ 3,030.00
<u>Electronic</u>	<u>\$12,927.97</u>
Total	\$28,283.07

THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

Shopping for a Christmas tree? The EPA suggests buying 1) a living tree you can plant outside or keep as a houseplant after the holidays, 2) a tree grown locally to save energy associated with transportation, and 3) a smaller tree. Smaller trees grow for shorter amounts of time and consequently require less land to grow. Plus, there's less to dispose of when you take it down. And remember Seattle picks up your trees curbside. There's never a need to toss it in a landfill.

Pray for Creation: We pray that God would turn us away from hopelessness over climate-related crises and turn us toward partnerships with all creation as we work together for restoration of land, sea, and air.

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD FOR OUR NEIGHBORS TODAY

Thank you for your food gifts for our neighbors in need. Please bring them forward to the front pews.

REVISION TASK FORCE UPDATE

We are excited to share progress on our journey so far toward envisioning the future of our congregation. With the Assess and Analyze phases completed, we are seeking your participation on the next phases: *Ideate and Refine*. Before or after worship this Sunday, 12/1, please find the exercise we began last week at the 80th Anniversary Celebration. You can read over the information we have collected and add your ideas to sticky notes at each 'Arena of Ministry'. YOUR feedback matters.

WEDNESDAY EVENING GATHERINGS IN ADVENT

Join us at the Winterstein home on December 4, 11, and 18. Come @ 6pm for soup and @ 7 pm for a brief service of evening prayer. The liturgy for these evenings is drawn from diverse sources, including Celtic prayer traditions that originate in the Northumbrian Community of northeast England, and the hymnal *All Creation Sings* hymnal. Readings from the Hebrew Scriptures, complementary readings from contemporary authors, and shared reflection time help us explore the theme. All this, grounded in a time of prayer and the pithy poetry of new hymns and psalm setting. Come and join.

DECEMBER 8: A PREVIEW AT HOW WE FUND 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 2025. This year, that opportunity is scheduled for Sunday, December 8th following Worship. This meeting will be in-person only.

PASS THE HAT DECEMBER 15: PATHS TO UNDERSTANDING

Paths to Understanding will be a new Pass the Hat recipient for Peace. It is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization based in Washington State. The organization, led by ELCA Pastor Terry Kyllö, is bringing together people from diverse faith traditions to create community across lines that often divide – Christian, Muslim, Jew, Indigenous. Pastor Terry is will be a guest at the adult forum and will serve as guest preacher. He will also be telling us more about his organization and current initiatives.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: **Sick/Recovering:** Rich Albers; Carrol Andersen; Bailey Byam; Deric Bevier; Jan Burt; Ixchela Castaneda; Jeff & Dolly Chale; Mike & Marsha Davis; MaryAnne DeVry; Joe DiJulio, Sr.; Joe Flint; Bob Gaines; Gussie Gannon; Ann Gault; Caity Gerhardt; Jerry Heiland; Verna Hernandez; Maria Iriarte; Sandy Kaduce; Ken Keyes; Peter Dion Kindem; Kyle Madsen; Evelyn Martinez; Pete & Kelly McIntyre; August Menstell Coyle; Steve Metzler; Bill Morrell; Janet Peek; Michelle Pierce; Joey Roberts; Aaden Smith; Don Spangler; Pat Spangler; Nancy Spannaus; Dave Stansbury; Sean Stephens; Kaity Streit; Sarah Taylor; Michele Tomseth; Megan Kindem Webber; Pam Webber; Roger Wingfield.

Homebound: Connie Benjamin; Lu Kramer; Marjorie Johnson; Jan Madsen; Inta Zagars

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.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral homeland of the DUWAMISH PEOPLE. We recognize the DUWAMISH and other SALISH PEOPLES, the FIRST STEWARDS of this land, who have called this region home—and continue to call it home—from time immemorial. We join with them and with all people who see the Earth, its creatures, watersheds, and habitats, as part of an integral whole reflecting our Creator's intention for wholeness and balance.

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Kyrie, The Great Thanksgiving, Sanctus, Call us Home from *Call Us Home*. Text: Susan Granata. Music: Bob Leon Used by permission.

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