



FIRST SUNDAY OF  
**ADVENT**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
*November 30, 2025*

# Peace Lutheran Church

2540 Applegate Street  
Philomath, OR 97370  
(541) 929- 5504

**Pastor Lucke's e-mail:** pastorlucke@gmail.com

**Peace Lutheran Office e-mail:** peaceinphilomath@gmail.com

**Peace Lutheran website:** <http://peaceinphilomath.com>

## November 30, 2025

**We welcome you in the name of the Lord Jesus.** We are honored with your presence. If you do not have a church home, you are invited to join us regularly. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Jeremy Lucke or one of the Ushers as you leave today and sign the guest book in the entryway. We continue to observe the guidelines for health safety. If you have any questions, please see an usher. Everyone is welcome.

**The ringing of the bell** and the lighting of the Christ candle mark the beginning of our service and a time for quiet meditation, prayer and inward reflection as we begin our worship.

**Children are welcome at our worship services.** If you prefer, Peace Lutheran has a playroom equipped for children three years old and younger. The room is unstaffed and can be accessed in the fellowship hall where the service is also being live streamed for your convenience and enjoyment.

**Holy Communion** is celebrated every first and third Sunday and will follow the order of service in the bulletin. If you are a baptized Christian and share our faith in Jesus as Savior and have been instructed in the meaning and use of the Lord's Supper, you are invited to partake. We have pre-wrapped communion wine or juice and wafers. We also have gluten-free wafers available. If you desire a gluten-free wafer, ask the server. May the body and blood of Jesus, present in the bread and wine, be a blessing to you.

There are times during the service when you will be asked to stand if you are able. Please feel free to remain seated if standing is difficult.

**Offering.** Peace Lutheran Church understands and teaches that Offerings are voluntary and to be from the heart. Whether we give or do not give does not determine our salvation. Whether we give

much or little does not determine our standing before God. Sharing an Offering is an opportunity to quietly practice generosity with our neighbors.

<b>Serving You</b>	
Pastor	Pastor Jeremy Lucke
Music Director	Colleen Schulze
Choir Director	Diane Crocker
Supt. Of Sunday School	Anne Schroeder & Karyn Stanley
Admin Assistant	Daniel Dusek
Parish Nurse	Kathy Durling
Webmaster	Jim Holroyd
Audio-Visual	Johnathon Holroyd, George Abele, Nicholas Abele, Merv Munster, Callie Santora, Oscar Gutbrod, Sam Worth, Rick Durling, Jim Holroyd, Debbi Weiler, Dan Dusek, Seamus Harrington, Archer Schroeder
Praise Team	Rick Durling, Patrick Kamins, Ginny Tonelli, Karyn Stanley, Nora Stanley, Diane Crocker, Anne Schroeder, John Mergl

<b>Today, November 30, 2025</b>	
Musician	Colleen Schulze
Ushers	Jim & Lynn Reams
Reader	Kathy Hanna
Fellowship	Margaret Phillipott & Molly Schulze
Flowers	Sally Stouder

<b>Next Sunday, December 7, 2025</b>	
Musician	Colleen Schulze
Ushers	
Reader	Wilson Schroeder
Fellowship	
Flowers	Schroeder Family
Communion	Bill & Peggy Krueger

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

**AS WE GATHER...** Something Better. That's the theme of our worship services this season of Advent. Today we hear about how God gives us "A Better Word." Did you know that God has something better for us? Hebrews 11:40 says, "...God has planned something better for us." As we build in anticipation and expectation for Christmas, knowing that there is something better coming brings us comfort and hope.

**RINGING OF THE BELL.....**After the ringing of the bell, we take a few moments to prepare our hearts and minds in silence for today's worship.

---

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

**Hymn Introduction:** Prolific Hymnwriter Charles Wesley penned eighteen Christmas songs, but he was never happy with simply painting the picture of the manger scene. In *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*, Wesley begins by alluding to scriptural prophecies of Jesus. But Wesley moves on to personal application in the final verse.

