

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Samuel Called by God, Marc Chagall, BIBLE series

DECEMBER 12, 2021

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

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

*Throughout Advent we are exploring in particular the gifts that night and darkness bring.
Our first reading, from 1st Samuel, speaks of God who comes to us in the night
in dreams and visions*



*Our Pass the Hat Offering during December supports
ELCA Disaster Response to Flooding In NW Washington.*

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Michael Praetorius

WELCOME

LITANY FOR ADVENT

Today's Captivities

- 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. Amen.**

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.

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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to your voice, that, hearing your call, we may respond with lives of faithful service; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ WORD +

ADVENT SONG *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verses 5 & 6*

O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Elizabeth Menstell, Tyler Coyle

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

L In the Gospel of Luke, John the Baptizer points to Jesus:

As the people were filled with expectation, . . .
 questioning whether John might be the Messiah,
 John answered them by saying,
*"I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming. . . .
 He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."*

If we follow Jesus Christ, we will get everything we hope for, and more than we bargained for. We light our third candle to praise God, whose Spirit comes to us with disturbing and wonderful blessings.

(The third candle is lit.)

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

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

READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-18

Scott Sunde

God comes to us in dreams and visions. The long expanse of night, absent the distractions of worries of the day, creates space for us to hear and listen. Three times young Samuel hears God's voice as he sleeps; three times he mistakes it for Eli's. But Eli, catching on, encourages Samuel to be ready and open to receive the message God intends to bring.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." ¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

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: Emmanuel, the reign of God among us
We long to see and taste your Jubilee
Unbind our lives and set our minds at peace *Refrain*

Chris Kindem

O Holy Wisdom fill us with your knowledge
That we may follow on the path you show
Teach us to live as one with all your people *Refrain*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Nicole Klinemeier

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.

Repeat alleluia

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd Chapter.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one "who is coming." John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits for merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the

wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Erik Kindem

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God, You Search Me

ACS #1082



1 O God, you search me and you know me.
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing.
3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord,
4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me,
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me,



All my thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze.
You dis - cern my pur - pose from a - far,
you have known its mean - ing through and through.
still I search for shel - ter from your light.
gave me life with - in my moth - er's womb.



When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me:
and with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me:
You are with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing:
There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you:
For the won - der of who I am, I praise you:



ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.
in ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.
God of my pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
e - ven the dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

+ PRAYERS +

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Paul Bliss

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

PASS THE HAT *ELCA Disaster Response to Flooding in NW Washington*

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

A 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.

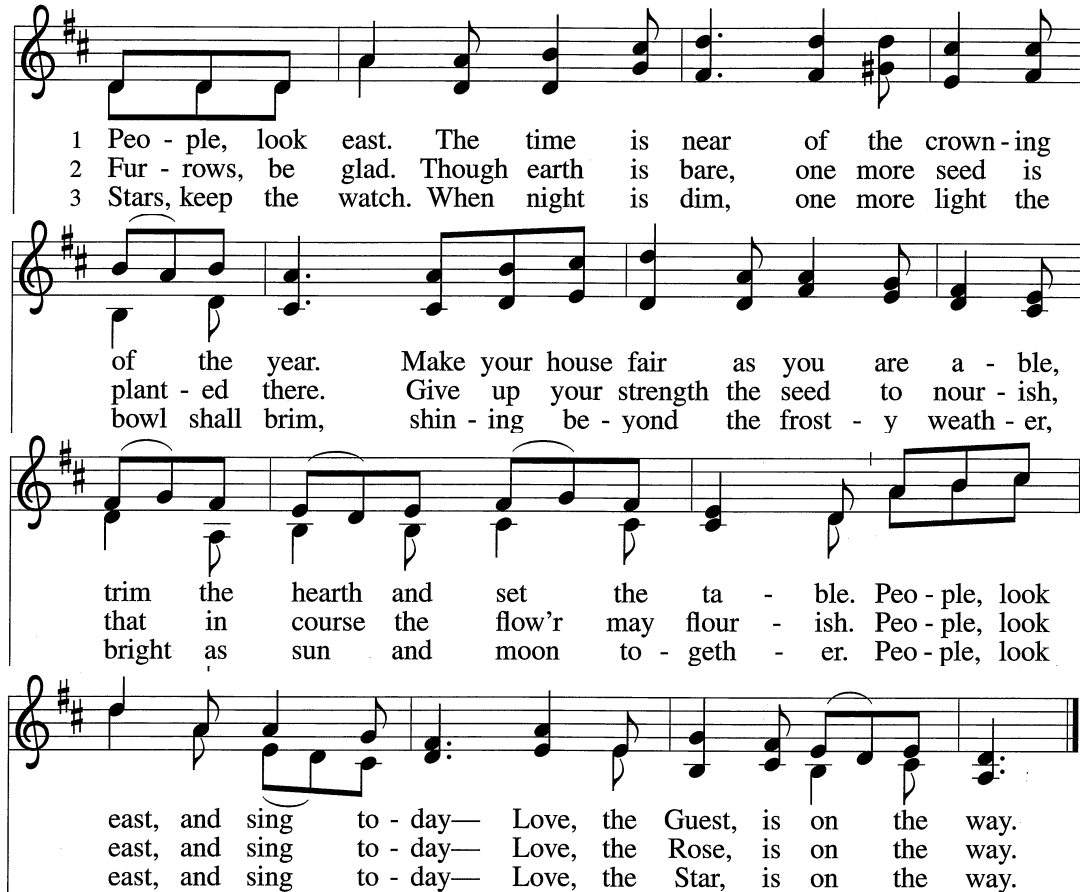
C Amen.

