

# SEASON OF CREATION WEEK 3



## KEEPERS OF THE GARDEN 6/25/23

Mt. Rainer, John Peters

*Peace Lutheran Church*



*West Seattle, Washington*

*“And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the human he had formed...to till it and keep it.” Genesis 2: 8, 15*

*From the beginning God has entrusted the human community with tending and caring for Earth—our common home. In this time of unprecedented threats to the planetary systems that sustain life, we commit ourselves to the vocation of creation care once more. We recognize the interconnectivity and worth of all of God’s glorious creation and commit ourselves to care for the land, the air, the water, and the fellow creatures with whom we share this home.*

*(Caring for Creation mission emphasis, Peace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting, 2022)*

*During this year’s Season of Creation, we consider all of God’s creation as a garden. The Gospel readings assigned for these three Sundays tell about Jesus’ ministry to people. How do these readings, then, relate to our garden theme? People are both part of and symbolic of creation. What we experience as humans is also experienced by nature (and vice versa). People are broken and need forgiveness and healing. Likewise, the earth is broken and in need of healing. In John 20:21, Jesus says to his disciples, “As God has sent me, so I send you.” Perhaps the original context of this commission can be extended to include us working for restoration of the planet. In doing so, we follow God’s original mandate to tend and care for the earth. Created in the image of God, we are **Keepers of the Garden.***

# ✦ GATHERING ✦

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

**PRELUDE**    *Morning Has Broken, When Morning Gilds the Skies*    Jim Hunt, violin

## WELCOME

*Listen to some sounds from God's garden.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP: ADSUM – I AM HERE!

*(RS = Right Side; LS = Left Side)*

P    In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life, in the name of Christ, the pulse of life,  
and in the name of the Spirit + the breath of life.

**ALL Amen.**

P    Holy God, in whom everything on Earth and in the heavens is bound in perfect harmony,  
open our eyes to behold your creation.

**ALL Adsum!**

**RS**    Incarnate Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection offer renewed life to the world,  
root in us a commitment equal to the challenges and joys these days bring.

**ALL Adsum!**

**LS**    Creative Spirit, whose breath stirred life in the womb of this world, quicken us,  
body, mind, and soul, for the great work to which you are calling us.

**ALL Adsum!**

**ALL**    In all things, at all times, grant that we may walk in sacred manner upon the Earth,  
ever conscious of our calling, ever conscious that it is your garden and we are its  
keepers. Adsum!

## GATHERING HYMN

### *Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom*

ACS #1064



1 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound - ing God's de - light - ed laugh,  
2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.  
3 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,



from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe.  
Ev - 'ry crea - ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum - ble - bee.  
cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.



All cre - a - tion sings in won - der; e - ven rocks and trees re - jice  
Spi - der, hu - man, red - wood, geck - o, mon - key, chick - en, mouse, and snake  
In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:

as they join the ring-ing cho-rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice.  
 live with-in a sin-gle fab-ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.  
 born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Majestic and awesome God, your grandeur is revealed in everything from the vastness of the universe to the microscopic amoeba. Yet the sparrow doesn't fall without your knowing it, and you count each hair on our head. Move us to find you—our caring, loving God—in all things infinitely vast and infinitely finite.

C **Amen.**

**CONFESSION**

P Many things grow in this garden—some of them are the weeds and thorns that we produce:

C **Our own attitudes toward who and what is important.**

P Sometimes other creatures in the garden are the objects of our dislike.

C **Other times it is our sense of what we do with the whole creation. We think we can use whatever we want and throw away anything that doesn't suit us.**

P We tend to ignore the fact that the air, the minerals, and water can be polluted and wasted.

C **We don't consider that the pollution we put in the air, water, and ground is the source of our very being. We poison ourselves.**

P Pardon our selfish shortsightedness.

C **Forgive our arrogance.**

**HYMN OF CONFESSION** *Before the Waters Nourished Earth* ACS #1049, v. 1-3

1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -  
 2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of  
 3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows

ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the  
 E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in  
 par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's

u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.  
 mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.  
 faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dv - ing.

