## To Hope and Act with Creation



St. Francis ~ Creation Sunday October 6, 2024

## Peace Lutheran Church



## West Seattle, Washington

Welcome to Peace! We pray you experience God's presence today as you join us in worship.

There are times during the service when you'll be invited to "rise as able in body or spirit."

You have full permission to care for yourself and your physical well-being, so if getting up and down is difficult, we encourage you to do whatever you need to do to care for yourself, including remaining seated.

Parents, know that if your young ones need to move around, we're cool with that!



We celebrate Christ's presence in the Sacrament of the Table. 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.

## To Hope and Act with Creation St. Francis ~ Creation Sunday October 6, 2024

While we at Peace Lutheran mark a Season of Creation in June each year, on the ecumenical calendar <u>The Season of Creation</u> begins September 1st and ends on October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christians. This year we mark the Feast of St. Francis by uniting with Christians communions around the theme "To hope and act with Creation," inspired by Romans 8:19-25.

## + GATHERING +

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

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME**

## + The Singing Bowl Calls Us to Worship +

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

Our confession today is framed by words from <u>Laudato Si'</u>, the circular letter from Pope Francis which invites all people into renewed care for our common home.

- P In the name of the One, triune + God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Guide.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

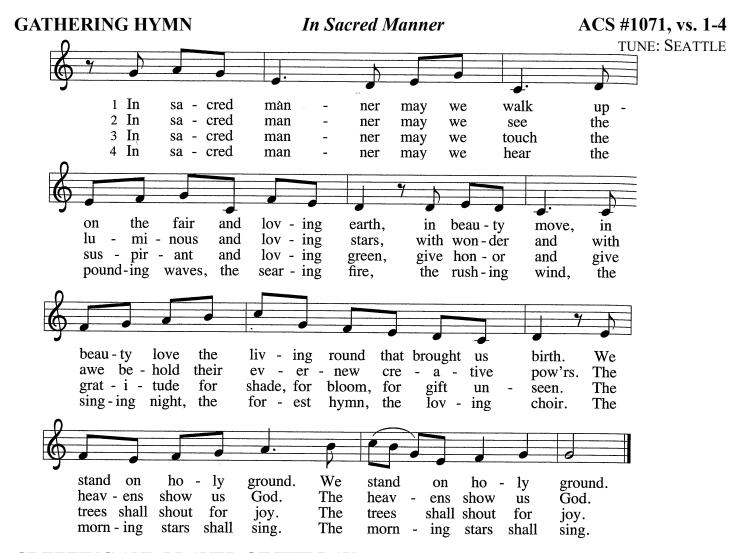
#### Silence is observed.

- P In his beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her.
- C We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air, and in all forms of life.
- P The Earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she "groans in travail."
- C We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth; that our very bodies are made up of her elements: we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters. Turn us from violent and self-serving ways. Give us the will to treat our sister with respect, care, and gratitude, that we might hope and act with creation!



#### **ABSOLUTION**

- P Siblings in Christ, God hears our confession and offers us a way forward. In the sacred waters of baptism we are grounded in grace and equipped to become the Earthkeepers and justice makers God has intended from the very beginning. Even while we groan with Earth, God graces us with the first fruits of the Spirit to nurture and sustain us as we embark on a new path the path of wholeness, interdependence, and hope.
- C Creator, teach us to love Earth as our home and restore to us our calling as peacemakers, servants, and keepers. May the fruits of our actions bring renewed hope for all! Amen.



#### GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- 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.
- P Let us pray. You who are our Source, who made all things good, and who entered creation's story in Jesus: look upon us and this world you so love and grant us the power to heal and to hope; that with fervor we may love our Earth home and serve our neighbors for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

## **+** WORD **+**

## FIRST READING: Micah 7:1-4, 7 (NRSVUE)

**Shannon Williams** 

Israel's capital in Samaria is personified in this oracle, which points to the consequences that result when corrupt leaders ignore the needs of the poor and the land itself.

