

# Peace Lutheran Church



# West Seattle, Washington

The ways of God dealing with mere mortals is profoundly amazing. In the **First Reading** today Abraham has sent his servant to get a wife for Isaac from the land of his father. God directs the process and Rebekah goes with Abraham's servant to become Isaac's wife. In the **Second Reading**, St. Paul acknowledges that he does not find that kind of divine guidance, and instead he does all the wrong things! Jesus, in the **Gospel**, notes that people did not like John the Baptizer because he was too ascetic, or Jesus, himself, because he ate and drank. Yet in the face of all that, Jesus invites us to find peace and rest in him.

# + GATHERING +

P – Presider C – Congregation L - Lector A – Assisting Minister ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal

PRELUDE Jon Lackey

#### WELCOME

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** At the font

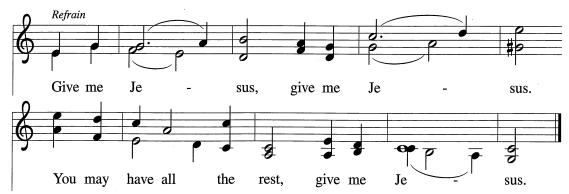
- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

  Silence is kept for reflection
- P Merciful God,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.
- P Righteous God,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection

- P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

#### Give Me Jesus **GATHERING HYMN** ELW #770 the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise, Dark . . . mid-night was my dark . . . mid-night was my cry, cry, 3 Just a - bout the break of a - bout the break of day, iust day, Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die, And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing, 9 the morn-ing when I give me rise, Je sus. dark... mid-night was my give me cry, Je sus. a - bout the break of day, give me Je sus. oh, . . . . when I come to die, give me Je sus. and . . . when I want to sing, Je give me sus.



#### **HYMN OF PRAISE** Now the Feast Congregation: Now the feast e - bra - tion, and cel all of cre a - tion sings for joy $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}$ the of life and love and to free - dom: praise and glo - ry for evmore! er Congregation or Congregation 1: feast of the Lamb once 1. Now is the freed and slain, \_ blood has u whose nit - ed to be one us great to Refrain

peo - ple of

God.



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

# + WORD +

## FIRST READING: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Vicki Martinez

The marriage of Isaac and Rebekah helped to fulfill God's covenant that Abraham would become the ancestor of many nations.

[The visitor said to Laban,] "I am Abraham's servant. <sup>35</sup>The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; the LORD has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. <sup>36</sup>And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and Abraham has given him all that he has. <sup>37</sup>My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; <sup>38</sup>but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

<sup>42</sup>"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! <sup>43</sup>I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," <sup>44</sup>and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.'

<sup>45</sup>"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' <sup>46</sup>She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. <sup>47</sup>Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. <sup>48</sup>Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. <sup>49</sup>Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

<sup>58</sup>And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." <sup>59</sup>So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. <sup>60</sup>And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

"May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads;

may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes."

<sup>61</sup>Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

<sup>62</sup>Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. <sup>63</sup>Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. <sup>64</sup>And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, <sup>65</sup>and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. <sup>66</sup>And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. <sup>67</sup>Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### **SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a**

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that

the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

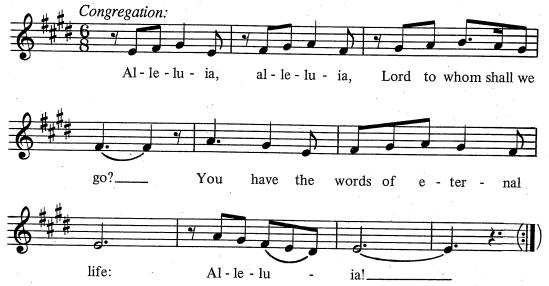
P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Julie Ward

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



- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 11th Chapter
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### **GOSPEL:** Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

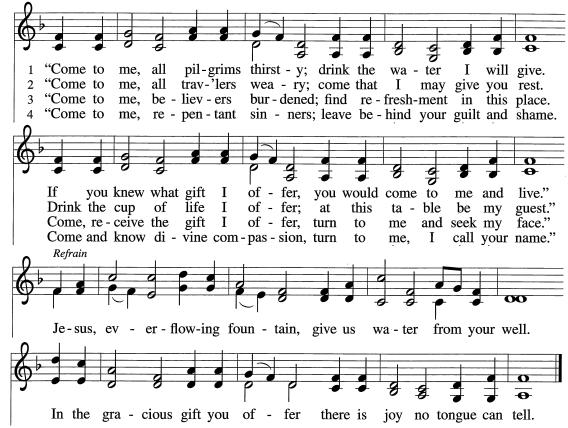
SERMON

Rev. Paul Winterstein

# HYMN OF THE DAY

#### Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

ELW #777



#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- A Patient and forgiving God, amid all the perplexities of life we come to you with our concerns and prayers for the church, the creation, and all people in need of your help. *Petitions are offered that end with:* 
  - A God of grace,
  - C hear our prayer.

