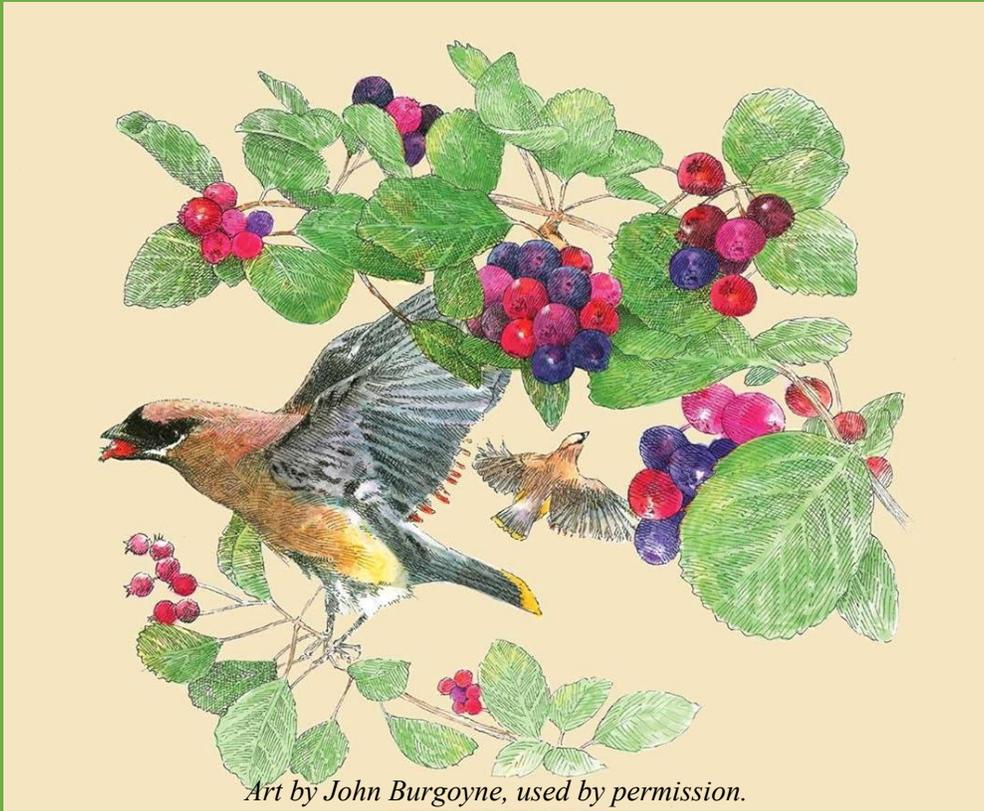


SEASON OF CREATION

All Flourishing is Mutual



Art by John Burgoyne, used by permission.

Week 1: Nature's Gift Economy

June 15, 2025

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

*Our themes and liturgy during this year's Season of Creation are inspired by
Indigenous author Robin Wall Kimmerer's book:
The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*

"Gratitude and reciprocity are the currency of a gift economy, and they have the remarkable property of multiplying with every exchange, their energy concentrating as they pass from hand to hand, a truly renewable resource."

*Over these three weeks we'll explore three themes inspired by Robin's book:
Nature's Gift Economy
The Myth of Scarcity
Abundant Endowment*

✦ GATHERING ✦

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

PRELUDE

The Ash Grove

Piano and Violin

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *The Singing Bowl calls us into worship as water is poured into the font.
Please rise in body or spirit.*

INVOCATION

P At every moment you draw this world to your embrace, O God of all creation, sharing Earth's abundance with all that you have made. Throughout every watershed and habitat, among the varied voices of every living being the chorus rings out:

C *All flourishing is mutual!*

P Open the eyes of our hearts that beholding this truth we will make it our own.

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Mother Earth Our Mother Birthing* TUNE: PRAISE, MY SOUL
Carriers bring forth emblems of Earth's "gift economy" and lay them before the Table of the Lord.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Mother Earth, our mother birthing
ev'ry creature from the ground.
Jesus too was flesh and breathing,
kin to all that's green and brown.
Celebrate with all creation:
God has joined the web of life. | 3. Brother Water, brother pulsing
deep through ev'ry vein and sea,
Jesus drank the very raindrops
for our wine and in our tea.
Celebrate with all creation:
God has joined the web of life. |
| 2. Sister Air, our sister lifting
ev'ry creature born with wings;
Jesus shared the breath of forests,
breath that makes our spirits sing.
Celebrate with all creation:
God has joined the web of life. | 4. Father Fire, our father burning
with the sacred urge to live.
Jesus' death completes the cycle,
bringing life beyond the grave.
Celebrate with all creation:
God has joined the web of life. |

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The grace, beauty, and abundance of the Creator be with you.

