



Peace Lutheran Church

2106 South Cushman Ave., Tacoma, Washington 98405



John Stroeh, Pastor

pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org

Church Office (253)383-1317

"The Church that Welcomes and Serves"

www.peacelutherantacoma.org

Where Every One Is a Minister

Instagram: @peacelutheranchurch

Facebook: Peace Lutheran Tacoma

Board of Directors

directors@peacecommunitycenter.org

Peace Community Center (253)383-1317

"Touching Lives, Extending Peace"

March 24, 2024 – Palm/Passion Sunday

Our MISSION: Compelled by the love of God and our faith in Jesus Christ, Peace Lutheran Church, a diverse people of faith, in partnership with Peace Community Center, seeks to realize God's dream for the world through worship, learning, giving, and serving.

God's VISION: We believe God's vision for Peace is to be a diverse community of faith in the Hilltop where all are welcome - a community that is Spirit-filled, compassionate, healthy, reconciled, and just.

Today at Peace Lutheran Church

God bless you! Welcome to worship! We worship in person Sundays at 8:30 & 11 am and live stream worship online at 11 am. See our website peacelutherantacoma.org, Facebook page (Facebook Peace Lutheran Tacoma), or YouTube channel for worship videos and faith resources.

It is a blessing to worship in person. Masks are welcome and encouraged but not required. We continue to require masks the first Sunday of each month for 8:30 am worship so those who need to take additional precautions can participate. If you are experiencing symptoms of illness, please stay home and worship online.

Today is **Palm/Passion Sunday**, first day of Holy Week. The Gospels tell the story of Jesus' entry into the royal city of Jerusalem as a humble king, sitting on a donkey, while the crowd places coats and branches on his path. Our tradition is to wave palm branches, shout "Hosanna," sing, and process into the sanctuary. Inside, the mood changes from celebration to somberness as we remember the story of Jesus' suffering and death, the "passion" of our Lord, a story of God's deep love.

Today we wave **Eco-Palms** in partnership with Lutheran World Relief, helping palm harvesters in Latin America, their families and communities find pathways out of economic poverty. Fair prices for palms encourage sustainable income for the harvesting community. Thanks be to God!

Prayer ministers are available to pray one on one with individuals during Holy Communion and after worship.

Families with children: During 11 am worship, we offer a children's worship time in the basement classroom. We post Godly Play videos on our YouTube channel to use at home.

Interested in learning more about Peace? Please contact Pastor John, Brendan Nelson, or Deacon Charissa Carroll or stop by the Welcome Table at the church entrance. May you know God's peace this week!

Prayer & Praise List

To submit a prayer tell the pastor or call the church office. Names will appear on the list for 3 weeks unless requested to remain longer. Please remember these people and situations in prayer. If you feel moved to reach out to someone, write them a caring note to let them know you are thinking about them and praying for them. Contact the church office for their contact info.

- For deep reflection & prayer in this Holy Week
- For Peace Community Center in this time of transition
- For future directions of Peace Church, that we might lean into our foundational commitment to anti-racism
- For peace and change in a culture of gun violence, and for communities grieving the tragic and unnecessary

