

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church



**Six Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2025**

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

Be at Peace.



In Person and Online Worship
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2025

PRELUDE

"I Will Delight" Played by Messengers of Peace
Walt Harrah, John Schreiner

WELCOME

Please stand for the confession.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

C Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.
Merciful God,

C you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults

and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways.

Amen.

P God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine."

In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C Amen.

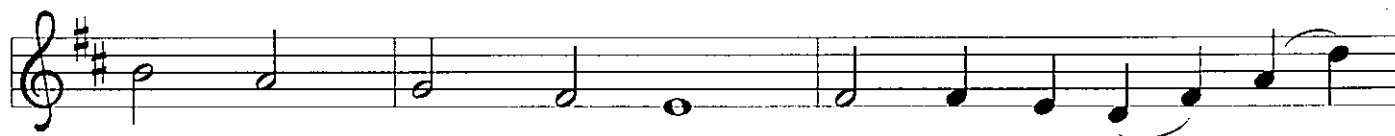
GATHERING SONG

"Jesus Shall Reign" (ELW 434)

verses 1, 3, & 5



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET. attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17 : 5—10

read by Steven Bernauer

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM : Psalm 1 (*Read responsively by whole verse.*)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD,**

and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;

everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked;**

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15 : 12—20

read by Steven Bernauer

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Doug Ryniewicz

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 6 : 17—26

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Doug Ryniewicz

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

“When the Poor Ones” (ELW 725)

all verses



1 Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne y_aún re-par-te,
1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;
3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;
4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



cuan-do al-guien pa-sa sed y_a-gua nos da,
when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce:
when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing;
when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us:
when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble:
when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



Va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar;
We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.
we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano, b. 1934

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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 With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

- A Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way (*especially*). Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
- 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 [online giving portal](#). If you wish to give by cash or check, please put your offering in the plate.

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.*

February's Special Offering is React DC: REACT DC, founded in September 2021. ReactDC came together to assist our Afghan allies in the midst of a humanitarian crisis. Guided by core principles of empathy, fidelity, and adaptability, we are now at the forefront of innovative resettlement support operations, leading national and DC metro area programs to pilot new delivery methods, fill key gaps, and improve outcomes for refugee populations. React DC provides nationwide resettlement support for Sponsorship and wraparound assistance for refugees, visa holders, and parolees in the DC metro area to help newcomers thrive.

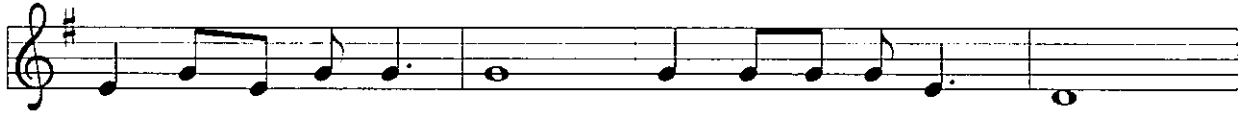
OFFERTORY

"This Little Light of Mine" (ELW 677)

all verses



1 This lit - tle light of mine. I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine.
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine.
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine.



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: THIS JOY. African American spiritual

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray together

C God of heaven and earth,
 from the beginning, you have called forth life,
 in which you take delight.

The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.

Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
 that we may join the chorus of creation
 to tell of your salvation from day to day.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

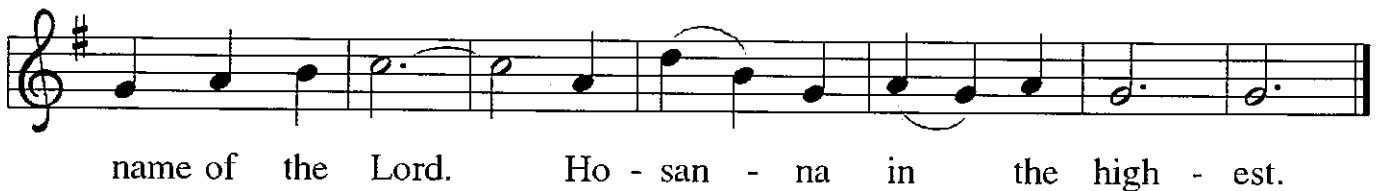
P Lift up your hearts.

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 love. 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:



EUCCHARISTIC 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: On the first Sunday of the month, we will commune around the altar railing. On the remaining Sundays of the month, we will commune using continuous distribution in one station. The ushers will indicate when it is your turn. Please be seated until then. You will come forward and receive bread. Then you will take a cup of red wine or white grape juice. All bread is gluten free. You will dispose your cup in the baskets on either corner of the altar railing.