Woe is me! For I have become like one who, after the summer fruit has been gathered, after the vintage has been gleaned, finds no cluster to eat; there is no first-ripe fig for which I hunger.

The faithful have disappeared from the land, and there is no one left who is upright; they all lie in wait for blood, and they hunt each other with nets.

Their hands are skilled to do evil; the official and the judge ask for a bribe, and the powerful dictate what they desire; thus they pervert justice.

The best of them is like a brier, the most upright of them a thorn hedge.

The day of their sentinels, of their punishment, has come; now their confusion is at hand.

But as for me, I will look to the Lord;

I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

- L Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 42** (NRSVUE) Read responsively

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:

how I went with the throng and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your torrents; all your waves and your billows have gone over me. By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me?

Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?"

As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:18-25** (NRSVUE)

St. Paul links the suffering of all creation—its groaning as if in labor—to human suffering as together we await the promised birth to wholeness God is working to bring about.

The first fruits of that rebirth are with us even now, in the midst of suffering.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole of

creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

- L Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.
- C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Please rise in body or spirit to receive the gospel ELW page 188



- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 9<sup>th</sup> Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### **GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35-38**

As Jesus' reputation grows, rather than settle in once place he goes on an itinerant mission proclaiming and embodying the gospel in a ministry of healing, with compassion at its center.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

- P The gospel of our Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHOIR ANTHEM** 

O Praise the Lord, Who Made All Beauty

Hal H. Hopson

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** 

**Shannon Williams** 

Pastor Erik Kindem

SERMON
Time for Both at income

Time for Reflection

## Infinite Beauty

Susan Palo Cherwien TUNE: SHADES MOUNTAIN



#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We have faith in one God, one Source of all life, one Ground of the whole Earth, who created all things good. And we have faith in Jesus Christ, in whom we have been shown the special role of humanity to bear God's likeness in working and caring for Creation, in seeking to understand her mysteries and powers, in working with these powers for the wellbeing of life on Earth.

And we have faith in God's Spirit who leads us

to a meek, unselfish and compassionate lifestyle.

So that the Earth is inherited in peace,

her life is transformed for all creatures and her bounty shared justly.

So be it. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Laura Bermes

- A Challenged by God's work in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation. *Petitions are offered that end with:* 
  - A Creator God:
  - C May we hope and act with Creation.

When all petitions have been offered:

- P Finally, let us pray that we may be instruments of your peace.
- C Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## + MEAL +

#### THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

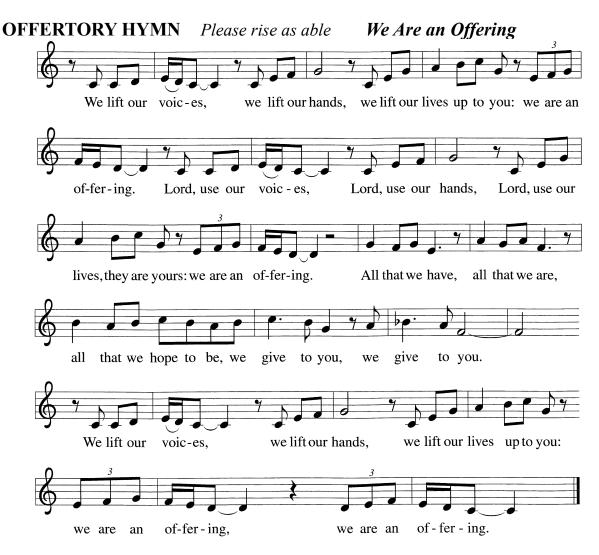
#### **OFFERING**

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, can mail in a check, or connect to our secure <u>Tithely Giving</u>



<u>Page</u> via this QR CODE. Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!





