Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany January 28, 2024

Sharing God's love, growing in faith, and creating community...



In Person and Online Worship Fourth Sunday after Epiphany January 28, 2024

If joining us online, please have bread & wine/juice for communion.

PRELUDE played by Liz Mun

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ⊕ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God, our rock and refuge,
- C we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

We have wounded one another

and sinned against you.

We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit

dwelling in each of us.

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us,

that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of # Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

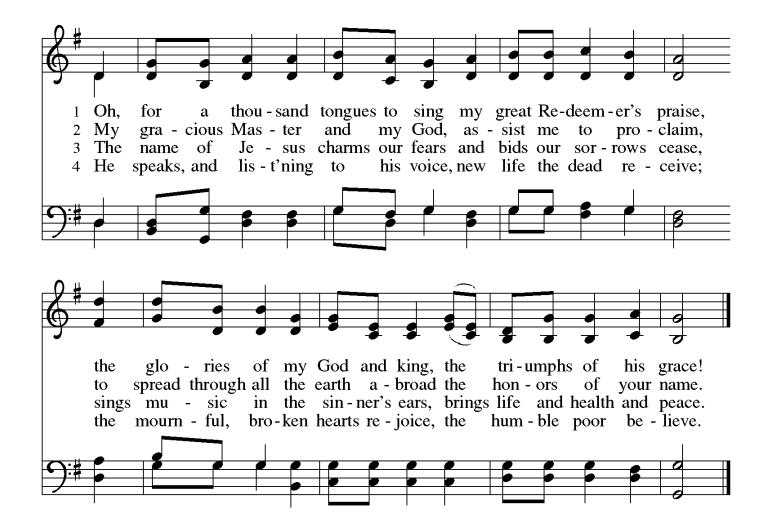
You are God's beloved.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (ELW 886)

verses 1, 4, 6

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,O fallen human race!Look and be saved through faith alone,be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

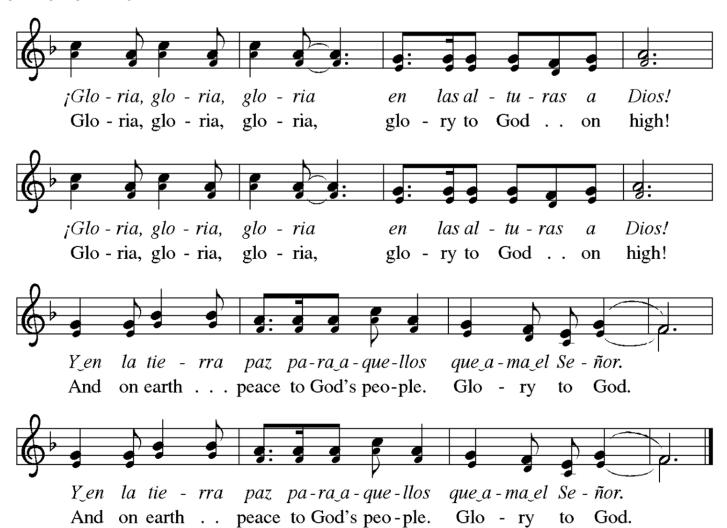
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

read by Marcia Dursi

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111 (Read responsively by whole verse.)

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

⁸They stand fast forever and ever,

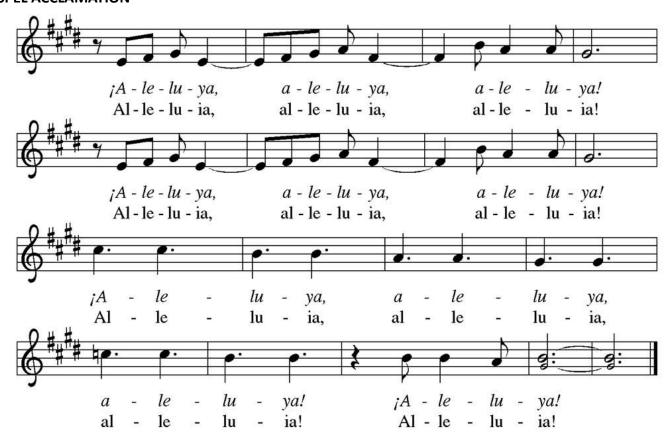
because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



