



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"

December 28, 2025 – First Sunday of Christmas

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 regularly 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. If you are experiencing symptoms of illness, please stay home and worship online.

Today we worship only at 10 am, and we gather for goodies and fellowship at 9:30 am.

It is the **First Sunday of Christmas**, the season of celebration of the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us! Today's worship is a **Service of Lessons and Carols** without Holy Communion. We listen to passages from scripture and sing Christmas carols that tell the good news of the Christmas story. Blessed Christmas!

Families with children: We will not be offering children's worship time today.

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.

Pastor John is on vacation through Jan. 3. Brendan Nelson is on vacation through Jan. 2. Rev. Jim Riede is providing pastoral care (253-686-0837).

The church office is closed January 1 and 2.

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.

- Joy at the celebration of our Savior's birth!
- For all who are traveling over the holidays
- All affected by flooding in western Washington
- Our nation in challenging political times
- For future directions of Peace Church, that we might lean into our foundational commitment to anti-racism
- For the Peace housing ministry
- For Peace Community Center in this time of transition
- For peace and change in our culture of gun violence
- 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 all experiencing brokenness in family relationships (marriage, parent-child, sibling), for healing and hope
- In our world of global warming, for climate justice
- Our calling to be agents of hope, healing, and justice
- For peace and justice: all living midst violence or unrest; in Gaza & Holy Land, Ukraine, Haiti, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, eastern Congo, Sudan, Central African Republic, Yemen
- For hope: all experiencing housing insecurity & homelessness, the unemployed & underemployed, all hurting & feeling weighed down, lonely & lost, hungry & suffering, depressed & mentally ill, the incarcerated, all experiencing sexual harassment or abuse, and all struggling with addictions
- The grieving: Deacon Charissa at her grandma's death
- For healing: Keri Anderson, Michele Brooks' brother, Dee Dahlke & Duncan Johnson's grandson, William Garling, Helga Jefferson-Reed, Brendan Nelson's dad, Chuck Teas, Carvin Williams
- Ongoing health concerns: Keri Anderson, Myrah Ballentine, Annie Burris, Ed Castro, Cleo Clay, Dori Greenaway, Ted & Billie Johnstone, Jerry Pittmon, Carol Plaehn, Sandra Puckett, Katrina Sortor, Shawna Teclemariam, Spenser Thomas, Antonio Yune
- College & advanced training students: Martin Anderson, Jasmine Ballentine, Lillie Brooks-Walker, Jamison & Kamari Carroll, Talina Hall, Bea Kelzenberg, Elyse & Sigourney McWilson, Julia Sevigny, Laney & Ziah Sneva
- Military away: Juwan Banks, Alijah Garvin-Williams, Micah Lyle, Taylor McCarthy
- Special need: Jackie Ray, Sunshine Timmons, Dezmynt Trent
- For our partners in mission all over the world: Jane Kagochi & Solid Faith Church in Kenya; the Namibian Lutheran Church (companion synod); Sevigny's in Japan

Small Group Gatherings

- **Children's Choir:** Michael Green: 360-350-2445, usually 3rd & 4th Sundays after 11 am worship, sing 1st Sundays at 11 am
- **College Care Package Team:** Pat Ferguson: 627-1349
- **Community Bible Study:** Pastor John: ext. 101, Thurs, 1 pm
- **Gospel Choir:** Michael Green: 360-350-2445, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Thurs, 6 pm; sing 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11 am
- **For a Time Such as This:** Lynn Longfield lynn_longfield@hotmail.com, 2nd Sundays after 11 am worship
- **Men's Bible Study:** Malcolm Carroll: 253-282-0218, Fridays, 7-8:30 am, Coffee Oasis, 1424 Tacoma Ave S
- **Papers of Peace (card-making):** Nancy Heavey: 752-8450

- **Prayer Chain:** Sandra Puckett: 348-8999, for prayer requests email: puckettsandra67@gmail.com
- **Women's Bible Studies:** Leigh Wong: 302-7641

Opportunities to Serve

Regular Offering to Peace Thank you for your generous and ongoing financial support to Peace Lutheran Church! Please share your offering in the Offering box at the sanctuary entrance or send by mail or donate through the church website. To set up regular online giving, contact the church office (253) 383-1317.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Are you a member of Thrivent? Do you have Choice Dollars to direct to a charitable organization? Please consider directing them to Peace Lutheran Church by logging into your account on the Thrivent website.