#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty,
- C all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

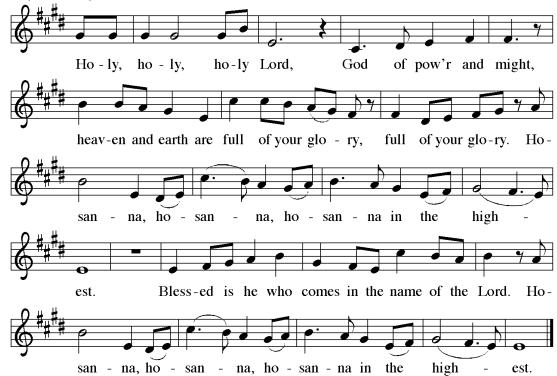
#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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:



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you became one with us in Jesus, embedding yourself in this world you so love. In him you reached out to heal the sick and suffering, preached good news to the poor, and on the cross, opened your arms to all.

On the night he shared his final meal with his friends, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to them, 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 life given for us, and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

  Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine.
- C Breathe your Spirit over the whole Earth and make us your new creation—the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.
- P In the fullness of time, bring us with Francis and all your saints, from every tribe and language, people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.
- C For to you belongs all glory and honor, Almighty and Altender God, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER Ecumenical

Gathering into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught:

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,

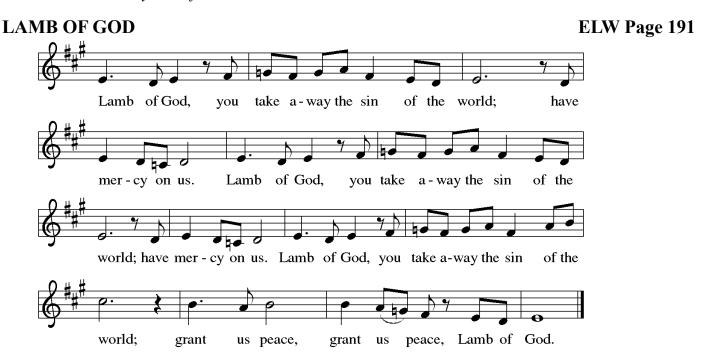
now and forever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

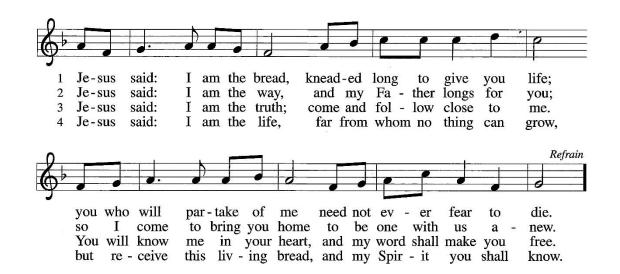
- Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.
- $\mathbf{C}$ Thanks be to God!

#### DISTRIBUTION

Today we commune at the rail. Please come forward and find a place, kneeling or standing. Gluten free bread is 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 first pew on your way back to your seat. 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.







#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray. Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

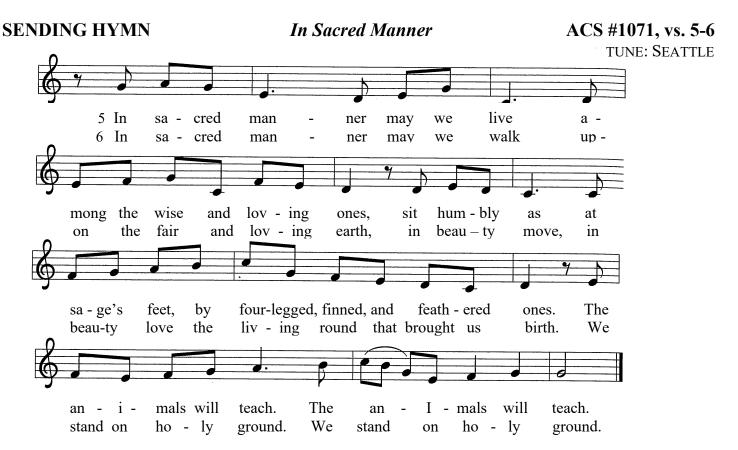
C Amen.

