

## Season after Pentecost



November 19, 2023

***Peace Lutheran Church***



***West Seattle, Washington***

*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to make choices about how to share in God's economy. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.*

### ***Open Table ~ Open Invitation***

*We celebrate Christ's presence in the Sacrament of the Table each week at Peace. Christ, our Host, meets us in this meal of grace and offers himself, fully embodied, in the bread and wine. He invites all to come and meet him in this Holy Meal.*

# + GATHERING +

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

## PRELUDE

Jon Lackey

## WELCOME

## GATHERING HYMN

### *Making Their Way*

ACS #979

1 Mak-ing their way down through the a-ges, sin-ners and saints have  
2 Mak-ing their way all the world o-ver, Chris-tians as-sem-ble  
3 Mak-ing our way sea-son by sea-son, pil-grims, we jour-ney

heard God's call: wealth-y and poor, pow-er-ful, low-ly,  
on this day, hear-ing the Word, shar-ing the Ban-quet,  
till life's end, trav-el-ing light, shar-ing the rich-es,

Je-sus'dis-ci-ples, one and all. Gath-ered for wor-ship, of-fer-ing thanks,  
learn-ing to walk in Je-sus' way. Mem-bers of Christ, u-nit-ed in love,  
car-ing for strang-er as for friend, till in the joy of long-ing ful-filled,

the great-est with the least have come to share this feast.  
they seek our God to know, and so to-gether grow.  
to-gether we will come to our e-ter-nal home.

## GREETING

P The abounding grace of Jesus Christ, the steadfast love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

## KYRIE

ELW page 184

*Refrain*

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

continue on next page →



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the  
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for  
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
 hun - gry and the poor; that  
 friends and fam - i - ly; for  
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
 we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

**FIRST READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Scott Sunde

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us

not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 90** *Read responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

**<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."

**<sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday  
when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**<sup>6</sup>in the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed by your anger;

we are afraid because of your wrath.

**<sup>8</sup>Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

<sup>9</sup>When you are angry, all our days are gone;

we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**<sup>10</sup>The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

<sup>11</sup>Who regards the power of your wrath?

Who rightly fears your indignation?

**<sup>12</sup>So teach us to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

<sup>13</sup>Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry?

Be gracious to your servants!

**<sup>14</sup>Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning;  
so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.**

<sup>15</sup>Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us  
and as many years as we suffered adversity.

**<sup>16</sup>Show your servants your works,  
and your splendor to their children.**

<sup>17</sup>May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;  
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork!

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th Chapter.  
**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30**

*Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

<sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received

what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Julie Ward

## SERMON

Rev. Erik Kindem

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ELW #632



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Larry Cruse

A Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Petitions are offered that end with:*

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

*When all petitions have been offered:*

P We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

**+ MEAL +**

## THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.** *We share a gesture of peace with our neighbors.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# STEWARDSHIP: GROWING OUR CULTURE OF GENEROSITY Melanie Coulson

## 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

*Please rise as able.*

### *We Are an Offering*

ELW #692

We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. God of all goodness,  
**C** generations have turned to you, gathered at your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them, that we may feast upon your very self, and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. 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, O God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so with earth and sea and all their creatures, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Page 190



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P 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, the sacrifice of his life and death  
and the victory of his resurrection,  
we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.  
Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine  
and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son.  
Teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ,  
through whom all glory and honor is yours, Almighty and Altender God,  
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 There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus’ table.

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 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.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

**ELW page 191**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

**COMMUNION HYMN***I Received the Living God*

ELW #477

*Refrain*

I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.

I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.

- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,

*Refrain*

you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.  
 so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.  
 You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.  
 but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet.  
 Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,  
 and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**C** Amen.

**+ SENDING +****BLESSING**

**P** The God of all creation, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

**C** Amen.

**SENDING HYMN***Christ, Be Our Light*

ELW #715

- 1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
- 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
- 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
- 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
- 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.


C **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

Jon Lackey



**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Pastor	Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music	Jon Lackey
Liturgical Assistant	Larry Cruse
Acolyte	Jesse Dabbs
Lector	Scott Sunde
Children's Message	Julie Ward
Greeters	Jean Sides, Randy Hernandez
Ushers	John & Debi Flint
Altar Care	Liz Hernandez

Communion Assistants  
Coffee Server  
Counters  
Production Techs  
Nursery Attendant

Liz & Randy Hernandez  
Helen Hundley  
Joey DiJulio, Erika Stephens  
Alex Wren, Joey DiJulio  
Heidi Coy

## OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

*Our mission goal for 2023 anticipates receiving offering income of \$25,819 each month. At the end of October we were approximately \$8,500 under our giving goal year to date.*

### Offering Income received November 2023

11/05/23	\$ 6,574.00
11/12/23	\$ 3,370.00
Electronic	<u>\$ 5,664.76</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,608.76</b>

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

## BUILDING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY – INTENT SUNDAY

**TODAY IS INTENT SUNDAY.** As part of our *Building a Culture of Generosity* campaign, each Peace household has been mailed a *Statement of Intent* card. These cards will be received in worship both today and next Sunday. As you consider what your household giving will be in 2024, you are encouraged to consider how you can grow in your generosity. If you won't be in worship with us either day, please mail in your Intent card so that we can include your generosity as we share our campaign's progress.

## THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE 11/22 @ 7 PM

**OUR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE OF WORSHIP** is back and will be held **Wednesday, November 22nd at 7 pm**, with our traditional "pie potluck" following. This year you are invited to consider a donation to [Lutheran Disaster Response for the Middle East Crisis](#). Due to escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding in the Holy Land. The ELCA has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Augusta Victoria Hospital.

## SOCK IT TO HOMELESSNESS

Comfort tired feet. Lift weary spirits. Give someone hope. Operation Nightwatch has a goal of collecting 30,000 pairs of socks in the next six months. Will you help? Find the Blue Tub in the narthex. Socks are critical to the comfort and well-being of homeless people. Imagine what it must be like to have the same pair of nasty, wet socks on your feet, 24-hours a day. Not good. There will be an open house December 3, 2023 12:30 to 2:00 pm at the Shelter Dispatch Center. For more information, call 206-323-4359, email [info@seattlenightwatch.org](mailto:info@seattlenightwatch.org) or click here: [Find Out More](#)

## HOLIDAY BAZAAR NOVEMBER 18-19

**Join us downstairs today for Day Two of the Bazaar.**

## ADVENT FESTIVAL DECEMBER 3, 9:00-10:15 AM

All your favorite traditions as we begin a new Advent Season and Church Year - Advent logs, paperwhites, card making, and more! Bring the whole family. Light breakfast will be served.

## FREE THANKSGIVING MEAL AT FAUNTLEROY

All are welcome on Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 23rd from 12pm-3pm - for this year's annual Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner! The delicious meal created this year by Tuxedos and Tennis Shoes Catering's Jr. Sous Chef, Zach Mosely, will include a traditional turkey dinner and all the trimmings, with desserts donated by the community. No need to RSVP, just show up at Hall at Fauntleroy (9131 California Ave SW) on Thanksgiving Day between 12-3pm.

This event happens with the help of many wonderful volunteers. You can sign up to volunteer or bring a dessert on [signup.com](http://signup.com).

Gently used warm clothing, new blankets and socks, and dessert donations can be dropped off at our SODO office at 4105 Airport Way S, 98108 from Mon. Nov 20th to Wed. Nov 22nd from 9am-3pm or bring it to The Hall at Fauntleroy on Thanksgiving Day from 10am-1pm.

## THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

We live in a hiker's paradise—a great place to celebrate *Take a Hike Day* this Friday the 17th. Being out in nature, whether in the Cascades, Olympics or our beloved Lincoln Park, helps us feel good. It also helps us recognize how climate change impacts access to the places we love to hike as we deal with wildfires, smoke, drought and increased temperatures throughout the seasons. This year, sections of the Pacific Crest Trail closed due to fire and storm damage. All we should face now is a little rain. So let's go!

**Pray for Creation:** In this week of national Thanksgiving, we give thanks for our Salish neighbors and pray for renewed, nourishing relationships with them and the land we all call "home."

## CHIEF SEALTH HIGH SCHOOL AUCTION

**For the first time in four years, Chief Sealth International High School is hosting an auction.**

We're so excited to be celebrating our school, its successes, and our students, teachers, and staff with an event that's sure to sparkle and amaze. The auction will be **December 2nd at 5:30 pm at the Brockey Center, South Seattle College.** The funds raised at auction are hugely impactful for our school.

**To Buy tickets, donate funds or auction items, and learn more on our [CSIHS auction website](#).**

You can preview what's already been donated [here](#) – including ticket packs for the Mariners and the Seahawks, ski and snowboard equipment, gift cards from all sorts of local West Seattle businesses. and a lakeside cabin getaway. P.S. Along with sponsorships and item donations, the PTSA [welcomes auction volunteers](#) too. You can also contact [Chris Kindem](#), who serves on the Auction Committee.

## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS: ALL CREATION WAITS

Aided by a special grant from THRIVENT, the Creation Care and Worship Teams have purchased Advent devotionals for Peace Households: ***All Creation Waits***. These beautifully illustrated books, written by Gail Boss and illustrated by David Klein, include meditations for each day of December focused on how wild animals adapt when darkness and cold descend. The book reflects what some call the first Bible—the Bible of nature. Our worship during Advent this year will build upon connections between the texts of scripture and text of the book.

Be sure to pick up a copy for your household and join in upcoming Zoom meetings with author Gayle Boss on December 3rd and 10th. During our Advent Festival on December 3rd, Gayle will read from her Children's Edition. The following week, at noon, adults can learn more about the devotional and how to use it. A light lunch will be provided for those who stay at church and a link will be provided for those who want to join remotely.

## 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; Joyce Bitner; Barbara Brocker; Mary Brocker; Jan Burt; Colleen; Melanie Coulson; Heidi Coy; Karl Coy; Marsha Davis; Laura Dwyer; Ruth Eilers; Georgine Epley; Sean Fenton; Joe Flint; Marge Flint; Caity Gerhardt; Sandy Goodale; Dawn Gringorten; Signa Gustafson; Donna Heiland; Dave Hemme; Robert Allen Hoffman III; Mary Jacob; Ken Keyes; Dee Levy; Justin Makboul; Evelyn Martinez; Eddie McDaniel; Chloe McDonough; Eric, Erin, Finley McDonough; Pete McIntyre; Ken McPherson; Erin McPherson; Steve Metzler; Katrina Moore; Bill Morrell; Penelope Grace; Michelle Pierce; Irma Runge; David Salazar; JoAnne Spangler; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Pam Webber; Judy Wiggins; Patti Wunder.

**Homebound:** Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Lee Lamson; Jan Madsen

**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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