C *And also with you.*

P Let us pray. Great Mother, benevolent Creator, you have midwived a world in which all life can flourish. Through evolutionary design and reciprocal care everything that makes human life possible is provided to us through the lives of more-than-human beings. Awaken us to this truth, that we might cultivate a culture of gratitude, and live with care and intention for our planet home. In the name of the Incarnate One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C *Amen.*

Please be seated.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Our confession is framed by words taken from Laudato Si', the circular letter Pope Francis shared with the world in 2015. In this 10th Anniversary year, in the wake of his death, we return to it once more, affirming the invitation to commit ourselves to the renewed care of our common home.

P In his beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her.

C **We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life.**

P The Earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she “groans in travail.”

C **We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth; that our very bodies are made up of her elements: we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters. Forgive our forgetfulness, O God, and give us the will to treat our sister with respect, care, and gratitude, and to accept her boundaries as our own.**

HYMN OF CONFESSION

Holy One, In You Alone

Ray Makeever



We do not call this world our own, yet we will make this earth our



home; Ho - ly One, in you a - lone.



1 We do not claim this liv - ing word
 2 We do not claim this love of ours
 3 We do not claim these seeds we sow
 4 We do not claim our prayers for change



that we have heard is ours a - lone to give:
 can tame the pow'rs that lead our world to sin:
 will sprout and grow from our own hope - ful hands:
 can re - ar - range this world by our own will:



We on - ly know we have a
 We on - ly know we walk the
 We on - ly know we are the
 We on - ly know the ris - en

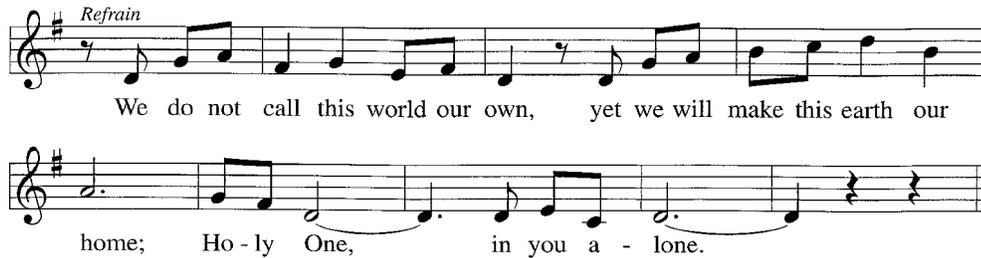


heart in which it lives.
 road where Christ has been.
 ground on which it lands.
 Christ is with us still.

ASSURANCE

P Siblings in Christ, the Holy One has heard our confession and offers us a way forward. The ripples of Divine grace touch every pain and reach every shore, transforming our fear into faith and our complacency into action. Because the risen Christ is with us still, we can begin anew to love Earth as our home.

C **Creator, lead us to love Earth as our home. Restore us to our calling as partners and tenders of all that you have made. Lord, teach us to care! Amen.**



+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Proverbs 8:22-31 (*paraphrased*)

Heidi Gray

In this reading from Proverbs, Wisdom (Sofia) is spoken of as the Creator's companion from the beginning.

The Lord created me at the very beginning, the first of God's acts of long ago.

 Ages ago I was set up, before the beginning of the earth.

When there were no depths, when there were no springs abounding with water,
 I was brought forth.

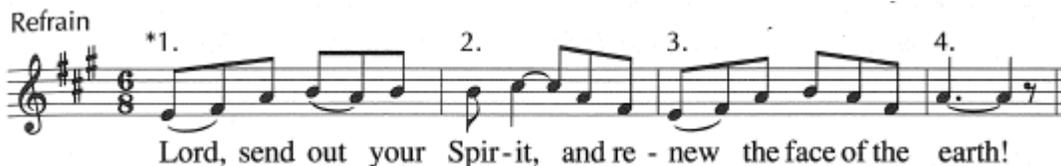
Before the mountains and hills had been shaped, when God had not yet made earth and fields,
 or the world's first bits of soil, I was brought forth.