Feeling Overwhelmed Living in Our Nation and Want to Respond? Find helpful suggestions for taking positive action in our regular all-church emails. See lists of 7 micro-actions.

Peace Lutheran Church Information

Regular Sunday Morning Schedule

- **8:30 am:** Worship
- **9:30 am:** Breakfast & Fellowship
- **9:45 am:** Faith Education Hour
- **11 am:** Worship (also livestream), with Refreshments after

Sunday Morning Faith Opportunities 9:45-10:45 am
(taking a break for Christmas; will resume on Sunday January 4)

- Godly Play for children ages 4 – 3rd grade
- Explorers class for 4th-6th graders
- Feet to Faith class for 7th-8th graders
- Adult & Older Youth Education

Thursday Community Bible Study We're taking a break for Christmas, to resume **Thursday January 8 at 1 pm.**

Want to Make Bible Reading a Priority in the New Year?

Some suggestions:

- Attend Sunday morning faith education at 9:45 am and/or a small group Bible study, such as men's or women's Bible studies or the Thursday Community Bible Study 1 to 2 pm in person or by Microsoft Teams.
- Read and study Matthew's Gospel, used for worship this year.
- Set aside a place at home to read the Bible (maybe with a table, chair, candle, notebook for writing your thoughts) and encourage your family to spend time with God in scripture and prayer.
- Set aside a time each day, maybe mealtimes or bedtimes, for family devotions. As a family, share highs and lows for the day, read scripture, discuss, and say a prayer.
- Check out the "5 x 5 x 5 Bible Reading Plan" to read through the New Testament in a year OR the "Read the Bible in One Year" plan at the Welcome table OR find a Bible reading plan in your study Bible. Commit yourself to it. For more info, ask Pastor John
- Use a "Christ in Our Home" daily devotional.
- Use the 4 methods of Bible study and accompanying questions from the Book of Faith initiative. Go to the Book of Faith website: www.bookoffaith.org.

New Children's Minister Coming to Peace

Good news! We have hired a new part-time Children's Minister, Annabell Davis-Bloom, who starts at Peace in January!

Interim Music Ministry Staffing In the new year, our Music Director Twylla Moore is transitioning to the role of Musician playing for worship one Sunday a month at Peace so she is able to focus more on ministry at her home church. We are entering an interim time in music ministry starting January 1. Our Choir Director Michael Green will also take on the role of Interim Music Director and lead more and coordinate musicians and music for worship. Thanks Twylla, and thanks Michael for your leadership and service! May God bless our music ministry!

Church Staff Update Deacon Charissa has discerned she will be moving on from her position at Peace the end of December to be a life and grief coach. We are so grateful for her service to the church and pray God's blessing in her transition. The Carrolls' last day at worship at Peace will be Dec. 28.

Anti-Racism Book Resource Library Check out the book cart in the multipurpose room with anti-racism books to borrow for your personal growth and deeper understanding.

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
- **Youth Minister:** Manis Pierre, ext 103, manis@peacetacoma.org
- **Music Director:** Twylla Moore, twylla@peacetacoma.org
- **Gospel Choir Director:** Michael Green, thegreenlife@hotmail.com
- **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	Tech: Jay Maebori
Van Driver: Antonio Yune	Breakfast: Kiah & Armonie Danials
Snack: Jeanie Correa	
10 am	
Assisting Minister:	Tim Chalberg
Readers:	Robin McGaughy, Charissa Carroll
Usher:	Craig Cogger
Prayer Minister:	Robin McGaughy, Sarah ButlerWills
Musician:	Twylla Moore