## FORGIVENESS

**P** In spite of the weeds and thorns, God's garden produces plentifully. God's Son entered the creation, became part of it, lived and died to show God's profound care for us and the garden.

**C** **In mercy given through Jesus Christ there is new possibility for the garden.**

**P** The grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies to provide abundant fruit. Trees take in carbon dioxide and give fresh oxygen to breathe. Blossoms become the fruit for the nourishment of our lives.

**C** **As people who have received such abundance from our Creator, we have a responsibility, a task. Life-giving God, help us to join you in being faithful keepers of the garden. Amen.**

*Before the Waters Nourished Earth*

ACS #1049, v. 4

1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -  
2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of  
3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows  
4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness

ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the  
E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in  
par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's  
still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -

u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.  
mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.  
faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.  
gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

+ WORD +

**FIRST READING: Psalm 8**

Larry Cruse

<sup>1</sup>O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses, <sup>4</sup>what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

<sup>6</sup>You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, <sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle, even the beasts of the field, <sup>8</sup>the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

<sup>9</sup>O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION HYMN** *Please rise in body or spirit to receive the gospel.**Listen to the Word*

ACS #974

Lis - ten to the word that God has spo - ken; lis - ten to the One who is  
close at hand; lis - ten to the voice that be - gan cre - a - tion;  
lis - ten e - ven if you don't un - der - stand.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 10th Chapter

C **Glory to you, O Lord.****GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39**

*Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition, requiring absolute trust in God and an unswerving commitment to their Lord.*

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup>it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

<sup>26</sup>"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup>What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup>"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup>"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; <sup>36</sup>and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

<sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup>and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

L The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Kristin Gimelli Hemme

SONG

*His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

Jon Lackey, tenor

HYMN OF THE DAY

*God of the Sparrow*

1. God of the sparrow, God of the whale, God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe?  
How does the creature say Life?
2. God of the neighbor, God of the foe, God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love?  
How does the creature say Peace?
3. God of the oceans, God of the lakes, God of the flowing rivers  
How does the creature cry Holy!  
How does the creature cry Save!
4. God of the mountains, God of the plains, God of the windblown grain fields,  
How does the creature say Thank You!  
How does the creature say Home!
5. God of the planets, God of the soil, God of all life unfolding  
How does the creature say Wonder!  
How does the creature say Praise!

#### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From: *Seven Songs of Creation: Liturgies for Celebrating and Healing Earth* by Dr. Norman Habel, a Lutheran pastor, theologian, and architect of the Season of Creation.

**P** Let us confess our faith.

**C** **We believe in God who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water, who heals all the wounds of Earth.**

**We believe in the book of Earth, the book of life unfolding, the book revealing the mysteries of God's wisdom.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ as the revelation and Wisdom of God, joining the web of life as human flesh; Jesus is the love of God immersed in the cosmos.**

**We believe in an Earth community, a community where lives of all creatures and habitats are interconnected.**

**We believe in Life forever, empowered by the breath of the Spirit of God, connected with our cosmic Christ and celebrated by all creation.**