When God established the heavens, I was there,
 when God drew a circle on the face of the deep, and made firm the skies above
when God established the fountains of the deep,
 and assigned to the sea its limit, I was there.

I was beside God, like a little child, and I was daily God's delight;
 rejoicing before God always, rejoicing in God's inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

L Holy wisdom. Holy word. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 104:1-13 *Congregation sings the refrain after each spoken verse.*



¹Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great.

 You are clothed with honor and majesty, ²wrapped in light as with a garment.

You stretch out the heavens like a tent, ³you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,
 you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind,

⁴you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers. **Refrain**

⁵You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken.

⁶You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

⁷At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.

⁸They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys to the place that you appointed for them.

⁹You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. **Refrain**

¹⁰You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills,

¹¹giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst.

¹²By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

¹³From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work. **Refrain**

SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7-11 *The Inclusive Bible*

God, the source of all good gifts, has designed the world so that everyone and everything can have what they need and there is more than enough to share.

⁷You must give according to what you have inwardly decided—not sadly, not reluctantly, for God loves a giver who gives cheerfully. ⁸There are no limits to the grace of God, who will make sure you will always have enough of everything and even a surplus for good works, ⁹as scripture says:

“God scattered abroad and gave to poor people; God’s justice endures forever.”

¹⁰The One who provides seed for the planter and bread for food will also supply and enlarge your store of seed and increase your harvest of justice. ¹¹You will be made rich in every way for your generosity, for which we give thanks to God.

L Holy wisdom. Holy word. C **Thanks be to God.**

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

ELW #171

He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.

P The Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 12:22-31 *The Inclusive Bible translation*

To teach his followers how to trust in God’s providing, Jesus points to the ravens and flowers.

²²[Jesus] said to the disciples, “That’s why I tell you, don’t worry about your life and what you are to eat. Don’t worry about your body and what you are to wear. ²³For life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. ²⁴Take a lesson from the ravens. They don’t sow or reap. They have neither a food cellar nor a barn, yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable are you than birds? ²⁵Can any of you, for all your worrying, add a single hour to your life?

²⁶If even the smallest things are beyond your control, why worry about all the rest?

²⁷“Notice how the flowers grow. They neither labor nor weave, yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was robed like one of these! ²⁸If that is how God clothes the grass in the field—which is here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow—how much more will God look after you! You have so little faith!

²⁹“As for you, don’t set your hearts on what you’ll eat or what you’ll drink. Stop worrying!
³⁰All the nations of the world seek these things, yet your Abba God well knows what you need.

³¹Set your sights on the kin-dom of God, and all those other things will be given to you as well.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Erik

MESSAGE

Nature’s Gift Economy

Pastor Erik Kindem

HYMN OF THE DAY

Infinite Beauty

Susan Palo Cherwien

TUNE: SHADES MOUNTAIN

1 Infinite Beauty, Love that moves the heavens,
Maker of all things, present in creation,
from the beginning, all your works reveal you,
Stirring to wonder.

3 Sacred all creatures, marvelous companions,
elders and teachers, all of our relations,
rocks tell Earth's story, plants reveal Earth's
wisdom, Living in wonder.

2 Holy this garden, worthy of protection,
blue pearl in deep space, due our true affection,
dwelling and parent, elegant in balance,
Growing in wonder.

4 Blesséd our bodies, kindred gift of starlight:
eyes to see beauty, ears to hear the heart sigh,
hands to give healing, hearts to bind together,
Breathing in wonder.

5 Infinite Beauty, Love that moves the heavens,
may our minds wisen, may our hearts awaken,
that we join all things, one and interwoven,
Singing in wonder.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 Nature, 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 the 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.

We know this. And it is true.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Paul Bliss

A Drawn into God's sacred embrace, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of all creatures and all creation.

Petitions are offered that end with:

A Creator of all,

C teach us to care.

When all petitions have been offered:

P Jesus, Incarnate one, teach us to be at one with Earth.

C Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation, cries from all our kin. Christ, teach us to care. Amen.

+ MEAL +

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you. *Share a gesture of peace with your 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 [Tithe Giving Page](#) via this QR CODE. Whatever size, your gift makes a difference—thank you for your support!