Such personal application was a hallmark of the Wesleys' ministry. Charles and his brother John challenged the staid Anglican traditions of their time. The church of their day had great scholarship; its theology was orthodox. Christians sang hymns straight from Scripture. But the Wesleys seemed to ask, "Does this mean anything *to you*? Is the biblical story about long-ago events or about what is going on *in your* life?" They urged people to meet Christ personally and to include Him in every part of their lives—even their hymn singing.

## OPENING HYMN      **"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"** **LBW (Green Book) 30**

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" CCLI License# 11470020

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child, and yet a king;  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

## **INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Leader: On the four Sundays in Advent, we light a new candle each week. We mark the four candles with these four words: hope, peace, joy, and love. Jesus Christ is the hope of all nations.*

**People: We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God.**

*The first candle (hope) is lit during the Advent Song.*

## **ADVENT SONG**

## **“Light One Candle”**

“Light One Candle” Copyright ©1976 by Hinshaw Music, Inc. CCLI License #11470020

Light one candle for hope,  
One bright candle for hope,  
He brings hope to ev'ry heart,  
He comes! He comes!



## **WE CONFESS OUR SIN**

*Leader: In the season of Advent, we prepare for Jesus to come. We await the celebration of His birth at Christmas. As we wait, we consider how unworthy we are to have Jesus in our presence.*

*~~~~~Silence for reflection~~~~~*

*Leader: Heavenly Father,*

**People: We confess that our faith has been lacking. We have not abounded in love for one another or for You. Our hearts are filled with blame and shame, even with conceit. Forgive us, strengthen our faith, and purify our hearts.**

## **HEARING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

*Leader: Jesus not only comes as an infant at Christmas and in glory at His return, but He also comes to you in words of forgiveness and life. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

---

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

---

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Leader: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your kingly majesty we may be protected from our enemies and be joined to Your humble and holy reign; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**People: Amen.**

---

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

---

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

**Isaiah 55:6-11**

<sup>6</sup> “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup> “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE LESSON

**Hebrews 1:1-4**

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

<sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

<sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL LESSON

**John 1:1-5**

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

<sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

*Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## SERMON SONG “Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel” (v 1-4) LSB (Maroon Book) 357

“Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel” Text: Psalteriolium Cationum Catholicarum, Kohn, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Tune: French processional, 15th cent. CCLI License #11470020

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the Law  
In cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

---

SERMON

**“A Better Word”**

**Pastor Jeremy Lucke**

---



## AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

**People:** We believe in God, the Creator of all things, the source of all goodness and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, true God yet true man. He was crucified, died and was buried for our sin that we might be free and know the joy of life. He was raised on the third day and ascended to heaven. He will come again in power and glory to judge both the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit. We believe in the church of God, the people of faith throughout the world. We believe that our sin is forgiven and that we will live together with God for now and throughout eternity. Amen.

---

## OFFERING

*We offer our thanksgiving for what God has first given us—ourselves, our time, our possessions.*

---

---

## PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

---

*Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who do not know You, those who have rejected You, and those who are straying from You. Unite them to Your glorious throne and dwell in their hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,*

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are lonely and in need of Your presence. Come to the homeless, the unemployed, the underemployed, the homebound, the mentally ill, those who are in transition, and anyone else who experiences the pain of loneliness. Remind them of Your incarnation and lead them to Your Church, where we bear one another's burdens. Lord, in Your mercy,*

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are oppressed and at the mercy of others. Rescue those who are suffering, abused, neglected, and hated. Comfort them with Your tender presence and love. Lord, in Your mercy,*

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, come to those who are sick, injured, and recovering, (especially...). Strengthen them with Your healing hand and with Your unwavering presence. Lord, in Your mercy,*

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, come to Your broken Church with the gifts of reconciliation and restoration. Unite Your people once again so that we enjoy fellowship rather than fractured division. Lord, in Your mercy,*

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader: Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your ever-present mercy.*

**People: Amen.**

---

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

---

**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**

---

## CLOSING BLESSING

---

*Leader: May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.*

**ALL: He who promised is faithful and He will do it!**

### CLOSING SONG

### “Let All Things Now Living” LBW (Green Book) 557

“Let All Things Now Living” Katherine Kennicott Davis 1939. Renewed 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Company (Admin. by ECS Publishing Corporation) CCLI License #11470020

Let all things now living  
A song of thanksgiving  
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us,  
Protected and stayed us,  
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us,  
His light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Till shadows have vanished  
And darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.