- P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Krista Vingelis

HYMN OF THE DAY "There Is a Balm in Gilead" (ELW 696) verses 1 and 3

There Is a Balm in Gilead



Text: African American spiritual Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body.

and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS

A As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

- A Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A We now offer our own petitions either silently or aloud. (A brief silence.) Lord, in your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- A Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

SHARING PEACE

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

OFFERING



Thank you to everyone who faithfully continues to support Peace's ministries. To give online, please use the <u>online giving portal</u>. If you are in person, please leave your offering in the plate in front of the baptismal font when you come up for communion.

Special Offering. Each month, Peace designates a recipient of our special offering. Individuals may choose to give a special gift - over and above their usual offering to Peace - in support of a particular ministry.



January's Special Offering is LIRS. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) is the largest faith-based nonprofit dedicated to serving vulnerable immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the U.S. For more than 80 years, LIRS has been a champion for migrants and refugees from around the globe. Informed by their Lutheran faith and decades of experience with migrants and refugees, LIRS has responded to people caught in conflict and facing persecution. LIRS has developed new service programs, birthed new service organizations, and influenced public policy in the best interests of those they serve.

OFFERTORY SONG "Give Me a Song" (Heather Sorenson) sung by Voices of Peace, drums by Andrew Tlusty

OFFERING PRAYER

- A Let us pray together
- C Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

 Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

For those worshiping in person: We will commune using continuous distribution in one station. The ushers will indicate when it is your turn. You will come forward and receive bread. Then you will dip it in the cup. One cup has red wine; the other has white grape juice. All bread is gluten free.

For those worshiping online: The Pastor will invite you to partake of communion at the beginning of the meal before all are served in person. If you are with someone, please serve one another. If you are physically alone, you may serve yourself trusting these words: The Body of Christ given for you and The Blood of Christ shed for you.

- P This is God's table. All are welcome here.
- C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION HYMN Lamb of God



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



have .. mer-cy up - on us,

have.. mer-cy up - on us.



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



have .. mer-cy up - on us,

have.. mer-cy up - on us.



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



grant us your peace,

grant us your peace.

SONG DURING COMMUNION

COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
- C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P Let us pray,
- C Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.

Raise us to life by your power

for the benefit of all and to your glory,

now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

P God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

→ bless you and remain with you always.

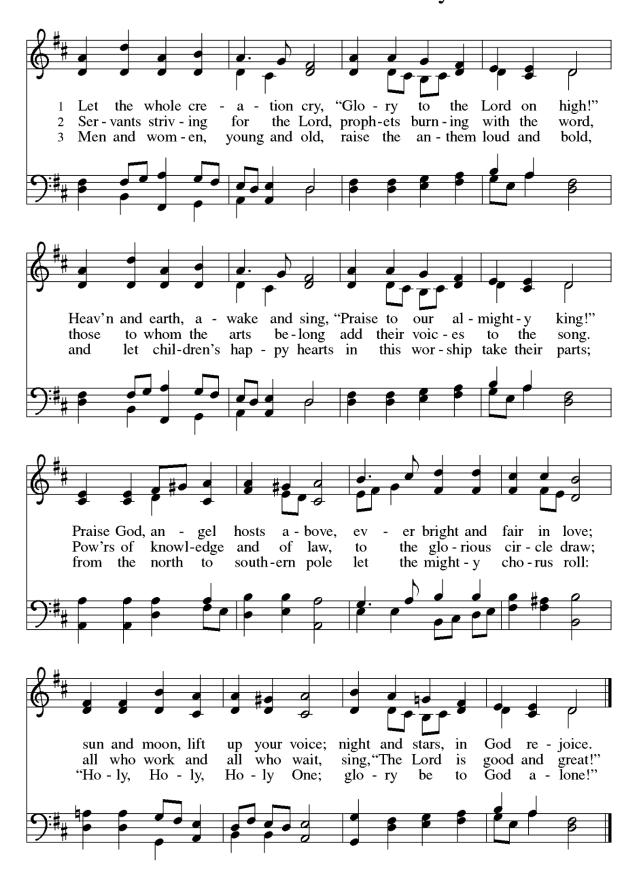
C Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Let the Whole Creation Cry" (ELW 876)

verses 1 and 2

Let the Whole Creation Cry



Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832-1916, alt.

Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE played by Liz Mun

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.

During the postlude you may sit and enjoy the music or depart as needed. Following the postlude, please join us in the fellowship hall for a time of refreshment.



Rules or Relationship?

Do you want to be right, or do you want to have a relationship? When a teenager spends \$200 on the world's coolest sunglasses is it the time to comment on the foolishness of the purchase or to simply smile and nod? May the people of Corinth eat meat sacrificed to idols? Paul seems to suggest that it does not really matter where the meat comes from. What matters is how the people you care about feel about that meat. Will it challenge their faith? Will it become a stumbling block to the weak? Do you want to be right, or do you want to have a relationship?

This theme continues in the gospel. The laws prohibiting work on the sabbath carry deep meaning for many people of faith, and yet on this sabbath Jesus rebukes an unclean spirit and frees a man. Jesus chooses to care for the man and to free him, rather than worry over the details of the law. In this instance Jesus is not condemned for his choice, as he will be later. But his fame begins to spread throughout the region. That too will later prove dangerous, yet it is also a sign of the evangelical nature of the faith. This is not a private faith, held closely and kept hidden. Rather it is an outgoing faith spread from person to person throughout the world.

To this day people continue to place barriers and restrictions on the faith. Congregations do this in intentional ways, for example, by setting a minimum age for receiving holy communion. The benefits of these restrictions can be debated, but at least they are chosen intentionally. Churches also create unintentional barriers. Consider the clothes people wear to church each Sunday. Are many people wearing suits and ties? Do you see blue jeans? Do people wear shorts in the summer? What are some of the ways people might be kept from a relationship with Jesus by the barriers we create?

Peace Notes

Call Committee Update: The call committee is happy to share that we received a slate of candidates from the Synod sooner than we expected. We've conducted five interviews and are determining our next steps. Volunteers are needed for Peace's search committees! Contact council president Kathleen Wage (kathleenwage@yahoo.com) if interested.

New Member Orientation: New Member Orientation will be offered Sunday, February 4th, following the worship services. Make a snack plate from the fellowship time and join Pastor Krista in the church library to explore what church membership means at Peace. Please let Pastor Krista (pastor@sharingpeace.org) know if you will need nursery services to participate.

TODAY Open Table for Parents, January 28: Another Open Table for Parents has been scheduled for January 28th, following service and during the children's choir rehearsal. This is for parents of all ages to share in the vision for future CYF ministries and staffing.

Congregational Meeting, Feb 4: The meeting will be accessible both virtually and in person. We will discuss the budget and how we want to move forward as a congregation in 2024. We hope to see you there! (A reminder to ministry leaders: send your annual reports to the office by January 29!)

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF

Dates to pay attention to as we give together in 2024 to support our mission and vision:

- Sunday, January 28 Stewardship Packets available for distribution
- Sunday, February 4 Annual Congregational Meeting
- Sunday, February 11 Commitment Sunday

God-Wrestling – A Bible Study Focused on Women's Stories: The next sessions will be from January to March and led by Rev. Dr. Rode Molla, and Shannon Spence. This Zoom-based Bible Study will be structured around *A Woman's Lectionary for the Whole Church*. This Lectionary was developed by Hebrew Scriptures scholar and Episcopal priest Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney and focuses on overlooked women's stories in the Bible. The sessions are scheduled from 7-8 on: Jan 18; Feb 1 and 15; and Mar 7 and 21. Even if you have not joined us in the past, join us now! Email info@sharingpeace.org if you would like more info about signing up or getting the book.

OUR PRAYERS

Adapted from For What Shall We Pray?

