

**First Sunday of Advent
In-Person and Online Worship Bulletin
December 1, 2024**



“Awake to Wonder” by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.facebook.com/peacelutheranlc

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

We are called to be an inclusive community, sharing God's grace through worship, service, and hospitality.

We of Peace Lutheran Church welcome all people to full participation in the life of the church regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or physical or mental disability.

Children are welcome in any worship service at Peace Lutheran Church.

It is a pleasure to have you worship with us this week and, if you are looking for a church home, we invite you to worship with us again soon. If you are in need of assistance of any kind, please speak with an usher.

P= Presider, A= Assisting Minister, C= Congregation

PRELUDE

Close to Home

music video

Music by Barnaby Bright; Video by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC

⊕ ----- GATHERING ----- ⊕

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: Can one be homesick for something you've never known?
C: **We are homesick for a just world,
for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.**
- L: Yes, we are homesick—
C: **for joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors,
and for hospitals that run empty.**
- L: We are homesick for the world God promises.
C: **We are homesick, but we are on our way.**
- L: God is here. God is still creating.
C: **Let us worship Holy God.**

WREATH LIGHTING

L. ;;;So today we light the candle of hope, because hope keeps our hearts alive as we wait.
May this light be a reminder that the wait is always worth it.

ADVENT HYMN

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW 240 - verse 1

1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
Let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: When we call upon God to confess that we've messed up, or forgotten something, or overlooked the truth, God answers with grace. God answers with love. So let us confess today, knowing that nothing could keep God from loving us.

A time of silence for self-reflection.

P: Gracious God

C: **We find ourselves with two options every day—
to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win.
Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?
Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?
Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.
Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world.
Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.
Gratefully we pray, amen.**

P: Family of faith, even when we throw in the towel, even when we give up on hope, God does not give up on us. We are loved. We are claimed. We are invited closer to God's home. So hear and trust this good news:

C: **There is room for us in God's house, and nothing can separate us from that love.
We are claimed. We are forgiven. We are welcomed home.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
 and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
 the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

*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

A: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW 168

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

The proper verse may be sung, or all may sing this verse.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL**

Luke 21: 25-36

- P: The Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-first chapter
- C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

- P: The Gospel of the Lord.
- C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Hannah DiPasquale

Silence for Reflection

Refrain — All

There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to re -

veal your - self to us. There is a long-ing in our

hearts for love we on - ly find in you, our God.

Leader or All

1 For jus - tice,	for free - dom,	for mer - cy:
2 For wis - dom,	for cour - age,	for com - fort:
3 For heal - ing,	for whole - ness,	for new life:
4 Lord, save us,	take pit - y,	light in our

hear our prayer.	In sor - row,	in grief:
hear our prayer.	In weak - ness,	in fear:
hear our prayer.	In sick - ness,	in death:
deep - est night.	We call you;	we wait:

Refrain

be near; hear our prayer, O God.

*NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A: Lord in your mercy
C: **Receive our prayer.**

Saints of Peace:

Walter Probst, **Dorothy** Sigurdson, **Don** DeRycke, **Judi** Roach King,
Albert McClellan, **Troy** Smith, **Loran** Puckett

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

C: **Amen.**

*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

*In-Building: Please share signs of peace in whatever way you are comfortable and
is respectful of your neighbor's comfort level.*

Online: You may share signs of peace in the chat or on video in sign language or waving.

OFFERING

Gifts for the work and ministry of Peace Lutheran Church can be placed in the offering plates or mailed to the Church Office or sent through on-line giving on our website.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Prepare the Royal Highway

arr. Timothy Shaw

***OFFERTORY**

Doxology

DOXOLOGY

Thomas Tallis, c. 1567

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;
 praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A: Holy God,

C: **We long for the day that you spoke of when swords will be beaten into plowshares, the lion will lie down with the lamb, and justice will roll like waters. Until that holy day comes, take these gifts and use them to build that world here. We are hopeful. Amen.**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you!

C: **And also with you!**

P: Lift up your hearts!

