

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP



Shepherds © 2018 John August Swanson Trust JohnAugustSwanson.com

DECEMBER 24, 2025 9:00 PM

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

*Welcome to this celebration of Christ's birth!
Your presence here enriches our community.*



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

✝ SERVICE OF LIGHT ✝

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

PRELUDE

Tunes from the Christmas Repertoire

Leslie McMichael, Harp

WELCOME

LITANY OF LIGHT *Please rise in body or spirit.*

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

C **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

P For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C **In him is life, and this life was the light of all people.**

GATHERING HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW #283

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the king of angels:
Refrain: Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
2. The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God...in the highest: *Refrain*
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

GREETING

P Christ is born! Alleluia! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard On High

ELW #289

- 1 Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains,
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo!
- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo!

3 Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the new-born king,
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and Altender God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

Janet Cruse

This poem promising deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L The Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW #267

Isaac Watts based the lyrics for this hymn on his paraphrase of Psalm 98.

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive its King
Let every heart prepare him room
And heaven and nature sing...

- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
 Let all their songs employ
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy...
- 3 He rules the world with truth and grace!
 And makes the nations prove
 The glories of his righteousness
 And wonders of his love...

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

L The Word of the Lord C **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

One Star

Cheryl Jones Rogers

CHRIS KINDEM, FLUTE & JON LACKEY, PIANO

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL *From: Angels We Have Heard On High.*

Please rise in body or spirit to receive the gospel

♪ **Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!**

♪ **Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!**

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.

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

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.

² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city

of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

P The Gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (From *Angels We Have Heard On High*)

♪ **Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!**

♪ **Glo—ria, in excelsis Deo!**

SERMON

Pastor Erik Kindem

Time for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY

What Child Is This

ELW #296

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!
- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Larry Cruse

A Empowered by the news of Christ’s birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation,
and all who are in need.

Petitions are offered, ending with the response:

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

When all petitions have been offered:

P With the joy of Christ’s birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God,
trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

We greet one another with the peace of Emmanuel

OFFERING

Tonight's offering supports the ongoing mission of our congregation, including ministries in West Seattle, in Northwest Washington, and around the world through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We invite you to give generously! You may connect to our secure [Tithely Giving Page](#) via the QR CODE at right. Whatever the amount, your gift makes a difference.



OFFERTORY SOLO

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Arr. Fred Bock

JAMES JELASIC, PIANO

OFFERTORY VERSE

ELW #279

♪ **O Holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us our Lord Immanuel**

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of glory,

C **great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.**

Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through 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 up 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, compassionate & vulnerable God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh, you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with Mary who gave you birth, and with Joseph who nurtured your life; with the men who left their nets, and the children who clamored for blessing, with the women who met you, risen from the dead, with all creatures of Earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Tune: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*, ELW #270)

♪ **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of heav'n and earth adored.
O how blest is he who comes, in the holy name of God.
Joyful, all you nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*ecumenical*)

**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 God is now in flesh appearing.

Come to the feast of joy!

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.

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION:

ELW #278 *Away in a Manger*

ELW #300 *The First Noel*

ELW #282 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING *Please rise in body or spirit.*

**P The body and blood of the Incarnate Lord strengthen you
and keep you in his grace, unto life everlasting.**

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C Amen.

+ SENDING +

BLESSING

P The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,
+ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

C Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING HYMN

Night of Silence/Silent Night

ELW #281

The choir begins with two verses of "Night of Silence" as the candles are lit.

Then the congregation joins in singing "Silent Night."

As candles are lit, please tip the unlit candle toward the lit one.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin, mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace. | 2 Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born! |
| 3 Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth. | |

DISMISSAL

P Glory to God in the highest!

C **And peace to God's people on earth!**

P Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Leslie McMichael, Harp

You are invited to stay as long as you like and leave when you wish.

Please extinguish your candle prior to leaving your seat, and then either take it home with you or place it in one of the baskets in the narthex/lobby. Thank you — and Blessed Christmas!