- For the Call Committee, Church Council, and all volunteers as they continue to put in hard work and long hours discerning Peace's pastoral future...
- For Peace church and all families who are in a time of transition...
- For Nadia Fitzcharles as we bless her moving into her new call...
- Our prayers for Eddie D'Andrade, Annalise's dad, as he continues to cope with his cancer diagnosis and declining health...
- Prayers for Chuck Flinner, former member of Peace, who has experienced some health problems. His daughter, Debbie said he would love cards. Contact the office for his address...
- Prayers of peace for Sue Buchanan...
- For peace among nations, especially between Israel and Palestine, Russia and Ukraine...
- For areas of the world facing conflict and violence, especially Syria and Iraq...
- For fair elections and for the compassion and integrity of world leaders...

- For damages caused by volcanic eruptions in Grindavik, Iceland...
- For safe evacuation and successful recovery efforts after avalanches in northwestern China...
- For relief and recovery efforts in Mauritius and Réunion following Cyclone Belal...
- For areas of the United States facing extreme cold and snow, and especially for those without reliable housing, heat, transportation, or other basic needs...
- For those who have suffered religious trauma...
- For cooperation and unity in the church, centered on Christ's model of sacrificial love...

For the next year, Peace will highlight a calendar of Commemorations, Lamentations and Education produced by the <u>Metro DC Synod's Racial Equity Team</u>. Please use this opportunity to become more aware of important events and people in the life of the world and the church.

JAN 5 1931	Birth of Alvin Ailey (Dancer, Choreographer)	JAN 15 1929 Birth of	24 1946	Birth of Eliseo Medina (Labor, Immigration Activist)
17	Birth of Hector Garcia (Surgeon, Activist)	Martin Luther King, Jr.	24 1993	Death of Thurgood Marshall (Supreme Court Justice)
1914 JAN	Birth of John H. Johnson	PC USAL COMMENT 2007	25 1863	Birth of George Freeman Bragg (Priest, Activist)
1918 JAN	(Publisher) White riots		JAN 27 1907	Death of Cornelius Hill (Priest, Chief of the Oneida)
1930	against Filipinos in Watsonville, CA	JAN 21	JAN 28 1853	Birth of José Martí (Poet)
20 1920	Start of Oahu Sugar Strike	Angel Island Immigration Station opens	JAN 30 1800	Birth of Jane Johnston Schoolcraft (Author)

Peace warmly welcomes all people, no exceptions!

Worshipping with us for the first time? We receive you as a gift from God. Please email info@sharingpeace.org to be added to the weekly e-news. Also, look for a yellow welcome folder by the entrance.

This service is live-streamed. If you prefer never to appear on camera, please let an usher know and they will seat you in an off-camera area.

Children are welcome in worship. We have a staffed nursery available as well; please ask an usher to direct you. The nursery attendants will bring kids to the sanctuary for the Time for Children.

Thanks to all who help lead worship. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact info@sharingpeace.org.

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP	TODAY	February 4, 2024	
Tech and Sound	Rose Stillwell, Andrew Tlusty	Stu Whitehead, Andrew Tlusty	
Lector	Marcia Dursi	Diane Yeager	
Acolyte			
Assisting Minister	Norm Philion	Rose Stillwell	
Altar Care	Judy Hughes	Tammy Heppner	
Ushers	Marcia Dursi, Kevin Jalali	Bill Penoyar, Tammy Heppner	
Tellers	Ray Marquardt	Ray Marquardt	

Peace Lutheran Church

6362 Lincolnia Road Alexandria, VA 22312 703.354.5233 Office 703.750.6773 Fax

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To make an online gift, please scan the code or text (703) 215-1412

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 11am-4pm

Please send announcements to info@sharingpeace.org by 9am Wednesday.



The Rev. Krista Vingelis, Interim Pastor pastor@sharingpeace.org

Liz E. Mun, Music Director and Organist liz@sharingpeace.org

Paul Sticha, Director, Bell Choirs psticha@cox.net

Jim Nice, Creative Worship Leader jnice116@gmail.com

Kathleen Wage, Council President kathleenwage@yahoo.com

Josh Keiter, Parish Administrator info@sharingpeace.org

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