When all petitions have been offered:

- P You know what we need before we ask. You understand who we are and our frailties. So, we commend to your gracious kindness all for whom we pray, trusting that you will hear and respond in your mercy.
- C Amen.

# + 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 <a href="Tithely Giving Page">Tithely Giving Page</a> via this QR CODE. Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!





#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky,
- C you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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:

YOU ARE HOLY ELW #525



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

- P Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
- C in the harmonious world of your creation the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.
- P When sin scarred the world,
- C you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

- P So we give thanks that 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:
- C Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
- C 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.
- P Remembering, therefore his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death,
- C we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.
- P Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
- C so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
- P Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.
- C 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.

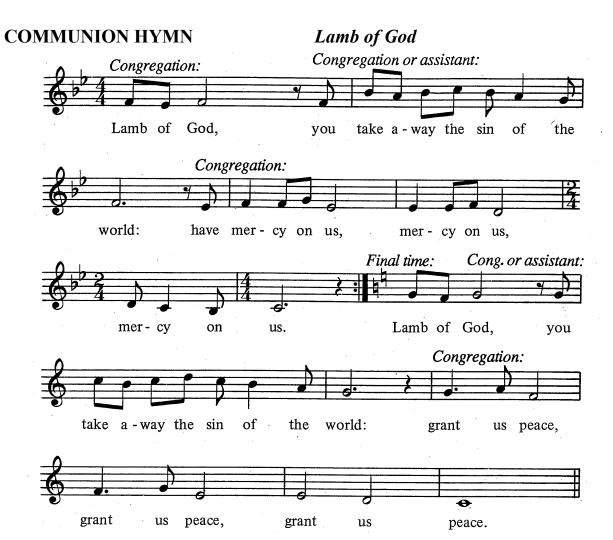
  Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.
- 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.



### Additional invocations:

you break the chains of hatred and fear: you are the way of justice and peace: you are the way of mercy and love:

*Day by Day* ELW #790



#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray. We thank you generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

- P The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.
- C Amen.

# + SENDING +

**ELW #768** 



#### **DISMISSAL**

- A Go in peace. Share the harvest.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Jon Lackey

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Church Office hours: Tuesday through Thursday 10:00am-4:00pm

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**

Sabbatical Pastor Rev. Paul Winterstein

Minister of Music
Liturgical Assistant
Acolyte
Lector
Children's Sermon

Jon Lackey
Paul Bliss
Ben Ward
Vicki Martinez
Julie Ward

Greeters Jean Sides, Kathleen Keyes
Ushers David Kehle, Barbara Hillier
Altar Care Marcia Olson, Boots Winterstein

Communion Assistants Karl Coy, Jean Sides Coffee Server Kathleen Keyes

Counters Joey DiJulio, Paul Bliss Production Techs Alex Wren, Joey DiJulio

# **OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

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

# Offering Income received JULY 2023

07/02/23 \$ 1,892.00 **Total** \$ 1,892.00

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

We at Peace are members of Earth Ministry/WA State Interfaith Power & Light (WAIPL). WAIPL's parent organization is urging people of faith to comment on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed new limits on climate pollution from power plants. While the proposal is significant, we must go even further to tackle the climate crisis, protect our health, and slash pollution that harms our communities — especially those that have been disproportionately harmed and that live near fossil fuel facilities. IP&L calls it a moral responsibility of our nation and our sacred task as people of faith to address the climate crisis.

They ask us to tell the EPA to enact the strongest possible standards to cut climate pollution from power plants to protect our communities, our Sacred Earth, and our collective future with stronger climate pollution rules for power plants. Submit your comment by August 8 at:

https://interfaithpowerandlight.salsalabs.org/carbonrulecommentform

**Pray for Creation**: This week we pray for health and protection for the two newborn calves born to our Salish neighbors, the endangered Southern Resident Orcas.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER STATEMENTS READY FOR PICK UP

Second quarter giving statements are on a counter in the Narthex. Please help save a stamp and pick yours up. Statements have been mailed to those people who do not attend in person services regularly.

### 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; Sean Fenton; Marge Flint; Jack Garrison; Caity Gerhardt; Nathaniel Gibson; Dawn Gringorten; Signa Gustafson; Jaylin H.; Heather Jennings; Tony Jilek; Donna Kehle; Ken Keyes; Mike Larson; Noreen Lee; Dee Levy; Jan Madsen; Maya Marshall; Evelyn Martinez; Chloe McDonough; Eric, Erin, Finley McDonough; Pete McIntyre; 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 Tigtig; Conrad Tollefson; Wade & Karin VanSant; Wendell & Wilson; Judy Wiggins; Inge Williams; Patti Wunder.

**<u>Homebound</u>**: Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Lee Lamson; Dorothy Linnell

**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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