+ SENDING +

SENDING HYMN

People, Look East

ELW #248 vs 1-3



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.

A Go in peace. Christ is near. C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star


Dietrich Buxtehude



COVER ART BY MARC CHAGALL

The art on the cover, *Samuel Called by God*, is one of a series of 105 etchings entitled THE BIBLE, created by Marc Chagall (1887–1985) over a 25-year period, 1932-1939 and 1952-56. “Since my early youth, I have been fascinated by the Bible,” said Chagall. “[It] has filled me with vision about the fate of the world and inspired me in my work. In moments of doubt, its highly poetic grandeur and wisdom comforted me. Since in my inner life the spirit and world of the Bible occupy a large place, I have tried to express it.” Chagall, who came from Russian-Jewish heritage, took his inspiration from parables and figures from the Old and New Testaments.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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
Advent Dialogue	Elizabeth Menstell, Tyler Coyle
Liturgical Assistant	Paul Bliss
Lector	Scott Sunde
Children's Sermon	Nicole Klinemeier
Cantor	Chris Kindem
Greeters	Corinne Otakie (host), Elizabeth Menstell, Tyler Coyle
Ushers	Barbara Hillier
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy
Production Techs	Alex Wren, Alan Jarvimaki

ANNOUNCEMENTS 12/12/21

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE SET FOR 5:00pm

We will celebrate Christmas Eve with **ONE SERVICE AT 5pm** on December 24th. Harpist Leslie McMichael will join us for this service of lessons and carols. While we cannot host the children's Christmas pageant during COVID times, this service will appeal to all ages and will be less than an hour in length. It will end with the candle-lit singing of Silent Night. Look for the luminaries to guide you as you make your way to Peace on this holy night! You can make a reservation for the Christmas Eve service on EventBrite by following this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/169391016089>

PRE-RECORDED SERVICE ONLY FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

There will be **NO IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE** on Sunday, December 26. Instead, the congregations of the Northwest Washington Synod will offer a special pre-recorded service which we will broadcast on our YouTube channel beginning at 10:30am that Sunday. A link for the service will be sent out later this month.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 30, 2022

Sunday, January 30, is our Annual Congregational Meeting. Please add it to your calendar! Following are some key dates to keep in mind as the day approaches.

- **DECEMBER 5** – 1st congregational conversation on the proposed 2022 budget.
- **JANUARY 4** – All annual reports from Peace ministries, committees, and task forces are due in the church office (electronic form, please!)
- **JANUARY 18** – Church Council meeting to finalize Annual Meeting agenda and budget.
- **JANUARY 23** – Bulletin of Reports for Annual Meeting are available.
- **JANUARY 30** – Annual Meeting following worship.

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; Vickie Jarvimaki; Jeffry; 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 Smalading; 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

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.

WELCA!! WOMEN OF THE ELCA AT PEACE

We meet Wednesday, December 15 at 1 pm in the narthex. December Gather magazine's Reflection -- and also a look at our "Spiritual Gifts Clusters" -- bring along your S. G. inventory from November. Snacks welcome!

PERMISSIONS

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POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias for the Christmas Season, please complete the information below.
Cost is \$16.50 per plant.

You can complete the form and drop it along with your check in the offering plate, mail it in, or drop it by the church office **no later than Sunday, December 19, 2021.**

Given _____ in memory of _____ OR _____ in honor of _____ (circle one)

Name _____

OR "Given to the glory of God" (circle if desired)

BY: _____

(print legibly and exactly as you would like it printed)