C: **We lift them to the Lord!**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise!**

***PREFACE**

P: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of the universe!
 You draw your people to you
 with the promise of salvation.
 In your goodness,
 every promise you make is fulfilled.

You delivered your people from bondage and exile,
 bringing them home and renewing their song.

When your creation was captive to sin,
 you sent Christ to restore the whole world.

In your love and by your Spirit,
 you have invited us in and welcomed us home.

And so, we thank you with the faithful of every time and place,
 as we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

Padre nuestro que estás en el Cielo,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosotros tu Reino,
hágase tu voluntad
en la Tierra como en el Cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación,
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el Reino, tuyo el Poder,
y tuya la Gloria,
ahora y siempre. Amén.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table for communion, regardless of age or church membership. Come forward up the center aisle, taking an empty cup from the tray at the front. Follow the direction of the ushers and kneel or stand at the rail. The Bread Minister will hand you a piece of bread (gluten-free wafers are available, just ask the bread minister). There are two Wine Ministers. The first pouring chalice offers wine and the second chalice is grape juice.

If you choose not to receive; communion, you may come forward for a blessing from the Bread Minister. Crossing your arms over your chest will indicate that you would prefer a blessing.

If you have difficulty coming to the front, please notify an usher and communion will gladly be brought to you.

COMMUNION MUSIC *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659* ==J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

***BLESSING FROM THE TABLE**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

A: Generous God,
 C: **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.**

⊕ -----SENDING----- ⊕

***THE BENEDICTION**

P: As you leave *this* service, *your* service begins:
 Comfort the homesick.
 Open your doors to others.
 Seek sanctuary.
 Be brave enough to go home by another way.
 And remember that here in God's house, all are welcomed—so come back soon.
 In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son ⊕ —
 go in peace.

C: Amen

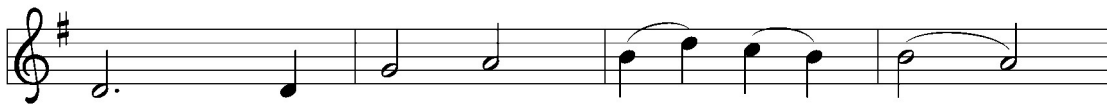
***SENDING HYMN**

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

ELW 435



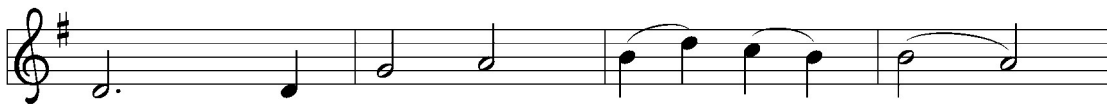
1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:
 thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:
 claim the king - dom as thine own.



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



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel
C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Wachet auf

--A. D. Miller (b.1972)

Peace values music highly, so some may choose to remain in the sanctuary for the postlude.
Others may choose to leave quietly at that time.
All are welcome to gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and fellowship.

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Ministers and Staff

The Congregation Members of Peace Lutheran Church
Rev. Hannah DiPasquale, Pastor
Sandy Johnson, Office Administrator (office@peacelutheranlc.com)
Jieun Newland, Music Minister
Tommy Grimes, Custodian

ANNOUNCEMENTS - December 1

If you have **Prayer Requests to be included in the Prayers of the Day**, please write them before the service on the Prayer Request sheet found on the stand in the narthex.

Flowers in the sanctuary were graciously donated by Joel & Cindy Peterson in memory of his mother, Lois Peterson.

Check out the shoe tree for the children through Jardin de los Niños Pick out a name or more. Go shopping and return the shoes by Wednesday, December 4. OR, if you make a donation labeled 'shoes' for us to go shopping, PLEASE do so sooner so we know how much we have available to complete the shopping.

Stay to join in Hanging the Greens -- wreaths, swags, tree decorating, etc. -- following worship today.