loss of life to mass shootings

- For our whole community following the verdict in the trial of the police officers charged in the death of Manny Ellis, for the grieving Ellis family, for a renewed call to justice and accountability in our structures and institutions
- We honor lives tragically taken in acts of racial violence, naming Andrew Brown Jr, Daunte Wright, Manuel Ellis, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd
- For deep reflection and acknowledgment of prejudices in ourselves and racism in our systems and institutions, and for wisdom to intentionally act to call out and dismantle racism in all its forms and work for God's justice in our nation's laws, policies, & practices
- For the people of Ukraine in this war, for Ukrainian & Afghan & Haitian refugees, for all immigrants
- For all caught in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict with the Israel/Hamas war in Gaza, for justice and peace...
- For all who are hurting and feeling weighed down...
- For the hungry in our world, for food and justice
- For all experiencing homelessness & housing insecurity
- Our calling to be agents of hope, healing, and justice
- In our world of global warming, for climate justice
- The Peace housing ministry
- For all who experience sexual harassment or abuse
- For peace: all living midst violence or unrest; in Haiti, the Holy Land, Ukraine, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Yemen
- For hope: the unemployed & underemployed, lonely & lost, hungry & suffering, depressed & mentally ill, the incarcerated, and all struggling with addictions
- The grieving: our community at the death of Corey who attended Community Meals, for God's comfort and hope
- For healing: Rachel Boss, Loretta Carter, Gatdet Deng, Barb Hartness, Kathy Olson, Shari Shelton, Adam Smith
- Ongoing health concerns: Kitty Adams, Ed Castro, Lisa Flesher's mom, Dori Greenaway, Ted & Billie Johnstone, Jerry Pittmon, Carol Plaehn, Sandra Puckett, Abe Ulloa
- Military away: Juwan Banks, Micah Lyle, Taylor McCarthy
- Special need: Octavius Killian, Alfred Nelson, Jackie Ray, Sunshine Timmons, Dezmyrn Trent
- For our partners in mission all over the world: Davis family in Uganda, Jane Kagochi & Solid Faith Church in Kenya; the Namibian Lutheran Church (companion synod); the church in South Sudan; the church in China; Seigny family in Japan; the Navajo Lutheran Church in Arizona

Small Group Gatherings

- **Book Group:** Kit Thompson: 229-5766
- **Christians Concerned with Homelessness prayer group:** Sarah ButlerWills. Bryant Neighborhood Center, 1615 6th Ave., first Thursday, 5:30-6:30 pm
- **College Care Package Team:** Pat Ferguson: 627-1349
- **Conversations Around Race:** Ted Johnstone: 752-9514
- **Community Bible Study:** Pastor John: ext. 101, Thurs, 1pm
- **Gospel Choir:** Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
- **Men's Breakfast:** Antonio Yune: 227-1995. 2nd Sat, 9 am
- **Papers of Peace (card-making):** Nancy Heavey: 752-8450
- **Prayer Chain:** Sandra Puckett: 348-8999, for prayer requests email: puckettsandra67@gmail.com
- **Women's Breakfast:** Charissa Carroll: ext. 104. 3rd Sat, 9 am
- **Writing Group:** Shari Shelton: 906-3769. 4th Tuesday, 6 pm

Opportunities to Serve

Regular Offering to Peace Thank you for your generous and ongoing giving of financial support to Peace Lutheran Church! Please share your offering in person Sundays at the Welcome Table or send offering by mail or electronic means or donate on the church website. If you would like to set up regular online giving, contact the church office (253)383-1317.

Special Lenten Offering for Retreat Home Our special Lent offering is for Retreat Home (www.retreathome.org), a network of people offering hospitality and temporary housing. Please give to "Peace Lutheran Church," marked "Lent Offering."

April Meal Providers Needed Willing to provide and serve one of the Community Meals weeknights 5:30-6:30 pm in April? Contact Damishe Greenwood-Walker in the church office.

Peace Lutheran Church Information

Sunday Breakfast and Refreshments We offer breakfast and fellowship **Sundays at 9:30 am** and refreshments & fellowship **after 11 am worship** every Sunday in the multipurpose room.

Sunday Morning Faith Opportunities 9:45-10:45 am

- Godly Play for children ages 4 – 3rd grade
- Explorers class for 4th-6th graders
- Feet to Faith confirmation class for 7th-8th graders
- High School youth class
- Adults: "Hope Is Here! Spiritual Practices for Pursuing Justice and Beloved Community" led by Lorena Guerrero

