

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night.

November 28, 2021

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

***Welcome to Peace – We’re glad you found us!
Your presence here enriches our community.***



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, Genesis tells us, darkness and light have both been part of God’s plan for creation. This year we’re exploring in a particular way 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. The hymns and psalm we use, along with our texts this year, help us to move off-script to unwrap what gifts night and darkness bring.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

Johann Walther

WELCOME

LITANY FOR ADVENT

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.



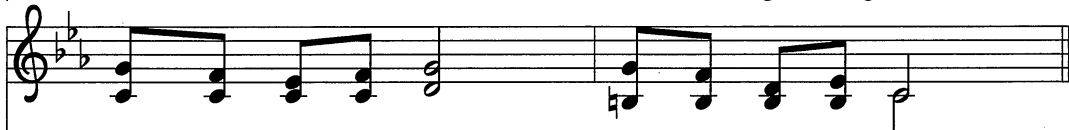
1 Come now, O God, when our love is for - sak - en.
 2 Come, when we squan - der the free - dom you gave us.
 3 Come, put an end to our self - serv - ing mad - ness.



Come, when our bed - rock of faith has been shak - en.
 Come, break the sys - tems of sin that en - slave us.
 Come, while the world is en - shroud - ed in sad - ness.



Come, when our deep - est of hopes are mis - tak - en.
 Come, though we won - der if you can still save us.
 Come, turn the tears of our mourn - ing to glad - ness.



Come, Em - man - u - el. Come, Em - man - u - el.

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.
 Lord our God have mer-cy, Je-sus Christ have mer-cy,
 Save us by your mer-cy Lord.

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 *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 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: Genesis 1:1-19

Julie Ward

From the beginning, darkness and light have been part of God’s magnificent universe. When God creates the light, the darkness is not extinguished or cursed, but complemented. Light and darkness each have purpose in the created order. Each is necessary for the unfolding of God’s salvation history. Day and night together-as two parts of a whole-are declared “good.”

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, ‘Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.’ ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, ‘Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.’ And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, ‘Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.’ And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

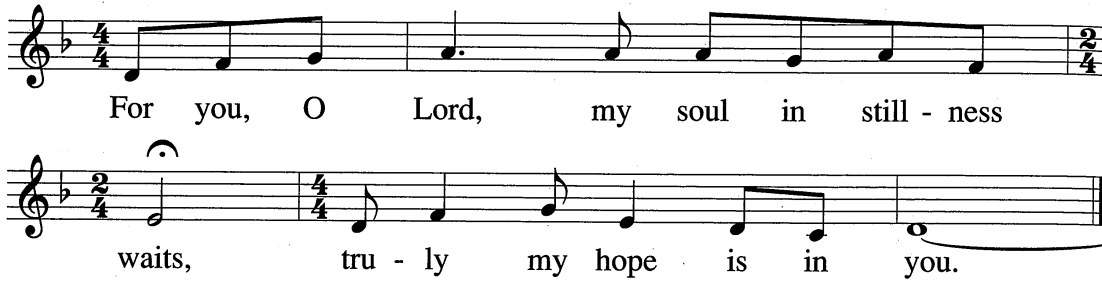
¹⁴And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.’ And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

L Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95

The assembly joins the cantor on each refrain:



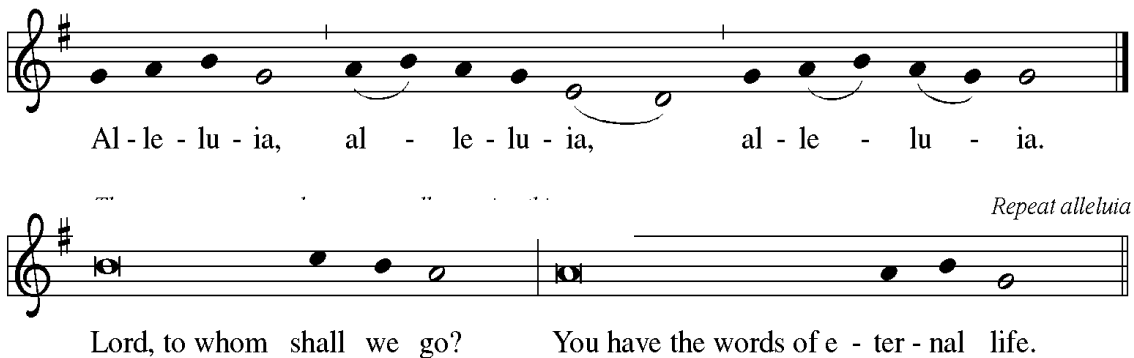
For you, O Lord, my soul in still - ness
waits, tru - ly my hope is in you.

