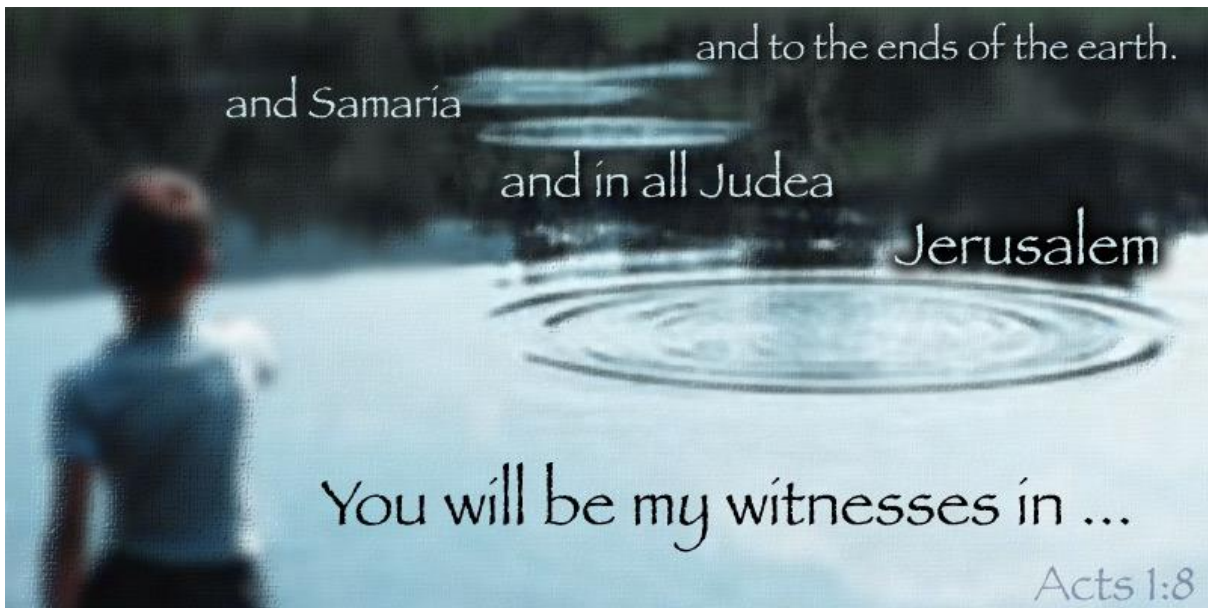


# LIVESTREAM WORSHIP



Ascension Sunday – May 16, 2021

*Peace Lutheran Church*



*West Seattle, Washington*

*In today's Ascension Day readings the risen Christ ascends to the heavens and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth.*

*The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast.*

*We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.*

## **PASS THE HAT PARTNER: COVID RELIEF FUND + LUTH. DISASTER RESPONSE**

*Today is Pass the Hat Sunday. We welcome Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee to tell us about the Synod Assembly offering split: between the [COVID-19 Relief Fund](#) and [Lutheran Disaster Response](#).*

*In early 2020 the COVID-19 Relief Fund was established in the NW Washington Synod to provide financial relief for congregations and ministries. This fund has continued to grow through individual and congregation donations as well as grants provided by the ELCA for COVID-19 Relief.*

*[Lutheran Disaster Response](#) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. One current focus is the unfolding COVID-19 disaster in India. (See more on the announcement page.)*

# + GATHERING +

## PRELUDE

*High King of Heaven/Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

James Jelasic  
Solo Piano

## WELCOME

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## GATHERING HYMN

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

ELW #392 vv. 1, 2

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us: faith be -  
vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"

## GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

# + WORD +

## FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

Nancy Hauger

*Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.*

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. ‘This’, he said, ‘is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’ <sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ <sup>7</sup>He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Erik

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*This Joyful Easter Tide*

ELW #391, verse 1

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has  
sprung to life this mor - - row.

*Refrain*

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our  
 faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -  
 ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th Chapter  
 C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 24 15:44-53**

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’ <sup>50</sup> Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

**SERMON**

Pastor Erik Kindem

# HYMN OF THE DAY

## *O Christ, What Can it Mean for Us*

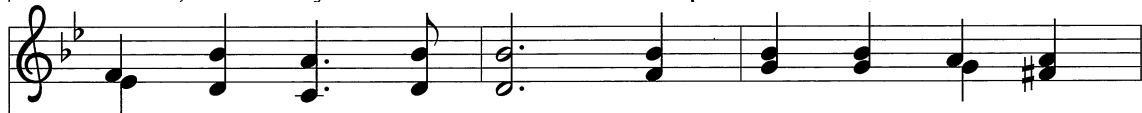
ELW #431



1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our  
2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -  
3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver  
4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -



king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose  
give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that  
all, you said the first must be the last and  
nown; you died for us up - on a cross with



praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to  
we might rise and live. To break the law of  
ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,  
thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the



glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you  
death you came, the law of love to bring: a  
church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for  
span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for



walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.  
dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous - ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Dustin Smith

A Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*Petitions are offered that end with:*

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

*When all petitions have been offered:*

A In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

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

**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.**

## THE PEACE

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** And also with you.

