

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

Throughout Advent we are exploring in particular the gifts that night and darkness bring.

Our first reading, from 1st Samuel, speaks of God who comes to us in the night in dreams and visions.

+ + +

There are times during the service when you'll be invited to "rise 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.

Our Pass the Hat Partner during December is <u>Paths to Understanding</u>. Exec. Dir. Terry Kyllo will share about the organization's ministry as well as serve as today's preacher.

+ GATHERING +

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

PRELUDE Imagine Laura Bermes, guitar

WELCOME

LITANY FOR ADVENT Please rise in body or spirit as worship begins.

Today's Captivities B

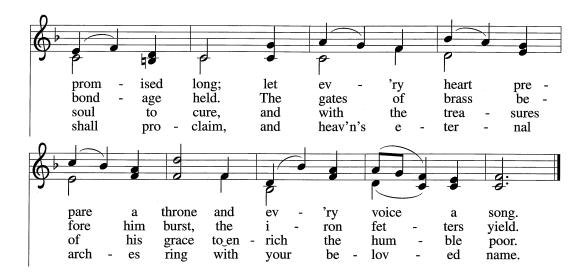
Brian Wren

- P Christ our Savior, save us from today's captivities. From the need to have more; and from having our identity and self-worth defined by what we possess.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.
- A From the need to be satisfied without waiting; and from anxiety when material longings are deferred.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.
- P From paralysis and confusion, in the face of so many needs, so much information.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.
- A From hyperactivism that denies our limitations, and from apathy that denies our God-given powers.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.
- P From trying to replace you as Savior, by taking the world on our shoulders.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.
- A From ignorance or denial of what drives us; and from captivity to personal drives and needs.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.
- P From embarrassment in speaking about your love; from not knowing what to say; And from the shame of being misunderstood, scorned, or ignored.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.
- A From captivity to anger, bitterness, and disappointment; and from captivities we cannot speak about, or name.
- C Savior Christ, set us free.

GATHERING HYMN Hark, the Glad Sound

ELW #239





GREETING

- The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, P the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds,
- \mathbf{C}



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to your voice, that, hearing your call, we may respond with lives of faithful service; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

 C Amen.

ADVENT SONG O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verses 5 & 6

O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Bliss Family

The candles on the Advent wreath are lit progressively as we prepare to welcome Christ.

L In the Gospel of Luke, John the Baptizer points to Jesus:

As the people were filled with expectation, . . . questioning whether John might be the Messiah, John answered them by saying,

"I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming. . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

If we follow Jesus Christ, we will get everything we hope for, and more than we bargained for. We light our third candle to praise God, whose Spirit comes to us with disturbing and wonderful blessings.

The third candle is lit.

- L Living Christ, give us faith to trust you and hope to follow you.
- C We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.

PASS THE HAT

Paths of Understanding

Rev. Terry Kyllo

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-18

Larry Cruse

God comes to us in dreams and visions. The long expanse of night, absent the distractions of worries of the day, creates space for us to hear and listen. Three times young Samuel hears God's voice as he sleeps; three times he mistakes it for Eli's. But Eli, catching on, encourages Samuel to be ready and open to receive the message God intends to bring.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow

dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." ¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

L Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95

The assembly joins the cantor on each refrain:



Cantor: Emmanuel, the reign of God among us
We long to see and taste your Jubilee
Unbind our lives and set our minds at peace Refrain

Barbara Jones

O Holy Wisdom fill us with your knowledge That we may follow on the path you show Teach us to live as one with all your people *Refrain*

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

The theme of joy sounded in the first reading continues in Paul's confident words to the Philippians. Although he writes from prison, Paul finds hope in the assurance that hearts and minds are guarded securely by the peace of God.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

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



Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one "who is coming." John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits for merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his

granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

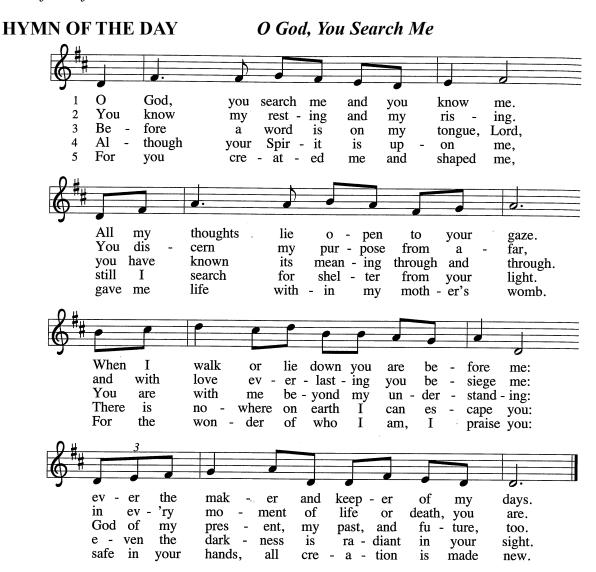
Nicole Klinemeier

SERMON

Pastor Terry Kyllo

ACS #1082

Time for reflection



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From the Iona Community

- P With the whole church,
- C We affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.
- P With people everywhere,
- C We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.
- P With all creation,
- C We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Laura Bermes

A swe prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

Petitions are offered that end with:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

When all petitions have been offered:

P Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

+ 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.

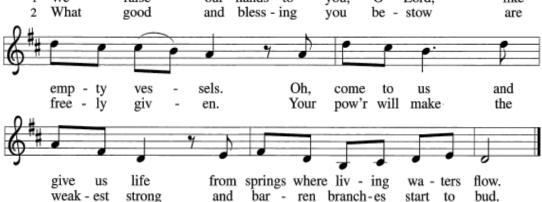
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



OFFERTORY We Raise Our Hands to You **ELW #690** We raise hands to O like our you, Lord, What good and bless - ing you be - stow are

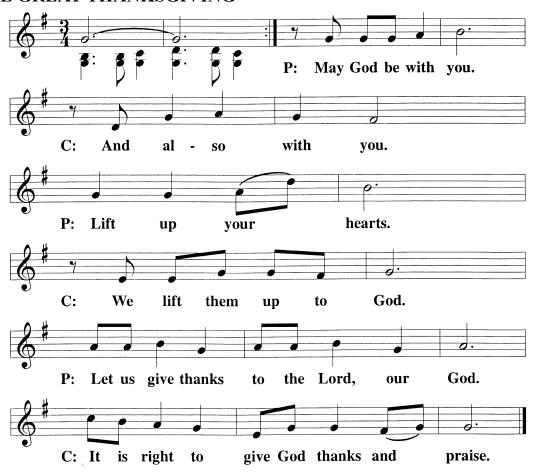


OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Creator God,

C you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

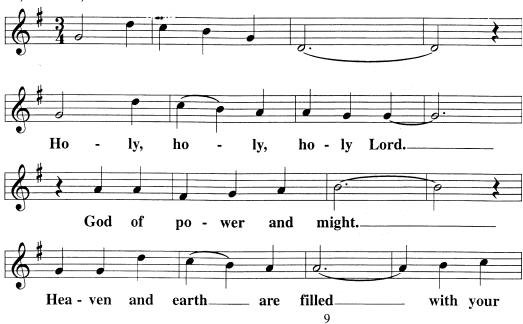
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

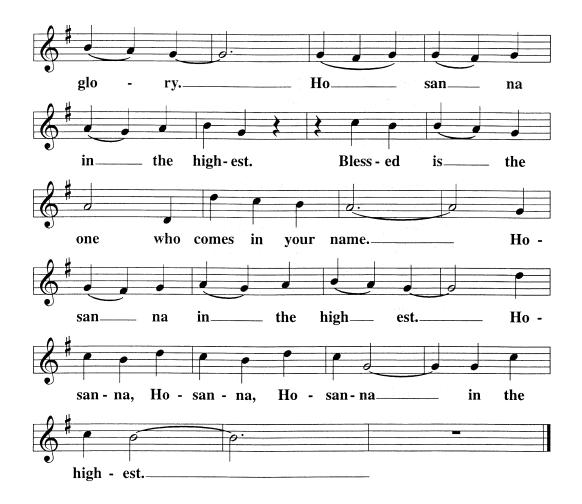


P Truly it is right and joyous to offer thanks and praise to our gracious God in all places and in all circumstances of life, but especially so on this day as we anticipate the coming of our Savior, the light which can never be extinguished. And so with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with all the saints and angels in heaven and on earth, we raise our voices with this never-ending hymn of praise!