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*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Julie Ward

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

SERMON

Pastor Erik Kindem

HYMN OF THE DAY

In a Deep Unbounded Darkness

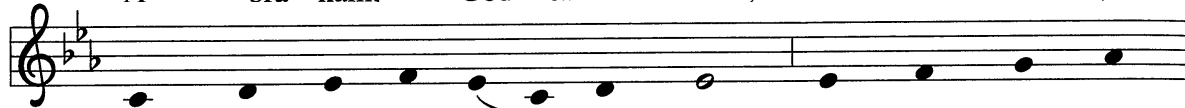
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1 In a deep, un - bound - ed dark - ness, long be - fore the
 2 Though our world is ev - er - chang - ing, you are con - stant,
 3 Joy trans - forms our lips to boast - ing on - ly in your
 4 God of Ha - gar, God of Sa - rah, God of no - mad



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,

+ PRAYERS +

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sofia Wagner

A In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

Petitions are offered that end with:

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

When all petitions have been offered:

A God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Your monetary gifts support our mission and ELCA ministries around the region and world.

You can give a regular or special offering today by connecting to our secure [Tithely Giving Page](#).

Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!

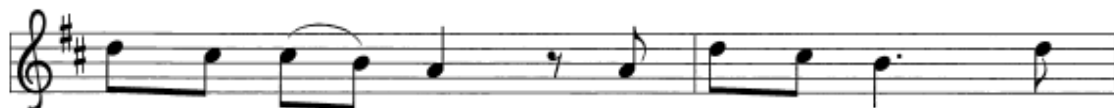
OFFERTORY

We Raise Our Hands to You

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. God of our waiting and watching,

C we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of your people and all creation. By your Spirit's power, form us to be instruments of justice and peace who share gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

C Amen.

+ SENDING +

SENDING HYMN

Each Winter as the Year Grows Older

ELW #252, verses 4-5



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!

P Go in peace. Christ is near.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Postlude in E-Flat

Don Luis Milan



CONTACT INFORMATION

8316 39th 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 11:00am-3:00pm
Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director 206-427-6496
Jon Lackey, Minister of Music Music@peacelutheranseattle.org
Find us on [facebook](#) at **People of Peace Lutheran**

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music	Jon Lackey
Advent Dialogue	Sonja & Juliana Outlaw
Liturgical Assistant	Sofia Wagner
Lector	Julie Ward
Children's Sermon	Julie Ward
Cantor	Sonja Outlaw
Greeters	Corinne Otakie (host), Marcia Olson, Shannon Williams
Ushers	Barbara Hillier
Altar Care	Jeannette Whitworth
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy
Production Techs	Joey DiJulio, Scott Sunde
Canopy Set-up	Scott Sunde, Joey DiJulio

ANNOUNCEMENTS 11/28/21

DECEMBER 5: A FIRST LOOK AT FUNDING OUR MISSION IN 2022

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 now for 2022. This year, that opportunity is scheduled for Sunday, December 5th following Worship. We will be utilizing ZOOM and YouTube to enable remote participation. Specific directions for how to connect will be shared closer to December 5 meeting date.

DECEMBER 1, 8, 15, 22 – Midweek Advent Services at Kindem Home

The Kindem family is serving as host for this year's Midweek Advent Services beginning December 1st. Members of the Kindem household are all vaccinated. They request that participants either be vaccinated or have a negative COVID-19 PCR test the day of the service. Participants will remain masked during the service. Please call for details about parking. 206-835-2102 or 206-930-5668.

ELECTIONS FOR CHURCH COUNCIL COMING UP

Would you like to serve as a member of our congregation's Church Council? There are leadership positions on the Council opening up in January. The council meets once a month to support our ongoing mission, including the discussion of budgets, policies, and the operations of the church. Church council members are the governing body of the church in between congregational meetings. They work as liaisons between the council and all the church committees and ministry teams. The council is comprised of a group of individuals who work hard to maintain a positive, Christian experience for everyone who attends Peace Lutheran Church. **We need you!** If you are interested in exploring the possibility of becoming a church council member please contact Marcia Olson, Heidi Eilers, or Kathleen Keyes. Nominees must have been a member of Peace for 1 year. Elections take place at the Annual Meeting on January 30th.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: Sick/Recovering: Jim Baker; Catherine Bell; Connie Benjamin; John Berrell; Joyce Berrell; Cindy Collie; Gavriella DeBoer; Deyhdra Dennis-Weiss; Keili Geller; Nathaniel Gibson; Doug Hauger; Jerry Heiland; Tim Herriford; Mackenzie Hull; Jeffrey; Ken Keyes; Ann Kimmel; Kristofer Kindem; Mike Larson; Dee Levy; Maya Marshall; Bill Marts; Lynn McCracken; Kris McCracken; Chloe McDonough; Eric, Erin, Finley McDonough; Bill Morrell; Bill Nandor; JoAnn Nandor; John & Renee Parker; Mitch Shepard; Bob & Rosemary Smalding; Aaden Smith; Leon Smith; JoAnne Spangler; Sean Stephens; Kim Sundbloom; Sarah Taylor; Karin VanSant; Louisa Wagner; Nanette Wichman

Homebound: Al Bartol; Lee Lamson; Dorothy Linnell; Joyce Wolff

We express our Christian sympathy to the family of Dean Franz who passed away earlier this month. Dean was part of Carrol Anderson's extended family.

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.

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