His law He enforces,  
The stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains,  
The rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine.  
We too should be voicing  
Our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a song let us raise  
Till all things now living  
Unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest Hosanna and praise!"

**SILENT PRAYER**

*Speak, O Lord to me this Advent, for I am listening! Amen.*

**DISMISSAL**

*Leader: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!*

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**POST-SERVICE MUSIC**

---

ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

**ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES.....** Advent is a season of preparation, anticipation and expectation as we wait for Christmas. Plan on attending Peace's midweek Advent services on the Wednesdays of December 3, 10 and 17. The order of worship is Holden Evening Prayer. Each Wednesday service begins at 6 pm. All are welcome!

**NEW MEMBER WELCOME AND TREE**

**DECORATING.....** Next Sunday, December 7 will be a special one. We will be welcoming new members in the service--praise the Lord! A special potluck (stay and bring something to share) fellowship will take place after service. And shortly thereafter, we will gather around the Christmas Tree in the sanctuary to decorate.

**VINA MOSES.....** Now is the time to help families that are in need over the holidays. The Vina Moses Giving Tree tags are available for your consideration to help. They are placed on the glass panels outside the front doors of the church. Each tag shares

an age and gender of a youth. Consider taking a tag, buying a gift and returning the gift (unwrapped) back to Peace by December 14. Over 1,870 gifts were purchased for youth in need last year. Our goal is to match that number and share even more! If you have any questions, contact George.

**HALLMARK MOVIE NIGHT.....** Calling all ladies! It's that time of year! Hallmark Christmas Movies!!! We are going to have a Hallmark Christmas movie night on December 5 at 5 pm in the fellowshiphall. Wear your most comfortable clothes (yes, even pajamas), bring your most favorite snack, bring a comfy chair/air mattress, blanket, and your ability to join predictable whimsical romance placed in the Yuletide season. See you there!

**HOLIDAY CHEER.....** Holiday Cheer, a program of Philomath Community Services, strives to help parents with the added costs of Christmas so that they may provide gifts to their children. We have often helped out in the past but this year it is a bit different. We will be collecting items for children of all different sizes, babies through Seniors in high school. We have put labeled boxes in the Narthex ready to collect any donations you may have to offer. These should be new unwrapped items. The items include:

1) Coats or sweatshirts 2) Winter clothing 3) Toys or Books

All items must be placed in the boxes no later than December 7th, the sooner the better. See Pastor or Diane if you have questions!

---

## PRAYER REQUESTS

---

**Homebound:** Bill Harris, Karla Rhoads, Joyce Hall, John and Lucy Leach, Grace Maddux, Joan McDonald, Twylla Randall, John Filbert, Kathy Barrett, Karen Marquez, Beverly Hellesto, Margaret Dusek, Mirdza Abele, Trish O'Neil, Junia Simonson

**Sick and Recovering:** Bev Hardy (*Karen M.'s mother--health concerns*), Nicole (*friend of Daniel*), Jimmy, Erin and her family, Cathy M. (*cancer diagnosis*), Holly and Jon B., Courtney, Janine, Oscar, Joe, Kathy W. (*back pain*), Jeanine (*chemo treatment*), Tom, Don and Bev (*healing and recovery*), Tim (*in prison asking for prayer*), Rich Hansen, Tina, John L., Patrick (*surgery on Dec. 16th*), Dick, Jan and Fred, Caitlin (*pregnancy*), Denise, Mindy (*surgery*), Valoney, Jack and Nelda (*neighbors of Abernathys*), Summer (*friend of Cheryl*), Dan (*pacemaker surgery*), Diane (*eye surgery--friend of Sharon*),

Andrew and Emily. All those who are travelling.