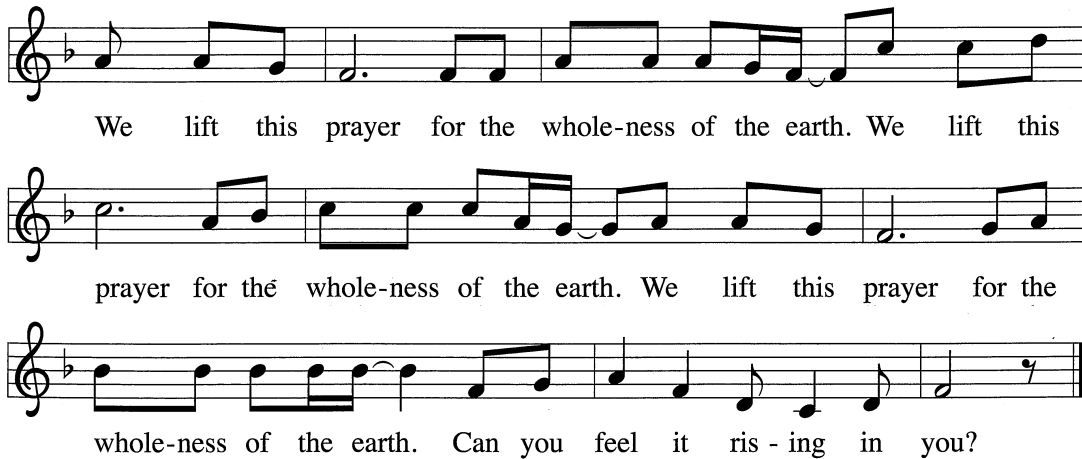
**We know this. And it is true.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

ACS #1067

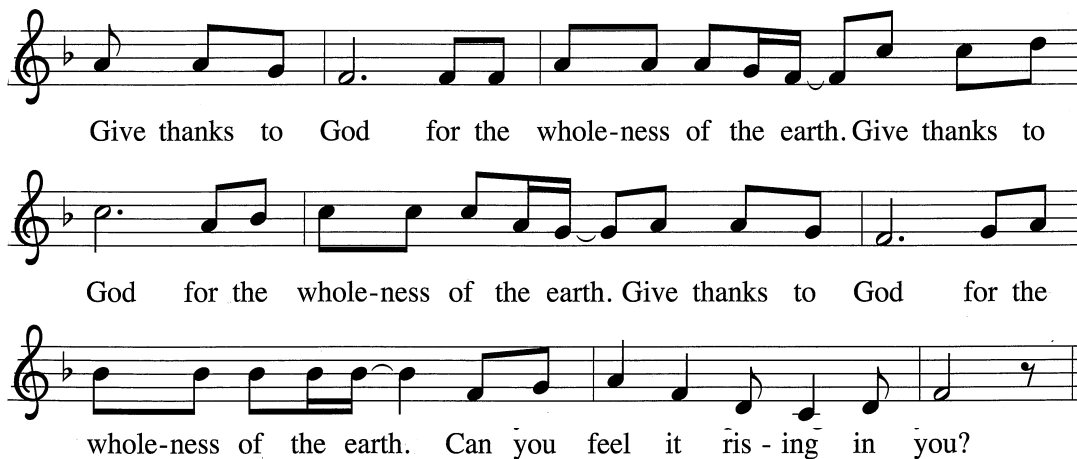
*Petitions are offered that end: "We lift this prayer to you."*

*The congregation responds with the refrain below.*



We lift this prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this  
prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this prayer for the  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris - ing in you?

*Final refrain:*



Give thanks to God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to  
God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to God for the  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris - ing in you?

✝ MEAL ✝

## THE PEACE

**P** The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*Let us share a gesture of peace with our neighbors.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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 SONG

Laura Bermes

**OFFERTORY***For the Beauty of the Earth*

ELW #879, v 1

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
 for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
*Refrain*  
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A** Let us pray. God of the Garden and giver of all gifts,

**C** Bless these gifts for the care of your garden, and us to its keeping. Amen.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts!

**C** We lift them 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, almighty and altender God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ELW #473

*San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra-zón te a - do - ra.*  
*Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.*

*Mi co - ra-zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to e-res Se - ñor.*  
 My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.



## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**P** O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory.

**C** **The earth is full of your glory.**

**P** O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory.

**C** **The earth is full of your glory.**

**P** We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love and for this earth. In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This Cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory.

**C** **The earth is full of your glory.**

**P** O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory.

**C** **The earth is full of your glory.**

**P** Amen, and amen.

**C** **Amen, and amen.**

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

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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** The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, feast at the table of life.