Holy Week Worship & Faith Growth Opportunities

- **Thursday, March 28 is Maundy Thursday.** We tell the story of Jesus' last supper, where he washes his disciples' feet and commands them to love one another; we share Communion. Worship in the multipurpose room at 7 pm.
- **Friday, March 29 is Good Friday.** We tell the story of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross, of God's deep and abiding love for us. Worship at 7 pm (also live streamed).
- **Saturday, March 30 Easter Eggstravaganza** at 10 am—egg hunt, Easter crafts, Easter story, and food! Great for families!
- **Sunday, March 31 is Easter!** We tell the story of the empty tomb and God's power for life over death. Praise God! Jesus is risen! Worship at 8:30 & 11 am, livestream at 11 am.
- **9:30 am Easter breakfast**, and support youth ministry

- **10:30 am Godly Play Easter Children's Story**

Beacon Center Temporary Housing at Peace in April Peace Lutheran Church and the City of Tacoma have entered into an agreement for Peace to host young adults experiencing homelessness in April while Beacon Center is being renovated.

Focus Groups Join a small group on a topic of life and faith meeting once a week up to 6 weeks starting mid-April—a great opportunity for faith growth, fellowship, prayer, and support. This spring we offer groups for Bible studies, contemplation, spiritual growth, life coaching, sharing diverse stories, and walking. Pick up a Focus Groups catalog at the Welcome Table. See the church homepage for links to the Focus Groups catalog and to **register online by April 7**. Or contact Damishe in the church office (253-383-1317) and she will sign you up.

Anti-Racism Book Resource Library The Anti-Racism Work Group has rolled out a book cart with their recommended anti-racism books to borrow for your personal growth and deeper understanding. Check it out today in the multipurpose room.

Finding Shelter from the Storm: Conversations on Housing, Homelessness and Race Presented by Conversations on Race, an ecumenical anti-racism consortium in Tacoma/Pierce County. **4 Wednesday Evenings, 6:30 – 8 pm: April 10 (Zoom), April 24 (Trinity Presbyterian Church), May 8 and 22 (Peace Lutheran Church).** Register at <https://associatedministries.org/events/>.

Retreat Home Training Sessions in April

- **April 6** is Orientation, Unhoused in Crisis, Boundaries.
- **April 27** is Trauma Informed Approach and Hospitality. Register at www.retreathome.org/events. Sessions **9 am-12 pm** at Bryant Neighborhood Center. Contact Sarah ButlerWills (206-459-6357, sbutlerw33@gmail.com) for info.

Save the Dates for Summer Coming this summer...

- **July 9-12 (Tuesday-Friday):** Peace Youth Love to the Local servant learning week in Tacoma
- **August 3 (Saturday – 1 day only), 10 am – 3 pm:** Summer Bible Adventure for children and families "Created by God"
- **August 4 (Sunday):** Outdoor Worship & BBQ & Games!!!

Peace Lutheran Church Staff

- **Pastor:** John Stroeh, ext 101, pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org
- **Director of Community Engagement & Outreach:** Brendan Nelson, ext 102, brendan@peacetacoma.org
- **Deacon of Congregational Care & Community Resources:** Charissa Carroll, ext 104, charissa@peacetacoma.org
- **Coordinator of Children, Youth, & Intergenerational Ministry:** Jayna Detweiler, ext 103, jayna@peacetacoma.org
- **Music Director:** Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
- **Nursery Attendant:** Brianna Miller, briannamiller182@gmail.com
- **Operations Manager:** Damishe Greenwood-Walker, ext 100, plcadmin@peacetacoma.org
- **Finance Coordinator:** Jenny Haferbecker, jenny@peacetacoma.org

Assisting Today

Altar Guild: Rebecca Foster, Ansley, & Kyle			Tech: Kamari Carroll		
Nursery: Brianna Miller			Van Driver: Antonio Yune		
Assisting Minister: Tim Chalberg			8:30 am		
Reader: Sally Perkins			11 am		
Greeter: Carol Watson			Trina Kagochi		
Usher: Craig Cogger			Neoma Clay		
Prayer Ministers: Robin McGaughy			Lea Green		
Musicians: Twylla Moore			Tony Kagochi		
			Twylla Moore, Paul Brown		