OFFERTORY

The Ash Grove, Variation 1

Piano and Violin

OFFERING HYMN

God of the Sparrow

ELW #740, vs. 1-3

1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the swirl - ing
2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the trum - pet
3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the emp - ty

stars How does the crea - ture say Awe
blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe
grave 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

A Great Giver,

C You shower the world with abundance, providing all that is needed for life to thrive. Make us conduits of generosity and joy as we share from your abundant provision. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Creator is with you.

C And also with you.

P Open your hearts!

C We open them to our Creator!

P Let us give thanks to the maker of heaven and earth.

C It is right to join with every creature in praising God.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, to give you thanks, generous and loving God. You chose to be born a human being, to become a part of Earth, to suffer, die and to be raised from death to redeem humankind, to renew creation, and to reconcile all born of Earth and the Spirit.

C Your presence is the living impulse in all things, the Christ deep among us, filling every element and place; filling the grain and the grape we share with you this day.

P Therefore with angels and archangels, saints and sinners, ancient voices in the forest, high voices from the sky, deep voices from the sea, and the whole company of creation, we proclaim your presence among us.

C Holy, holy, holy! God of all life!

Earth and sea and sky are full of your presence and glorify your name.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

Beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C We praise you, O God.

P You entered creation's story in Jesus our brother, embracing life and conquering death, that all creation might be restored.

C We thank you, O God.

P In the night in which he shared his final meal with his friends, 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.

+ SENDING +

THE CALL

P Christ calls us to live lives of gratitude—sharing, serving, and caring.
Will you care for creation? Will you share with gratitude?

C **We will care for creation!**
We will live with gratitude!
We will nurture our planet!
We will celebrate life!

SENDING HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

ELW #881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Care for creation.

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

The Ash Grove, Variation 3

Piano and Violin



CONTACT INFORMATION

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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	Paul Bliss
Piano	Janet Cruse
Violin	Jim Hunt
Acolyte	Wyatt Gray
Lector	Heidi Gray
Children's Sermon	Pastor Erik
Greeters	Shannon Williams, Marcia Olson
Ushers	Larry Cruse, Audrey Zemke
Altar Care	Karl Coy
Communion Assistants	Karl Coy, Kathleen Keyes
Coffee Server	Creation Care Team
Production Techs	Alan Jarvimaki, Alex Wren
Counters	Kathleen Keyes, Alan Jarvimaki
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Offering Income received June 2025

06/01/25 \$ 1,825.00

06/08/25 \$ 1,772.00

Electronic \$ 5,248.37

Total \$ **8,845.37**

SOURCES FOR TODAY'S LITURGY

Today's liturgy was created by Pastor Erik Kindem and the Peace Worship Team, with elements drawn from a variety of sources. The overall inspiration comes from, *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Other sources include: *Laudato Si'*, the

circular letter by Pope Francis; Norman Habel, creed and hymnody; and Eucharistic prayer, edited, from *All Creation Sings* and *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. See permissions below for specific information.

THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

It's Pollinator Week! What an ideal start to a Season of Creation inspired by *The Serviceberry*. The tree provides essential pollen and nectar in early spring; berries sustain dozens of bird species in the fall. Lovely year-round, it's a prized addition to any native plants garden and Peace has four of them along 39th Ave. Go visit them! Then join us on the patio to learn about housing native mason bees.

Pray for Creation: We pray for the health of the bees who provide food and medicine, pollinate plants, and contribute to the biodiversity that sustains life.

SEASON OF CREATION: JUNE 15 – 22 – 29

Our themes and liturgy for this year's Season of Creation are inspired by Robin Wall Kimmerer's book: *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*. Following is a preview.