## PASS THE HAT

**COVID RELIEF/LDR**

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

## OFFERING

*Your gifts support the ongoing ministry of our congregation and ELCA ministries around the world. You can give an offering today by connecting to our secure [Tithely Giving Page](#). Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!*

## OFFERTORY

*We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord*

**ELW#690**



1 We raise our hands to you, O Lord, like  
2 What good and bless - ing you be - stow are  
3 Oh, make our bar - ren trees to grow, our



emp - ty ves - sels. Oh, come to us and  
free - ly giv - en. Your pow'r will make the  
hands to blos - som, and let our lives bring



give us life from springs where liv - ing wa - ters flow.  
weak - est strong and bar - ren branch - es start to bud.  
forth such fruit that heals our neigh - bor's grief and pain.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. God of love,  
**C** you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Christ.

The Sacred Trinity, Creator, + Redeemer, and Advocate, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## + SENDING +

### SENDING HYMN

*O Christ, Our Hope*

verses 1, 3, 5 ELW #604

1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's  
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den  
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som  
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us  
5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry

might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by  
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to  
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in  
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by  
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through

ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:  
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.  
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.  
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.  
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

### DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*This Is My Father's World*

Jon Lackey, Organ

## PERMISSIONS

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PASS THE HAT FOR MAY: SYNOD ASSEMBLY

**Today is Pass the Hat Sunday. We welcome Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee to tell us about the donations to the Synod Assembly this year.** The Synod Assembly is May 15, and the offering taken up will be split between the [COVID-19 Relief Fund](#) and [Lutheran Disaster Response](#). In early 2020 the COVID-19 Relief Fund was established in the NW Washington Synod to provide financial relief for congregations and ministries. This fund has continued to grow through individual and congregation donations as well as grants provided by the ELCA for COVID-19 Relief. [Lutheran Disaster Response](#) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, they stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

### PEACE SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY – May 30

Phoebe Sunde, soon to graduate from West Seattle High, will be presented the Peace Scholarship on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to tune in for the presentation!

### SEASON OF CREATION IN JUNE

**Our Season of Creation celebration will begin Sunday, June 6 and continue through Sunday, June 20.** [The River That Made Seattle](#), BJ Cummings' very new book is available for your reading in preparation for our June [Season of Creation](#). It is a fascinating story of the early days of Seattle, its indigenous people and relationships with newcomers from the east -- and how the Duwamish River gave life to us all. We expect to have a conversation with Ms. Cummings, and with Duwamish Tribal member James Rasmussen, as part of our "Season"—as well as input from the local Duwamish community. In addition, guest preacher Rev. John Rosenberg will be with us talking about WATERSHEDS from a geological/theological point of view.

### ECOTOUR OPPORTUNITY: SEE THE DUWAMISH RIVER SHORELINE

On Saturday, June 12, beginning at 1 pm, folks from Peace are invited to a walking tour along the west side of the Duwamish River. The tour will start at the Duwamish Longhouse, and our guide will be Andrew, who is a restoration ecologist. In addition to directing our attention to changes in the shoreline, Andrew will discuss the



cultural and political history of our area and its effects on the Duwamish people. The tour is appropriate for school-age children as well as the rest of us! More details and information about how to sign up will come in the June edition of *Peace Notes*.

## COVID SURGE IN INDIA

**Over the past two months, a surge of COVID-19 cases has spread across India.** On April 30, India reported over 400,000 new COVID-19 cases, the highest daily count in any country during the pandemic. Thousands of deaths are documented each day, yet the actual number is suspected to be much higher.

For the past year, [Lutheran Disaster Response](#) has supported companion churches and partners throughout India and around the world as they raise awareness about COVID-19, provide personal protective equipment and distribute sanitation supplies to vulnerable communities. Padhar Hospital, a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh, has a ward dedicated to COVID-19 patients. [Lutheran Disaster Response](#) is helping Padhar Hospital purchase an oxygen generator for its COVID-19 ward so it can treat more patients and not have to turn away people suffering with COVID-19. Please consider a gift today. Your gifts ensure that our church will be able to provide help and hope for those impacted by the COVID-19 crisis in India.

**Gifts designated for “[Asia-Pacific Disaster Response](#)” will be used entirely (100%) for direct response to COVID-19 in India and to other disasters in the region.**

## CHRISTIAN ED/FAITH FORMATION

**Our Christian Education/Faith Formation program continues through Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

### ADULT SUNDAY CLASS @ 8:45am

Our current conversation focuses on Isabel Wilkerson book, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. If you'd like to join the class via ZOOM, please let Pastor Erik know and he will send you an invitation on Sunday morning.

### ABC'S, THE BIBLE, AND YOU—Hey, kids, are you age 3 through 2nd grade

And do you like stories? Join Julie and Melanie on Zoom for a Bible story each week. You'll also get to do crafts and sing fun, silly songs, and see you friends. Sounds like a blast! Class will run from 9:45 to 10:15 or so.

**WHIRL KIDS calling all 2nd to 5th graders.** Chris will meet you on Zoom for Whirl videos, digging into the Bible, and talking about life together. Don't miss out! Class will run from 9:45 to 10:30.

**YOUTH ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:45.** So what did happen after the Resurrection? How did the church start? Where did the disciples go? We will be exploring these ideas Sunday mornings through Kahoot games.

## 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.*

## CONTRIBUTORS TO TODAY'S SERVICE

Presider: Pastor Erik P. Kindem, Preacher: Assisting Minister: Dustin Smith,  
Musicians: Minister of Music Jon Lackey, Accompanist James Jelastic  
Lector: Nancy Hauger  
Production Techs: Alex Wren, manager, Stuart Hunt  
Office Administrator: Kathleen Keyes

*To learn more about our congregation and its mission, contact us:*

[www.PeaceLutheranSeattle.org](http://www.PeaceLutheranSeattle.org)

### **Peace Lutheran Church**

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