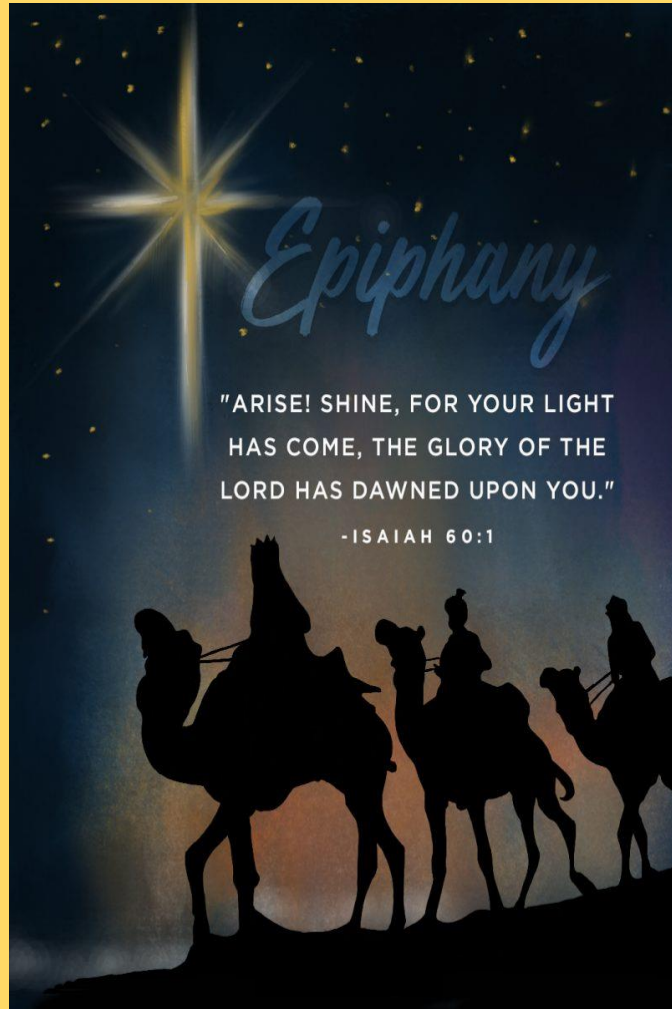


THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



JANUARY 5, 2025

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington



The feast of the Epiphany concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

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 A – Assisting Minister L – Lector
ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal WOV – With One Voice

PRELUDE

WELCOME

BLESSING OUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP FOR 2025 *We gather in the narthex.*

P In the name of the Word made Flesh, + Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

p Before we speak, God is here.

C **Living God, open what is closed that the Spirit may come in.**

P Open our hands, to give and to greet.

C **Open our minds to new truth and old wisdom.**

P Open our hearts to new hope and old assurance.

C **Open what is closed that the Spirit may come in.**

The presider marks the threshold to the nave for the new year. 20+C+M+B+25
Christus Mansiones Benedictus is translated: “Christ bless this house.”

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky

ELW #301 vs. 1-4

1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no
heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly
All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her
heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.


GREETING

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

C And also with you.

GLORIA

Glo - ry to God
— in the high - est, Glo - ry to God.
Glo - ry to God — in the high - est, Glo - ry to God.
— Hear all the saints and an - gels — pro -
claim God's ho - ly name. Crea - tures of sky and o -
— cean — con - tin - ue the re - frain.
Glo - ry to God — in the high - est, Glo - ry to God.
— Glo - ry to God — in the high - est,
Glo - ry to God. — You know that hea - ven & earth
— can - not hold back their joy — and their
song ex - plodes — in gra - ti - tude for



all God's gi - ven; won - drous deeds, _____

hea - ling peace and so _____ we sing. _____

Glo - ry to God _____ in the high - est, Glo - ry to God. _____

Glo - ry to God _____ in the high - est, Glo - ry,

Glo - ry to our God. _____

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all the lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Julie Ward

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her, because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,

the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Julie Ward

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

ELW #174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. The first staff is a treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a five-line staff with notes and rests. Below the staff, the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written. The second staff is identical to the first, with the same melody and lyrics.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king.

Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Erik Kindem

Time for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Three Kings"

WOV #646



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a -
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a -
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri -



far, field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
gain; king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
nigh; prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
fice; heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: May God be with you.
C: And al - so with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them up to God.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P Truly it is right and joyous to offer thanks and praise to you, O gracious God, in all places and in all circumstance of life. But especially so on this day when we celebrate the light of Christ illuminating the Earth and revealing your promises. And so with all the saints and angels in heaven and on Earth and with all creation, we raise our voices in this never-ending hymn of praise:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Page 190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.
 God of po - wer and might.
 Hea - ven and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is the
one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho -
san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the
high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life,
at the birth of time your word brought light into the world.
In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary,
to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.
- P In the night in which he shared his final meal with his disciples,
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 to remember 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 to remember me.**
- P Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, and his death and resurrection,
we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.
By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you,
we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son,
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 In Jesus we are bold 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 A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.

Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

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.

CALL US HOME

God, Cre - a - tor, _____ call us home. God, Christ
Je - sus, _____ call us home. _____ God, Ho - ly Spi - rit, _____ call us
home. God, we're long - ing _____ to come home. home.

COMMUNION HYMN

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

ELW #464

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

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.
- C **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

BLESSING

- P The God of love, Creator, + Redeemer, and Guide, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky

ELW #301, vs. 5-6

5. Guided by the star, they found him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us, which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord, with the light to find our Lord.
6. And this star, as bright as day, that will never lead astray,
with its message so appealing, is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life, Christ the way, the truth, the life!


DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Pastor Erik Kindem's email:	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	Music@PeaceLutheranSeattle.org
Find us on  at People of Peace Lutheran	

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Erik Kindem
Minister of Music	Jon Lackey
Liturgical Assistant	Paul Bliss

Acolyte	Ben Ward
Lector	Julie Ward
Children's Sermon	Julie Ward
Greeters	Corinne Otakie, Marcia Olson
Ushers	Larry & Janet Cruse
Altar Care	Will & Ben Ward
Communion Assistants	Will Ward, Naomi Kindem
Coffee Server	Jean Sides
Production Techs	Matt Toso, Joey DiJulio
Counters	Paul Bliss, Erika Stephens
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
12/15/24	\$ 1,250.00
12/22/24	\$ 7,381.97
12/24/24	\$ 1,208.00
12/29/24	\$ 409.00
<u>Electronic</u>	<u>\$15,895.99</u>
Total	\$31,837.96

THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

Taking down your Christmas lights and wondering what to do with all those strings that no longer light up right? Don't put them in the garbage, recycle them! Holiday lights are free to recycle at all McLendon Hardware stores and at West Seattle Recycling, 3881 16th Ave SW, at the foot of the West Seattle bridge.

Pray for Creation: On this twelfth day of Christmas, we remember refugees all over the world, including political migrants Mary and Joseph and their baby, forced to Bethlehem and then Egypt. Increasingly, migration today is forced by climate change. We pray for increased understanding of the deep connection between social justice and environmental justice.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025 AVAILABLE

Offering envelopes for 2025 are available for pick-up for those of you who do not donate electronically. They are on a counter in the narthex closest to the kitchen.

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025, IS OUR FIRST SUNDAY FOOD FOR OUR NEIGHBORS!

Thank you for today's 1st Sunday food donations which will be shared with our own pantry on the patio, the Welcome Table, and the White Center Food Bank. Like to plan ahead? Next month's emphasis: **rice (2 pound bags), rice noodles, and ramen.**

MONDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY RESUMES 1/6/25

Monday night Zoom Bible study with Pastor Winterstein resumes 7 pm **tomorrow**. To receive an invitation, email bandpwinterstein@gmail.com

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 26, 2023

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.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Please submit your 2024 annual reports to the office in digital form by Monday, January 6th.

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; Marlen Boivin; Bailey Byam; Deric Bevier; Jan Burt; Jeff & Dolly Chale; Mike & Marsha Davis; MaryAnne DeVry; Joe DiJulio, Sr.; Jackie Farah; Bob Gaines; Ann Gault; Jon Gault; Caity Gerhardt; Diana Heiland; Jerry Heiland; Verna Hernandez; Ellen Heritage; Maria Iriarte; Alan Jarvimaki; Sandy Kaduce; Ken Keyes; Peter Dion Kindem; Kyle Madsen; Evelyn Martinez; Pete & Kelly McIntyre; Steve Metzler; Bill Morrell; Janet Peek; Michelle Pierce; Victor Siders; Aaden Smith; Don Spangler; Pat Spangler; Nancy Spannaus; Doug Sprague; Dave Stansbury; Sean Stephens; Kaity Streit; Mark Swanson; Sarah Taylor; Michele Tomseth; 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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O Little Town of Bethlehem Text: Phillip Brooks. Music: Lewis H. Redner. Public Domain

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