

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE



God Is With Us, Hanna Varghese © 2006

DECEMBER 24, 2022

5:00 PM

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

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



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. Thank you for your generosity.

+ GATHERING +

P = Pastor L = Lector C = Congregation

PRELUDE

Gesù Bambino

Leslie McMichael, Harp
Chris Kindem, Flute

WELCOME

CHRISTMAS LITANY *Please stand as you are able as we begin with our Christmas Litany.*

P Good News! Tonight a child is born.

C **HIS NAME IS JESUS.**

P Good News! Emmanuel has come.

C **GOD IS WITH US.**

P The peace and joy of the Christ child be with you always.

C **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

GATHERING HYMN

“Joy to the World”

ELW #267

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

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy...

He rules the world with truth and grace! And makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love...

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and Altender God, this holy night shines brightly with your love and grace reflected in the face of the vulnerable babe lying in a manger. Open our hearts to receive our Lord and to share his love with all who long for hope, shelter, and healing.

C **Amen.**

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

- L Shepherds on a nearby hill were tending their sheep. It was a crisp, clear night. The stars seemed to shine brighter than usual. Then something incredible happened. A bright light shone down around the shepherds and their sheep. This light was the Glory of the Lord. Frightened at first, the shepherds watched as an angel of the Lord came and stood before them.

Song **“The First Noel”** **ELW #300**

♪ The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

- L The angel of the Lord said: “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people, for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Messiah, the Lord. And this will be a sign by which you will recognize him: you will find a baby wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly a whole army of angels appeared saying: “*Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill to all.*”

Song **“Angels We Have Heard on High”** **ELW #289**

♪ 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.

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.

- L Excited and amazed, the shepherds decided to go at once to the stable and find the great joy of which the angels had spoken. And so they went to the place where they found Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, who was lying in the manger. The shepherds went back to their homes and told everyone they knew of the child and the angels of the Lord. The people were amazed and astonished at this wonderful news.

Song

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

ELW #289

♪ Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

MESSAGE

Pastor Erik Kindem

Song

“What Child Is This”

ELW #296

♪ 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!

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.

P Tonight we celebrate the miracle of Emmanuel – *God With Us*.
And now it’s our turn to be shepherds of the Lord,
and tell everyone we know of this fantastic child whose love heals the world.

C **Glory to God in the highest! And on earth peace and goodwill to all!**

SONG

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

ELW # 290

Refrain:

♪ Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev’rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth. *Refrain*

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

+ PRAYERS +

A With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family. *Silence for reflection*

Petitions are offered, ending with the words:

P God of grace, C **hear our prayer.**

P Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

C **Amen.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you**

You are invited to share a gesture of greeting with those seated around you.

THE 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 [Tithely Giving Page](#) via this QR CODE. Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!



OFFERTORY VERSE

♪ 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

P Let us pray.

C **Gracious God, all that we have comes from you,
and there is so much for which we are thankful.
This night, we especially thank you for Jesus,
who came among us to embody your love.
Receive the gifts we share as a token of our love for you
and as a sign of care for our neighbor.
Bless our families and loved ones, bless the least ones of the world,
and all the creatures of earth, sea and sky.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

SILENT NIGHT

Light your candle from the flame provided by an usher, tipping the unlit candle toward the lit one. Parents, please assist younger children in holding the flame.

♪ 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.

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!

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.

BLESSING

P May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
and the peace of the Christ Child.
The Almighty and Altender God, our Creator, + Redeemer, and Guide,
bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the Good News!

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Leslie McMichael, Harp

Those who desire are welcome to stay for the postlude.

After you blow out your candle, you are invited to take it home with you.

Or, you may leave it in one of the candle boxes on your way out of the sanctuary.



PERMISSIONS

Prelude: *Gesu Bambino*, music by Pietro Yon.

