



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”

January 18, 2026 – Second Sunday After Epiphany – Justice & Reconciliation 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. If you are experiencing symptoms of illness, please stay home and worship online.

We are in the church season of **Epiphany**, meaning “a revealing,” and we’re keeping our eyes open to the ways God is revealed in our lives. Light and mission are Epiphany themes.

In the Gospel today Jesus invites people to come and see, and they begin to follow him. Peace Lutheran Church invites you to come and see, experience Jesus and grow in faith in community!

On this **Justice & Reconciliation Sunday** on Martin Luther King weekend, we’re reminded of our call to seek justice and live into the reconciliation God has for all of us.

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.

Interested in learning more about Peace? Please contact Pastor John, Brendan Nelson, 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 the ELCA Multiethnic and Intersectional Ministries Leaders Gathering hosted by Peace February 5-8
- All affected by flooding in western Washington
- For the people of Venezuela in turbulent times
- 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
- For healing: William Garling, Helga Jefferson-Reed, Brendan Nelson’s dad, 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 Tecler, Spenser Thomas, Antonio Yune
- College & advanced training students: Martin Anderson, Jasmine Ballentine, Lillie Brooks-Walker, Jamison & Kamari Carroll, Annabell Davis-Bloom, Talina Hall, Bea Kelzenberg, Elyse & Sigourney McWilson, Julia Seigny, Laney & Ziah Sneva, Zion Walker
- Military away: Juwan Banks, Alijah Garvin-Williams, Micah Lyle, Taylor McCarthy
- Special need: Jackie Ray, Sunshine Timmons, Dezmyrn Trent
- For our partners in mission all over the world: Jane Kagochi & Solid Faith Church in Kenya; the Namibian Lutheran Church (companion synod); Sevignys 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, Peace Community Center, classroom building
- 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.

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

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

- 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: Today: Join the Anti-Racism Work Group for a refresher of the cultural humility training provided by consultants RiseWithUs. Using videos and a handbook crafted just for Peace, we will lean in together as we continue becoming a more welcoming church community.

Thursday Community Bible Study Pastor John facilitates a Community Bible Study in the Conference Room and online on Teams **Thursdays from 1-2 pm** on the scripture readings for next Sunday's worship. Email Pastor John for the Teams link.

Sunday January 25: For Such a Time As This Worship

Late last spring an invitation was extended for those interested in meeting to discuss the changing nature and goals of our nation's leadership and the impact that change was having on people's lives, especially the lives of the most vulnerable populations in our country. We titled the group, For Such a Time As This, a phrase taken from the Book of Esther, indicating that God has placed a call on all of our lives to have faith, to take courage, to love, value and support all people, at all times, and especially for such a time as this! But how? To answer that question 18 Peace folks have met monthly to share, pray, learn, and support each other in taking faith-filled action for the sake of Jesus' values. Relying on the Spirit, we will share our laments, hopes, and experiences at both worship services on **Sunday January 25**. Please make every effort to be there as we listen to Scripture, praise God in music, pray and celebrate the reality that none of us is alone and none of us is powerless, at such a time as this.

Sunday February 1: Global Mission Sunday In worship we celebrate God's work to bless and save the whole world. We hear music and sing songs from many countries and cultures, celebrate the diversity of God's children, and lift up the work of global partners in ministry!

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.

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.

Community Events and Information

Local Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Events:

- **Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Service Redeeming the Prophetic Vision Today at 2 pm.** Theme: "Chaos or Community." Evergreen State College's Tacoma campus, 1210 6th Avenue, Tacoma 98405.
- **Tacoma's Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Monday, Jan. 19, Community Outreach Fair at 11 am, Program at 1 pm.** Theme: "Community in Service: A Path to Action." Greater Tacoma Convention Center (1500 Commerce St, Tacoma).

National Day of Racial Healing Tuesday, Jan. 20, 4-6 pm, join an online event to observe the 2026 National Day of Racial Healing centering multiracial voices from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Presented in partnership with Augsburg Fortress Publishers, this event will feature intentional storytelling through words and music and provide opportunities for deep listening, reflection and drawing closer together as fellow children of God. Go to ELCA.org/NDORH to register!

Peace Lutheran Church Staff

- **Pastor:** John Stroeh, ext 101, pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org
- **Director of Community Engagement & Outreach:** Brendan Nelson, ext 102, brendan@peacetacoma.org
- **Youth Minister:** Manis Pierre, ext 103, manis@peacetacoma.org
- **Children's Minister:** Annabell Davis-Bloom
- **Interim Music Director:** Michael Green, thegreenlife@hotmail.com
- **Gospel Choir Director:** Michael Green, thegreenlife@hotmail.com
- **Musician:** 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: Jeanie Correa	Tech: Don Gillis
Van Driver: Antonio Yune	Breakfast: Craig Cogger
Snack: Paulie Jacobson	Nursery: Brianna Miller
	11 am
Assisting Minister: Diane Powers	Jo Nivling-Izquierdo
Reader: William Garling	Sarah Perkins
Usher: Lenora Sneva	
Prayer Minister: Sandra Puckett	Leigh Wong
Musician: Twylla Moore	Twylla Moore, Major Whitten