## + SENDING +

#### **BLESSING**

P The holy Trinity, + one God, guide you in ways of faith, hope, and love; now and always.

C Amen.



A Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C Thanks be to God!

#### **POSTLUDE**

Peace Ringers, Jon Lackey



## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Pastor Erik Kindem's mobile phone number:

206-935-1962
206-930-3172

Pastor Erik Kindem's email:
Peace Lutheran web page:
Www.peacelutheranseattle.org
Kathleen Keyes Office Admin.
Pastor@peacelutheranseattle.org
Office@peacelutheranseattle.org

Church Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm 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**

Pastor Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music Jon Lackey
Flutist Chris Kindem
Assisting Minister Laura Bermes
Acolyte Esme Klinemeier
Lector Shannon Williams
Children's Sermon Shannon Williams

Peace Ringers Peace Choir

Greeters Shannon Williams, Jean Sides

Ushers Kristin Gimelli Hemme, Barbara Hillier

Altar Care Karl Coy

Communion Assistant Kathleen Keyes, Karl Coy

Coffee Server Creation Care Team

Counters Kristin Gimelli Hemme, Paul Bliss

Production Techs Alex Wren, Paul Bliss

## **OFFERING INCOME**

Thank you for your gifts which support God's mission at Peace, in the Northwest region, and internationally through the ELCA!

#### Offering Income received September 2024

 09/01/24
 \$ 2,205.00

 09/08/24
 \$ 2,149.00

 09/15/24
 \$ 500.00

 09/22/24
 \$ 1,352.00

 09/29/24
 \$ 2,475.00

 Electronic
 \$12,503.86

 Total
 \$21,184.86

Heating campaign total received to date: \$35,625

## THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

Be an informed voter. Initiative 2117 intends to repeal the Climate Commitment Act, for which members of Peace lobbied in years past. Its passage would end the cap and invest program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and <u>prohibit</u> state agencies from imposing *any* type of carbon tax credit trading. Its passage would lead to more pollution, more smoke and more asthma in our communities and take away \$2 billion in benefits to Washingtonians over the next two years. Learn what's at risk from I-2117's passage at <a href="https://riskofrepeal.cleanprosperousinstitute.org/county-summaries/">https://riskofrepeal.cleanprosperousinstitute.org/county-summaries/</a>.

**Pray for Creation:** With St. Francis, we join with all our siblings in creation to praise the One who made us and continues to care for all of us.

# TODAY IS THE FEAST FOR ST. FRANCIS and the Culmination of the Ecumenical Season of Creation

Surrounded as we are with constant devastating news about climate chaos, biodiversity loss and the ever-growing mountains of pollution it is easy to fall into despair. And yet as people of faith, we have hope - the confidence in what we hope for and the assurance of what we do not yet see (cf. Hebrews 11:1). In the words of Archbishop Tutu "Hope is being able to see that there is light - despite all the darkness." This service is part of the ecumenical Season of Creation, a season of prayer and action for our common home that takes place every year from September 1 to October 4. The theme this year is "To hope and act with Creation," and the symbol is "The first fruits of hope," inspired by Romans 8:19-25.

### NATIONAL SOLAR TOUR COMES TO PEACE TODAY

Peace Lutheran is hosting a stop on the National Solar Tour today from 1-3pm. The tour is the country's largest grassroots solar, renewable energy, and sustainable living event. Want to know more about our solar panels, rain gardens and cisterns and native pollinator plantings? We can help with that!

## FIRST SUNDAY FOOD FOR OUR NEIGHBORS TODAY

Thanks for your contributions to today's gathering of Food for our Neighbors! Please place your donations in either of the front pews before the service or as you come forward for Holy Communion. Forgot? Bring your items any time and place in the marked drawer in the narthex or in the lower level entryway. Next month's emphasis: canned fruits and vegetables.