**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.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### *Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal*

ELW #464



1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Je - sus, feed us.  
2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Je - sus, feed us.  
3 Grant for - give - ness in the feast— Je - sus, feed us—  
4 Thank you for this gift we share. Je - sus, feed us.



Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.  
Make us one, our hope re - store; feed us with your love.  
for the great - est and the least; feed us with your love.  
Save God's chil - dren ev - 'ry - where; feed us with your love.

## *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

ELW #461



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Let us pray. Gracious God, you have fed us with the fruits of your garden, and the life of your Son, Jesus Christ. For all your gifts, thanks be to God!

**C** **Amen.**

## **THE CALL AND BLESSING**

**P** Hear your call, beloved:

Support each other.

Resist the forces of complacency and denial.

Remain steadfast in your calling to be keepers of God's garden.

And may God, the Source of life

God, the Word of life

God, the Spirit of life

bless you, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

# + SENDING +

## SENDING HYMN

### *Let All Things Now Living*

ELW #881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.  
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Tend the Garden!

C Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

Jon Lackey

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director

206-427-6496

Jon Lackey, Minister of Music

[Music@peacelutheranseattle.org](mailto:Music@peacelutheranseattle.org)

Find us on  at **People of Peace Lutheran**

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Sabbatical Pastor

Rev. Paul Winterstein

Minister of Music

Jon Lackey

Preacher

Kristin Gimelli Hemme

Liturgical Assistant

Paul Bliss

Acolyte

Ben Ward

Lector

Larry Cruse

Children's Sermon

Sarah Bliss

Greeters

Corinne Otakie, Jean Sides

Ushers

Larry Cruse, Boots Winterstein

Altar Care

Karl Coy

Communion Assistants

Karl Coy, Kathleen Keyes

Coffee Server

Sofia Wagner

Counters

Paul Bliss, Kristin Gimelli Hemme

Production Techs

Alex Wren, Dustin Smith

## OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

*Our mission goal for 2023 anticipates receiving offering income of \$25,819 each month.*

### Offering Income received JUNE 2023

06/04/23     \$ 2,218.00

06/11/23     \$ 3,995.00

06/18/23     \$ 2,700.00

Electronic    \$ 7,066.39

**Total**        **\$15,979.39**

*Thank you for your gifts which support God's mission at Peace, in the larger community,  
and internationally through the ELCA*

## THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

Need something? Before you go buy it, see if you can 1) use something you already have, 2) borrow the item you need, 3) swap with someone for it, 4) get it at a second-hand store, or 5) maybe even make it! If you can't do any of that, go shopping. Our latest *Some Information and an Invitation* deals with our throw-away culture. Learn more at <https://www.peacelutheranseattle.org/?p=5448>.

**Pray for Creation:** As keepers of the garden in our part of the world, we thank God for the beauty that surrounds us.

## KRISTIN GIMELLI HEMME IS PREACHER 6/25

Our message today is brought to us by Kristin Gimelli Hemme. She has a Master's degree in Theological Studies from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and a Bachelor's degree in Biology from MIT. She currently teaches science to sixth, seventh, and eighth graders at St. Francis of Assisi School.

## SEASON OF CREATION: KEEPERS OF THE GARDEN 6/11-25

“And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the human he had formed...to till it and keep it.” (Genesis 2: 8, 15) We celebrate all the wonders that God placed in the garden. However, as part of that garden, we humans are broken and need forgiveness and healing. Likewise, the earth is broken and in need of healing. As **Keepers of the Garden**, we work for restoration of the planet. Join us as we consider both the gift and the task we have as keepers.

In the narthex today, you will see a banner which is being used during our celebration of the Season of Creation. You are invited to add a leaf, a butterfly, a fish, or another “critter” on which you have responded to one or all of the following prompts: What is something in God's Garden for which you are grateful? What tip/s do you have to help others be Keepers of the Garden? In what way/s are you a Keeper of the Garden?