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 God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table. All are welcome.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God



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



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"Jesus, You Have Called Us" played by Messengers of Peace
Joel Payne

Please stand as you are able.

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 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. Amen.

Please be seated.

MISSION MOMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P: God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

“Let Streams of Living Justice” (ELW 710)

all verses



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace; Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Blessed Are the Merciful” Played by Messengers of Peace
Isaac Wardell, Orlando Palmer, Paul Zach

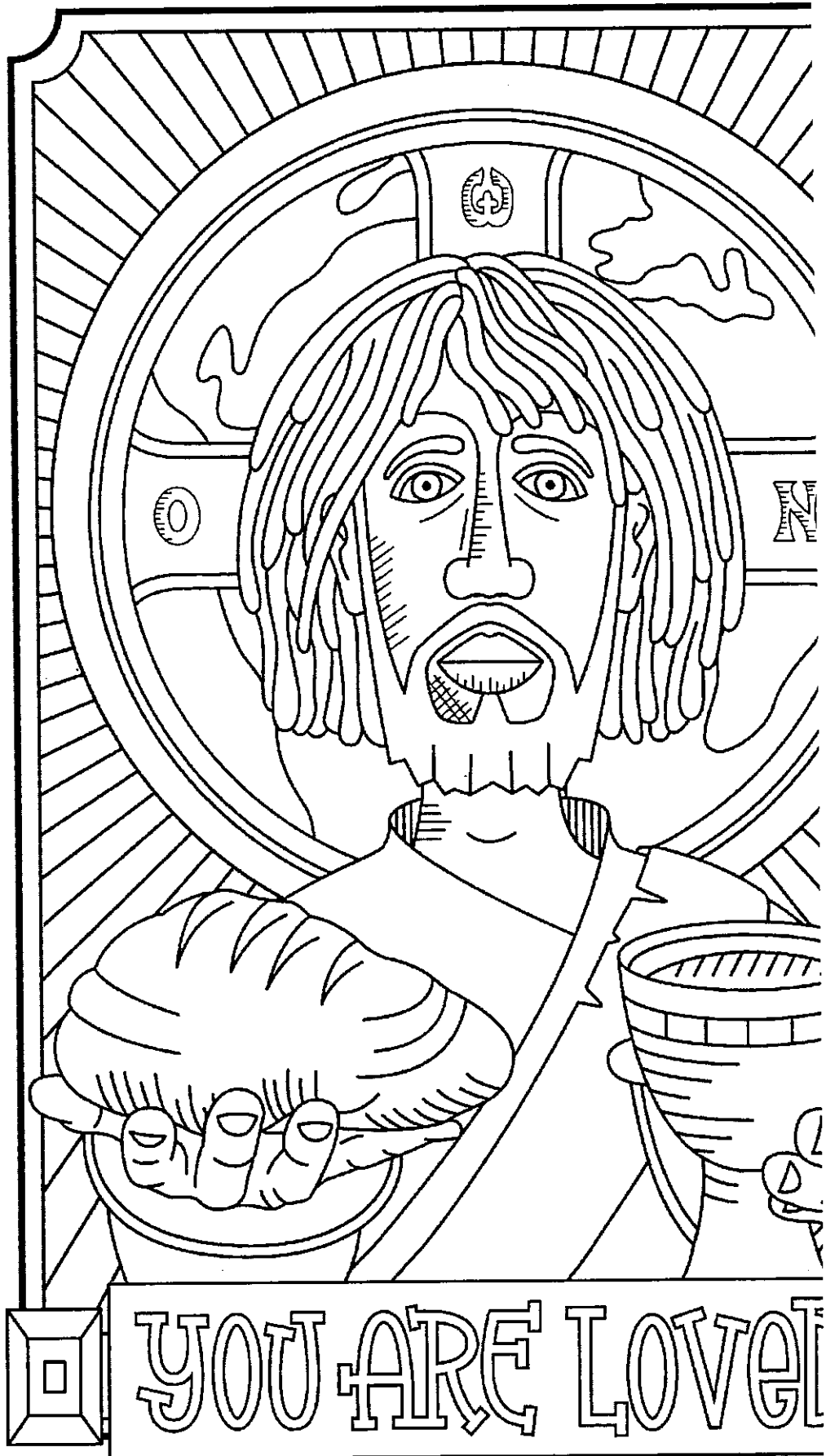
The Worship has ended. The Service begins.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.