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Page 190





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P Gracious God of life and light our hearts are full of gratitude...
 ...in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread... took the cup...
 poured out for you for the forgiveness of sin, Do this for the remembrance of me.
- C We remember, O God, and with this bread and cup we feast at your table in joyful anticipation of that day when all creation will find its home in you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (traditional)

- P Trusting in the One who made his home with us, we pray the prayer of Jesus:
- C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
 - and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

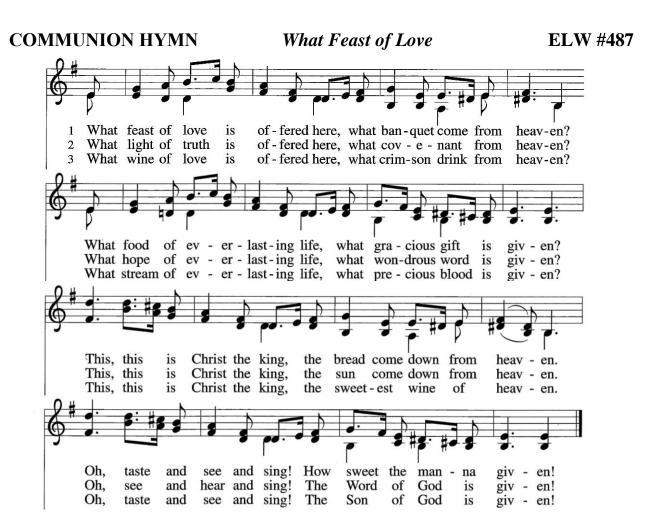
- P God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.
- C Thanks be to God!

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.

CALL US HOME





PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Let us pray. Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.
- C Amen.

BLESSING

- P God of endings and beginnings, God of darkness and light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever.
- C Amen.

+ SENDING +



DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
- C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Laura Bermes, guitar

+ + +

CONTACT INFORMATION

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206-930-3172

Pastor Erik Kindem's e-mail pastor@peacelutheranseattle.org
Peace Lutheran web page: www.peacelutheranseattle.org
Kathleen Keyes Office Admin. office@peacelutheranseattle.org

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

Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director 206-427-6496

Jon Lackey, Minister of Music

Find us on facebook at People of Peace Lutheran

Music@peacelutheranseattle.org

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor Rev. Erik Kindem
Guest preacher Rev. Terry Kyllo
Minister of Music Jon Lackey
Guitarist Laura Bermes
Liturgical Assistant Laura Bermes
Applyto

Acolyte Kimberly Simmons
Advent Readers Bliss Family

Lector Larry Cruse
Cantor Barbara Jones
Children's Message Nicole Klinemeier

Greeters
Ushers
Altar Care
Communion Assistants
Nancy Hauger, Helen Hundley
Christopher & Austin Simmons
Naomi Kindem, Esme Klinemeier
Naomi Kindem, Esme Klinemeier

Coffee Server Helen Hundley

Counters Joey DiJulio, Erika Stephens Production Techs Alex Wren, Joey DiJulio

Nursery Attendant Heidi Coy

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

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

Offering Income received in December 2024

12/01/24 \$ 2,483.00 12/08/24 \$ 3,210.00 Electronic \$ 6,357.37 **Total** \$12,050.37

Your year-end gift will help us close the fiscal year with strength.

THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

Make your Christmas dinner more sustainable by planning a low-waste menu focused on fresh, locally-sourced, and minimally processed ingredients. By avoiding pre-packaged, plastic-wrapped foods, you can significantly reduce your plastic consumption. Consider shopping for farmers' market produce, bulk bin items, and products with minimal or compostable packaging. Purchase items like eggs in recyclable paper packaging. Go to your local bulk store and bring your own jars and containers to get your ingredients home.

Pray for Creation: We pray that the perpetrators of war may be moved to hear and respond to the voices that cry out for the health of our planet and all its creatures.

WEDNESDAY EVENING GATHERINGS IN ADVENT

Join us at the Winterstein home on <u>December 18 for our final midweek gathering during Advent.</u>
Come @ 6pm for soup and @ 7 pm for a brief service of evening prayer. The liturgy for these evenings is drawn from diverse sources, including Celtic prayer traditions that originate in the Northumbrian Community of northeast England, and the hymnal <u>All Creation Sings</u> hymnal. Come and join.

PASS THE HAT TODAY: PATHS TO UNDERSTANDING

<u>Paths to Understanding</u> will be a new Pass the Hat recipient for Peace. It is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization based in Washington State. The organization, led by ELCA Pastor Terry Kyllo, is bringing together people from diverse faith traditions to create community across lines that often divide – Christian, Muslim, Jew, Indigenous. Pastor Terry was our guest at the adult forum this morning and is serving as our guest preacher.

THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT BAGS

THANK YOU to all who helped provide *fifteen (15) full holiday gift bags* given to neighbors in need -- at yesterday's Welcome Table! Personal hygiene items, yummy snacks, caps and gloves -- and much more -- will help make Christmas a blessed time for adults and children in the West Seattle/White Center neighborhood. And also -- Operation Nightwatch received *160 pairs of new warm socks* to share with men and women in downtown shelters and streets -- from Peace members and friends. Your generosity is deeply appreciated! -- Social Ministry Team

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS WITH PEACE LUTHERAN CHOIR & FAUNTLEROY UCC 12/21 & 12/22

Some great news to share! Our choir is – after several years of not being able to so due to COVID – once again joining Fauntleroy UCC and a couple of other choirs for a joint Christmas Concert series. There will be an excellent string trio accompanying us for three of the pieces. Some of the music includes: "For Unto Us a Child is Born" from MESSIAH, "The Rose" by Ola Gjeio, and the finale — a larger work, "Luminous Night of the Soul" also by Ola Gjeilo.

This will be Bronwyn Edwards' final Christmas concert series as she is retiring from her music ministry at Fauntleroy in June. We sure hope to see you there! The free concerts are: Saturday, December 21 at 7 pm and Sunday, December 22 at 4 pm at Fauntleroy UCC, 9140 California Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98136

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 26, 2022

Sunday, January 26, is our Annual Congregational Meeting. Please add it to your calendar! We will have options for people to join the meeting in person and through two online platforms. Following are some key dates to keep in mind as the day approaches.

- **JANUARY 5** All annual reports from Peace ministries, committees, and task forces are due in the church office (electronic form, please!)
- **JANUARY 14** Church Council meets to finalize Annual Mtg agenda, Pass Hat proposals for 2025-26, and 2025 budget
- JANUARY 19 Bulletin of Reports for Annual Meeting are available.
- **JANUARY 26** –Annual Meeting following worship.

ELECTIONS FOR CHURCH COUNCIL COMING UP

Would you like to serve as a member of our congregation's Church Council? There are leadership positions on the Council opening up in January. The council meets once a month to support our ongoing mission, including the discussion of budgets, policies, and the operations of the church. Church council members are the governing body of the church in between congregational meetings. They work as liaisons between the council and all the church committees and ministry teams. The council is comprised of a group of individuals who work hard to maintain a positive, Christian experience for everyone who attends Peace Lutheran Church. We need you! If you are interested in exploring the possibility of becoming a church council member please contact Marcia Olson, Chris Kindem, Alan Jarvimaki, or Derek Lunde. Nominees must have been a member of Peace for 1 year. Elections take place at the Annual Meeting on January 26th.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: Sick/Recovering: Rich Albers; Carrol Andersen; Bailey Byam; Deric Bevier; Jan Burt; Ixchela Castaneda; Jeff & Dolly Chale; Mike & Marsha Davis; MaryAnne DeVry; Joe DiJulio, Sr.; Bob Gaines; Gussie Gannon; Ann Gault; Caity Gerhardt; Diana Heiland; Jerry Heiland; Verna Hernandez; Maria Iriarte; Sandy Kaduce; Ken Keyes; Peter Dion Kindem; Kyle Madsen; Evelyn Martinez; Pete & Kelly McIntyre; August Menstell Coyle; Steve Metzler; Bill Morrell; Janet Peek; Michelle Pierce; Joey Roberts; Victor Siders; Aaden Smith; Don Spangler; Pat Spangler; Nancy Spannaus; Dave Stansbury; Sean Stephens; Kaity Streit; Sarah Taylor; Michele Tomseth; Megan Kindem Webber; Pam Webber; Roger Wingfield.

Homebound: Connie Benjamin; Lu Kramer; Marjorie Johnson; Jan Madsen; Inta Zagars **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.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral homeland of the DUWAMISH **PEOPLE.** We recognize the DUWAMISH and other SALISH PEOPLES, the FIRST STEWARDS of this land, who have called this region home—and continue to call it home—from time immemorial. We join with them and with all people who see the Earth, its creatures, watersheds, and habitats, as part of an integral whole reflecting our Creator's intention for wholeness and balance.

PERMISSIONS

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