If you were not able to join us to watch *The Letter*, you may access it at this website: [Home - The Letter \(theletterfilm.org\)](http://Home - The Letter (theletterfilm.org)). The film tells the moving story of some people whose concern for our planet led to an invitation to visit with Pope Francis following the publication of his letter *Laudato Si'*.

## BRING FOOD FOR THE WELCOME TABLE 7/2

Remember shelf-stable food items for the Welcome Table to bring forward at Communion.

## JULY 2 – REMEMBERING RAEANN MARRELLI

Our sister in Christ RaeAnn Marrelli, who died on March 29<sup>th</sup>, will be remembered and commended into God's everloving arms during the second half of worship on July 2.

## PRAYER LIST

**Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers:** **Sick/Recovering:** Kathy Anderson; Arlene; Beth; Heidi Coy; Vonda Cuchine; Marsha Davis; Mark Engelman; Sean Fenton; Marge Flint; Jack Garrison; Caity Gerhardt; Nathaniel Gibson; Dawn Gringorten; Jaylin H.; Heather Jennings; Tony Jilek; Donna Kehle; Ken Keyes; Mike Larson; Noreen Lee; Dee Levy; Jan Madsen; Maya Marshall; Evelyn Martinez; Vicki Martinez; Chloe McDonough; Pete McIntyre; Eric, Erin, Finley McDonough; Ken McPherson; Jenn Mersing; Steve Metzler; Jim Meyer; Bill Morrell; Nora; Marianne Paulos; Paul Paulos; Michelle Pierce; Elaine Ross; Jean Sides; Aaden Smith; Leon Smith; JoAnne Spangler; Kadi Sue Sprengle; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Annie Tigdig; Conrad Tollefson; Wade & Karin VanSant; Wendell & Wilson; Judy Wiggins; Inge Williams; Patti Wunder.

**Homebound:** Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Lee Lamson; Dorothy Linnell

**We express our Christian sympathy** to Donna Heiland and the family of John Berrell on the death of Rick Berrell, John's son and Donna Heiland's cousin.

**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.

## 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.*

## PERMISSIONS

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## WHAT'S A "P-PATCH"?

It's a very special kind of community garden. A special *Seattle* kind of garden! And this year our city is celebrating its 50th anniversary of our P-Patch community gardens. Seattle's gardens now constitute the largest community gardens west of New York.

In the early 20th century, the Picardo family operated a truck farm in the Wedgwood area of Seattle, producing vegetables for market. Fast forward to 1973 when part of the farm was sold to a community group that developed it into Seattle's *first community garden* -- the *Picardo Farm P-Patch*. So -- not just a "Pea Patch." The Picardo family will forever be remembered as the source.

Since 1973, P-Patch community gardeners have been:

- Growing community
- Nurturing civic engagement
- Practicing organic gardening techniques
- Fostering an environmental ethic and connecting nature to people' lives
- Improving access to local, organic, and culturally appropriate food
- Transforming the appearance and revitalizing the spirit of their neighborhoods
- Developing self-reliance and improving nutrition through education and hand-on experience
- Feeding the hungry
- Preserving heirloom flowers, herbs and vegetables
- Budding understanding between generations and cultures through gardening and cooking

Several P-Patch gardens can be found in West Seattle; maybe Peace folks are current gardeners or have been in the past. The closest to our church neighborhood are located at the tennis courts near Lincoln Park and the Barton Street P-Patch (on 34th Ave SW and Barton). All P-Patch gardens are open to the public to enjoy and are used as restorative spaces, learning and idea incubators, and gathering spaces. Also, the gardens provide a way to give back to the community through volunteer hours and by supplying fresh, organic produce to Seattle food banks and feeding programs.

So -- take a stroll through one of our community gardens -- P-Patches -- and consider signing up for your own patch. But expect a wait of 1-2 years. They're popular!

P-Patch gardens are a program of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods.

[seattle.gov/neighborhoods/p-patch-gardening](http://seattle.gov/neighborhoods/p-patch-gardening)

Season of Creation 2023--  
Keepers of the Garden