SIGN UP to help with our Advent Soup Suppers on Wednesdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18. Set-up and Clean-up help are needed, as well as your best soup or bread to share. We've invited the neighborhood to join us, so an extra soup or bread will be appreciated.

THE DECEMBER and JANUARY NEWSLETTERS were combined and sent out this week.

Lutheran Family Services-Rocky Mountains is collecting new or gently used coats for children and adults (all sizes). They are also collecting toys for underprivileged children in the community. This toy will probably be the only gift many of the children we serve will receive this holiday season. They are in need of coloring books, dolls, cars and puzzles. They are collecting items now until the "live" Toy/Coat Drive on December 6. **A box is in the narthex for donations.**

Poinsettias for Christmas. We have ordered 12 red and 6 white poinsettias for our Christmas service. There is a signup sheet in the narthex if you wish to purchase one of these in honor or in memory of loved ones. The cost is \$15; please mark your check 'poinsettia'. You can take yours home after Christmas.



Church council approved the call committee members for calling a part-time deacon: Carol Eggers, Lynette Schurdevin, Kathie Rich, Mark Lusk, Julie Phillips, and Clark Alves.

After-school Program Request: The after school program team is requesting a few items of gently used, comfortable furniture, such as armchairs, ottomans, and a small couch or loveseat. Comfortable seating will make the program space more welcoming to our participants. If you or someone you know is planning to replace any gently used furniture in the near future, please consider donating it to the after school program!

Contact: Susanna Odegaard, anasplacelc@gmail.com

There is also a wish list available of other requested items

Our online worship now on our YouTube channel (previously we used Zoom) on Sundays at 9am. Anyone can access the livestream, and chat will be enabled so that you can talk to us and others joining worship. The live video will appear when we go live on Sunday. The worship videos will remain on our YouTube channel for later viewing. Search "Peace Lutheran Church Las Cruces, NM" on YouTube or visit: <https://www.youtube.com/@peacelutheranchurch1668>

 **Green Team Tip**  **Thank the Lord for what you have.** Be grateful for all He has given you. Do not take any little thing in your house for granted. Treat all food, possessions, and of course living things with care. Simply appreciating what you have will mean you waste less.

On behalf of the Peace Lutheran Green Team, **you are invited to make recycled Christmas card gift tags on Dec. 10 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 107.** We will need used Christmas cards, small bags, string/ribbon, scissors, hole punchers, stickers, or just bring yourself. You can keep the gift tags but we will also have some tags available to give out the following Sunday.

Contact Nancy Redshaw 218-839-2478 if attending.

Worship Assistants - TODAY

Assisting Minister: Ron Odegaard
Lector: Cindy Kendrick
Greeter:
Communion Server: Sue Ann Collins
Ushers: Penny & Marv Smith

Technology (3): Lisa Bates, Kathie Rich,
Bob Treulich
Altar Care: Cindy Peterson
Bulletins: Barb Patton, Deb Sarabia

Worship Assistants - December 8

Assisting Minister: David Parr, Jr.
Lector: Jeanne Brown
Greeters: Lyn & Ron Bussian
Communion Server: _____
Ushers: _____, _____

Technology (3): Sandy Johnson, Bob Treulich

Altar Care: Cindy Peterson
Bulletins: Barb Patton, Deb Sarabia

SCHEDULE - December 1-8

Sun., Dec. 1 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship *First Sunday in Advent*
 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour & Hanging of the Greens

Tues., Dec. 3 10:30 a.m. Bible Study

Wed., Dec. 4 5:00 p.m. Choir
 6:15 p.m. Soup Supper
 7:00 p.m. Advent Worship

Thurs., Dec. 5 1:00 p.m. Alzheimer's Support Group
 5:30 p.m. Bells

Sun., Dec. 8 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

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OA - Overeaters Anon: 9:30 a.m. - Sa
AA - Downtown Group: 5:30 p.m. - Su, M, Tu, Th, F, Sa
 7:00 p.m. - W
 8:00 p.m. - Sa
AA - Primary Purpose: 7:00 p.m. - F