Let the Children Come

Jesus delivers his first public sermon on a mountain in Matthew’s gospel (Matt. 5), but according to Luke Jesus delivers this proclamation “on a level place” (6:17). Jesus’ physical proximity to ordinary people is a hallmark of Luke’s gospel. Luke is the gospel of “Get down from that tree, Zacchaeus; I’m going to your house today” (19:5, paraphrased). It’s the parable of the Samaritan who gets down in the ditch to rescue a man beaten nearly to death, while the religious and the elite pass by on the other side (10:30-35). And of course, all these stories are framed by his mother Mary’s song of praise: “You have cast the mighty down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly” (1:52, paraphrased). What are the moments in your worship when children are found at the same “level place” that Jesus models? If your preaching is elevated above the congregation, try coming down to the ground this week. Invite children to come up close. It is a powerful thing—for adults and children alike—to experience the proclamation up close and personal.



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Our Prayers:

- Prayers of peace and healing for Sharon Kollar, Natalie Cain's aunt, as she undergoes treatment...
- Prayers of protection and healing for Stewart DeHaven as he heals from a torn rotator cuff and possible broken shoulder...
- Prayers for Laura Oelrichs, mother of Rhonda Rose, as she returns home from the hospital...
- Prayers of healing for Geraldine Vingelis, mother of Krista Vingelis, after a fall...
- Prayers of peace for the people of Gaza and Israel ahead of this latest ceasefire agreement...
- Prayers of peace and protection for those facing the wildfires in California...
- Prayers of Wisdom for the incoming administration...
- Prayers for Nadine Krutzky-Mitchell who is asking for healing...
- Prayers of peace for Daniel Crabtree...
- Prayers for Peace's search for a Minister of Children, Youth, and Families...
- Prayers of protection for all of the immigrants, refugees, and aliens in a foreign land...
- Prayers for the people of Ukraine that they may once again enjoy the freedom, democracy, and economic independence that they have been focused on since their independence...
- Prayers for the many citizens of Russia that are struggling under the oppression, misinformation, and depletion of their human and material resources under the authoritarian regime they have...
- Prayers for Gaza and Israel, Palestinians and Jews and all across the world impacted by the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas...
- 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...
- 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...

Peace Notes

Let's See Diana Butler Bass on Feb. 22: The award-winning author and preacher, Diana Butler Bass will speak on Saturday, February 22, from 3-5:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Fairfax. Peace members are going, and we'd love to have more people join us! Tickets are \$15. Peace is subsidizing the cost, but donations are welcome. If you'd like to come, please email Mary Dallao. Free childcare is available at the event.

Children and youth music groups:

- **Genesis Ringers** (children and youth bells) 1st & 3rd Sunday after the service (2/2 and 2/16)
- **Singing Angels** (children and youth choir) 2nd & 4th Sunday after the service (2/9 and 2/23)

Discussion on Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's Letter: Pastor Doug read a pastoral message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton during his sermon last Sunday. If you would like to discuss her letter and/or the social message that she recommended to our attention, stay after the 10:30 service Sunday, February 23. All views are welcome; Diane Yeager will facilitate.

Volunteer to Lead Sunday School: Sunday School is kicking off for our little ones at Peace! And we need your help to make it happen. Peace is looking for 2 parents to lead Sunday School each Sunday morning during 10:30am worship until 11:20am. Curriculum and materials are provided. Register using the QR code below!



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, 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	Feb. 16, 2025
Tech and Sound	Andrew Tlusty	Andrew Tlusty
Lector	Steven Bernauer	Norm Philion
Acolyte		
Assisting Minister	Judy Hughes	Norm Philion
Altar Care	Tammy Heppner	Karen Olmsted
Ushers	Michael Stumpf, Bill Penoyar	Kevin Jalaili, Bill Penoyar
Tellers	Ray Marquardt	Ray Marquardt

<p>Peace Lutheran Church 6362 Lincolnia Road Alexandria, VA 22312 703.354.5233 Office 703.750.6773 Fax</p> <p>Email: info@sharingpeace.org Web: www.sharingpeace.org facebook.com/PeaceLutheranAlexandriaVa instagram.com/pelcalexandria Twitter.com/PELCAlexandria</p> <p>To make an online gift, please scan the code or text (703) 215-1412</p> <p>Office hours: Monday and Friday, 10am to 2pm Please send announcements to info@sharingpeace.org by 9am Wednesday.</p>		<p>The Rev. Doug Ryniewicz, Senior Pastor dearynos@gmail.com</p> <p>Logan Wescott, Church Administrator info@sharingpeace.org</p> <p>Liz E. Mun, Minister of Music and Arts liz@sharingpeace.org</p> <p>Paul Sticha, Director, Bell Choirs psticha@cox.net</p> <p>Jim Nice, Creative Worship Leader jnice116@gmail.com</p> <p>Rose Stillwell, Interim Council President rkstillwell3@gmail.com</p>
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