All hymns for this service are in the Public Domain.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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
Harpist	Leslie McMichael
Bell Ringers	Chris & Naomi Kindem, Esme Klinemeier Marian Christjaener, June Poginy Pam & Keith Killinger
Flutist	Chris Kindem
Liturgical Assistant	Chris Kindem
Acolyte	Will Ward
Lector	Scott Sunde
Host	Helen Hundley
Greeters	Liz & Randy Hernandez
Ushers	Barbara Hillier, Kristin Gimelli-Hemme
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy
Production Techs	Alex Wren, Kai Kindem

10:30 AM CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

We will gather for worship Christmas morning at 10:30. It will be a simple, festive time to celebrate Emmanuel – God with us. The young (*and young at heart!*) have full permission to come to church in their PJ's. 😊 We'll begin the morning with some warm treats and fellowship time, then join in a service with carols and holy communion in the chancel. There will be no Christian Education Christmas morning.

10:30 AM NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

According to Luke's Gospel, **January 1** is the day on which Jesus received his name and was circumcised. **Following this tradition, we will celebrate January 1 as Name of Jesus Sunday.** Our liturgy will begin in the narthex as we bless our house of worship for the New Year. *CHRISTUS MANSIONES BENEDICTUS – Christ Bless this House 20+C+M+B+23.* No education hour this morning, just a simple service with Holy Communion and lots of singing. **Come ring in the New Year!**

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING JANUARY 29, 2023

Sunday, January 29, is our Annual Congregational Meeting. Please add it to your calendar! Following are some key dates to keep in mind as the day approaches.

- **JANUARY 3** – All annual reports from Peace ministries, committees, and task forces are due in the church office (electronic form, please!)
- **JANUARY 15** – Draft Budget review following worship.
- **JANUARY 17** – Church Council meeting to finalize Annual Meeting agenda and draft budget.
- **JANUARY 22** – Bulletin of Reports for Annual Meeting are available.
- **JANUARY 29** – Annual Meeting following worship.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: **Sick/Recovering:** Ferol Allison; Peggy Craigen; Vonda Cuchine; Marsha Davis; Zach Debelak; Gavriella DeBoer; Roni Edwards; Mark Engelman; David Escame-Hedger; Deena Fuller; Jack Garrison; Nathaniel Gibson; Dawn Gringorten; Donna Heiland; Tim Herriford; Vickie Jarvimaki; Ken Keyes; Ford Kindem; Mike Larson; Dee Levy; Jan Madsen; Maya Marshall; Lynn McCracken; Chloe McDonough; Eric, Erin, Finley McDonough; Steve Metzler; Jim Meyer; Bill Morrell; Bill Nandor; JoAnn Nandor; Larry Nelson; Nora; Marianne Paulos; Paul Paulos; Michelle Pierce; Aaden Smith; Leon Smith; JoAnne Spangler; Kadi Sue Sprengle; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Conrad Tollefson; Wade & Karin VanSant; Inge Williams; Joyce Wolff; Patti Wunder; Arash Zare; Ayman Zare; Audrey Zemke.
Homebound: Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Lee Lamson; Dorothy Linnell

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.



POINSETTIAS WERE GIVEN

To “The glory of God” Given by:

Karl & Fran Coy
Gussie Gannon
Barbara Hillier
Kathleen Keyes

In Memory of:

Jay Hauger, Deb Hauger
Roald & Shirley Kindem
Gertrude Manly
Oscar & Ester Nilson, Don & Evelyn Coy
Arne Lund
Paul Hundley
Don Gannon
Diana Tejada
Dick Whitehead
Joe Peters
Loved Ones
Al & Betty Bartol
Cal Seibel
Sid & Gladys Grassie
Leon Zagars

In Honor of:

Dean & Joyce Bliss
Ted & Marcia Kunze
The Peace Community
Addie, Dalton, Anna, & Loke (grandchildren)
My Family
Derek, Laura, Carmen, & Alice Lunde

Given By:

Nancy Hauger & Kindem Family
Kindem Family
Karl & Fran Coy
Karl & Fran Coy
McBride Family
Helen Hundley
Janice Matthews
Allan Husnick
Allan Husnick
Pidge Peters
John & Kathleen Fueger
Chris Bartol Williams & Mike Williams
Jean Sides
Ruth & Heidi Eilers
Inta Zagars



Given By:

The Bliss Family
The Bliss Family
Boots & Paul Winterstein
Mel & Mary Jacob
Carrol Anderson
Mom & Dad (Grandma & Papa)

Merry Christmas

Carmen & Alice Lunde