Our Week One theme: Nature's Gift Economy. *"Gratitude and reciprocity are the currency of a gift economy, and they have the remarkable property of multiplying with every exchange, their energy concentrating as they pass from hand to hand, a truly renewable resource."*

Our Week Two theme: The Myth of Scarcity. *"One of the assumptions of modern economic theory is that we will each behave...as greedy, isolated individuals acting purely in self-interest...But each of us knows that exceptions to this behavior far outnumber the predicted stereotype."*

Our Week Three theme: Abundant Endowment. *"Materials move through ecosystems in a circular economy and are constantly transformed. Abundance is created by recycling, by reciprocity. Abundance is fueled by constantly circulating materials, not wasting them."*

NATIVE MASON BEES TALK TODAY

As we kick off our *Season of Creation* today, we also enter Pollinator Week, a celebration of the vital role that pollinators play in our ecosystems, economies, and agriculture. We're putting a spotlight on our indigenous Mason Bees, super-effective pollinators drawn to native plantings like our Serviceberry trees. Come to the westside patio after the service to grab a coffee hour treat and to learn about Michael Truog's experience providing housing for these gentle native bees.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS: LONGFELLOW CREEK JUNE 28

Join Trees for Seattle and Dirt Corps on Saturday, June 28 10am – 1pm for the third tree care skill share and volunteer work party at Longfellow Creek! You will learn how to properly apply mulch and water trees to keep them cool and hydrated during the hot dry season (summer!).

You'll then practice these skills while caring for the adult trees in this special riparian forest. Come learn and care for this neighborhood greenspace with us! Here is the registration page: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/huGQj2wJGV> Have questions? Please reach out to Dirt Corps at community@thedirtcorps.com. Thanks!



DAVID WOLD WAS ORDAINED 65 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

The 65th anniversary of David Wold's ordination is 6/19.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR REDESIGN OF PEACE WEBSITE

We are kicking off a redesign of the Peace website and are looking for volunteers to join a small working group to guide the process and submit recommendations to the church council. Meeting frequency and format is to be determined. Experience with web development is a plus but not required. There will be many non-technical ways to help as well. If you are interested in joining the working group please email Matthew at matt@toso.org. Keep an eye out for a survey coming later that will be collecting website feedback from the congregation.

SEATTLE PRIDE PARADE SUNDAY, JUNE 29

We are proud to be a Reconciling in Christ congregation within a Reconciling in Christ synod - with many opportunities for you and your church family to join in and celebrate PRIDE this season!

The NW Washington Synod will be marching in the Seattle PRIDE Parade on Sunday, June 29th. To register to walk in the Seattle Parade, **email Jill** (jillbossen@gmail.com) with the 1) name of your congregation, 2) your main contact/leader, 3) their email and cell phone, AND 4) the number of committed walkers by June 16. (Register ASAP as space is limited to 200 walkers - first come first served, we will keep a waitlist if we get full). Details about arrival time and location will be shared with the congregation leader when available.

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; Brittany Baker; Marlen Boivin; Deric Bevier; Mary Bocker; Jan Burt; Jeff & Dolly Chale; Jeffery Epley; Stephen Fuller; Barb G.; Michelle G.; Bob Gaines; Donna Heiland; Ellen Heritage; Maria Iriarte; Mary Jacob; Ken Keyes; Kari Kindem; Noah Kindem; Bree Kramer; Gordon Knight; John Lindsay; Jan Madsen; Don Maier; Evelyn Martinez; Steve Metzler; Jim Meyer; Kathy Peters; Melissa Peterson; Michelle Pierce; Kelly Renfro; Aaden Smith; Nancy Spannaus; Doug Sprague; Dave Stansbury; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Angela Walker; Pam Webber.

Homebound: Connie Benjamin; Lu Kramer; Marjorie Johnson; 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

Recent protests have pitted outside conservative groups against LGBTQIA+ community members and their Christian allies. As a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation we stand in solidarity with our LGBTQIA+ siblings. We oppose any ideology that suggests they are loved less by God, are predatory, or flawed than other human beings. Our AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME grounds us: *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 recognize that our congregation is strengthened by diversity, the embrace of equity, and our commitment to anti-racism. We welcome and celebrate the inclusion of those of any race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression into the life and mission of our congregation. We invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the meaning of grace for our lives.*



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.

PERMISSIONS

The Cover Art during this season is by [John Burgoyne](#) and is used with his permission. It is the same art that graces the cover of Robin Wall Kimmerer's *The Serviceberry*.

Affirmation of Faith from: *Seven Songs of Creation: Liturgies for Celebrating and Healing Earth* by Dr. Norman Habel, a Lutheran pastor, theologian, and architect of the Season of Creation.

The Ash Grove Music: Welsh folk tune, arr. Anne Krentz Organ © 2024 Anne Krentz Organ. Used by permission.

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