## **GIVE NOW FOR HURRICANE RESPONSE**

Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a Category 4 hurricane on September 26 and has ravaged communities in the southeast, from Florida to Virginia. As the floodwaters have started to recede, the extreme devastation — especially in North Carolina and Tennessee — has become clearer. Now, it is time to do what we do best: roll up our sleeves and get to work. Click on this link:

Whatever unfolds because of this storm, Lutheran Disaster Response will be there.

Or to give by phone, call **800-638-3522**. Checks or money orders can be mailed to:

Lutheran Disaster Response, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 Make the check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and put in the memo line "Hurricane Response"

## CALL ME DANCER A FILM SCREENING FRIDAY, 10/25 7:30 PM

Chief Sealth High School Performing Arts Center. This exclusive Seattle screening will benefit the Drama Program at Chief Sealth International High School and West Seattle Performing Arts Dance School. The screening will be followed by an audience Q&A. The film is 84 minutes, in English & Hindi, with subtitles. Before the national release, this is a rare opportunity to see this remarkable film

on the big screen. The trailer can be viewed at: <a href="https://youtu.be/hrgqaXfqsPc?si=Lb8sJopzpo0YivDy">https://youtu.be/hrgqaXfqsPc?si=Lb8sJopzpo0YivDy</a>

Pre-purchase (online) individual tickets prices: Students - \$15.00 Adults - \$20.00

At the door: Students - \$18.00 Adults - \$25.00

FOR TICKETS: https://bayfestsealththeatrecompany.ludus.com/ ----- or scan:

For group discount info, email <u>BAYFESTyouthTheatre@gmail.com</u>



Don't miss this opportunity to participate in the Peace Annual Bake Sale PLUS!\*

(\*Bake Sale PLUS a few cozy knitted items)

This event will take place on Saturday, November 23 from 9am- 3pm (and possibly Sunday if any items are left (a)) in the Peace Fellowship Hall. Please watch for a flyer in coming weeks where you can let us know how you can help! We need bakers, workers, and financial donations. If you're a baker, here are some ideas of the kinds of things we're hoping to have donated: pies, cakes, breads, cookies, home-canned jams, jellies, preserves, etc., gluten-free, dairy-free, and vegan baked goods, and anything else you would like to bring! In addition, monetary donations are welcome from folks who would like to contribute, but who are not bakers. Proceeds from the Bake Sale will go to Peace Lutheran Church and the Neighborhood Community. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to any of the folks on our Bake Sale Committee: Lisa Boeckh, Nancy Hauger, Helen Hundley, Mary Jacob, Chris Kindem, Marcia Olson, Pidge Peters Thanks, Friends!

## **PRAYER LIST**

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: Sick/Recovering: Carrol Andersen; Bailey Byam; Cay Bell; Deric Bevier; Jan Burt; Ixchela Castaneda; Jeff & Dolly Chale; Mike & Marsha Davis; MaryAnne DeVry; Joe Flint; Bob Gaines; Caity Gerhardt; Verna Hernandez; Maria Iriarte; Sandy Kaduce; Ken Keyes; Peter Dion Kindem; Kari Kindem; Kyle Madsen; Evelyn Martinez; Pete & Kelly McIntyre; Steve Metzler; Bill Morrell; Michelle Pierce; Joey Roberts; Aaden Smith; JoAnne Spangler; Don Spangler; Pat Spangler; Nancy Spannaus; Sean Stephens; Rick Steves; Sarah Taylor; Michele Tomseth; Pam Webber; Roger Wingfield.

Homebound: Connie Benjamin; Lu Kramer; Marjorie Johnson; 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.

<u>We express our Christian sympathy</u> to the Keyes family on the death of Duane Keyes, Kathleen's brother-in-law. He leaves behind his brother David, son Erik, daughter Heidi and 4 grandchildren.

## 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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Susan Palo Cherwien was commissioned to write this hymn to honor Dr. Anton Armstrong, conductor of the St. Olaf Choir, for his thirty years of teaching at St. Olaf. It was first performed at the virtual Honors Convocation on May 13, 2020.

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