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Church Office hours:
Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director
Jon Lackey, Minister of Music
Find us on [facebook](#) at **People of Peace Lutheran**

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music	Jon Lackey
Peace Ringers & Choir	
Guest Pianist	James Jelasic
Flute	Chris Kindem
Harp	Leslie McMichael
Liturgical Assistant	Larry Cruse
Acolyte	Kimberly Simmons
Lector	Janet Cruse
Greeter	Randy Hernandez
Ushers	Christopher & Lisa Simmons
Altar Care	Randy & Liz Hernandez
Communion Assistants	Randy & Liz Hernandez
Production Techs	Alex Wren, Kai Kindem

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: Sick/Recovering: Georgia Apodoca; Marlen Boivin; Deric Bevier; Jan Burt; Cindy Collie; Vonda Cuchine; Justin Dexter; Jeffrey Epley; Pio Escame; Stephen Fuller; Barb G.; Jon Gault; Nick Griffin; Donna Heiland; Cade Howard; Maria Iriarte; Mary Jacob; Mel Jacob; Peter Kalen; Ken Keyes; Kari Kindem; Gordon Knight; Jason Knudsen; Lu Kramer; John Lindsay; Evelyn Martinez; Carol Mikesell; Katrina Moore; Ginger Nehrbass; Kathy Peters; Melissa Peterson; Michelle Pierce; David Porch; Wes Price; Kelly Renfro; Sarah; Robert Shampain; Aaden Smith; Nancy Spannaus; Sarah Taylor; Benjamin Toso; Tracy and Ralph; Kristy W.; Angela Walker; Pam Webber; Megan Webber; Jeannette Whitworth; Willy; Paul Winterstein.

Homebound: Connie Benjamin; Joyce Bitner; Bob Gaines; 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.

WORSHIP DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Sunday, December 28 will be a service of lessons and carols with Eucharist, the Rev. Daniel Sorensen presiding. Janet Cruse will be at the keyboard.

Sunday, January 4th we celebrate the **Feast of Epiphany**. This first service of the New Year will begin in the Narthex with a blessing of the church as a “house of prayer for all people.”

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 4PM

The annual *Service of Remembrance* to remember, honor, and pray for those who have died on the streets or as a result of being homeless will take place at Gethsemane Lutheran Church (911 Stewart Street, Seattle) and via Livestream (<https://www.urbanfaith.org/service-of-remembrance>) We will gather for a time Contact Pr. Kristy Daniels at PastorKristy@compasshousingalliance.org or (206) 474-1007 for more information or to add names to the list.

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 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

On today's cover: *Shepherds* © 2018 John August Swanson Trust JohnAugustSwanson.com

The shepherds were the poorest of workers. An angel tells them to go to a small shed in the fields. There, they find a newborn baby and his parents, homeless refugees in the winter night. Swanson first painted the *Shepherds* in 1969, and revisited the painting in 2017, reimagining it, enhancing and reworking the image, with the experience and techniques he had developed. The artwork is an overflowing cornucopia of brightly colored patterns. The sky is lit with numerous dazzling stars and the central image is surrounded by a border of rainbow colors. The beautiful tradition of families making creches (or Nacimiento) with many figures and animals in miniature, to celebrate the holiday, inspired Swanson. Combining this powerful image with the words from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 1:27-28), gave the Christmas story a more socially relevant context, bringing it into our everyday lives.

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POINSETTIAS ARE GIVEN

To “The glory of God” Given by:

Paul, Sarah, Mia & Logan Bliss

Gussie Gannon

Paul & Boots Winterstein

Larry & Janet Cruse

The Smith Family

The Coy Family



In Memory of:

Jay Hauger, Deb Hauger

Roald & Shirley Kindem

Julie Ells & Tara Shae Webb

Joyce Wolff

Loved Ones

Leonid Zagars

Cal Seibel

Kathy Anderson

Oscar & Ester Nilson

Gertrude Manly

Kaitlyn Chale

Dorothy Dow

Eva Simmons

Connstance Westra

Florence Johnson

Regina Blakley

Donald Hillier

Irma & Ed Runge

Olga & Ben Jacob

Dave Hemme

Paul Hundley

Gloria Escobar & Collette Schick

Walter Kreuck

Claude & Nadine Thompson



Given By:

Nancy Hauger & Kindem Family

Kindem Family

Kindem & Hauger Families

Kindem Family

John & Kathleen Fueger

Inta Zagars

Jean Sides

Jean Sides

Karl & Fran Coy

Karl & Fran Coy

Karl & Fran Coy

Austin & Kimberly Simmons

Austin & Kimberly Simmons

Austin & Kimberly Simmons

Austin & Kimberly Simmons

Kathleen Keyes

Barbara Hillier & Family

Mary & Mel Jacob

Mary & Mel Jacob

Kristin & Juan Gimelli Hemme

Helen Hundley

Catey Escobar

Lisa & Michael Boeckh

Graham, Melanie & Brooks

