

Peace Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026 9:00 a.m.



GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME!

Thank you for joining in Worship today.

Whether you regularly worship with us, are here for the first time, or are returning after a time away, your presence is important for the worship we offer to the glory of God. May your experience of God's love be a blessing in your life. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest register in the Narthex, near the front door. All are welcome at Jesus' table. The center ring in the communion tray has grape juice and the other two rings have wine.

Information in italics | **Congregation responses in bold** | * indicates please stand as you are able
Worship services may involve photography, as well as audio and video recording.

Welcome & Announcements to Prepare Us for Worship

* Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,

you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts

are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.

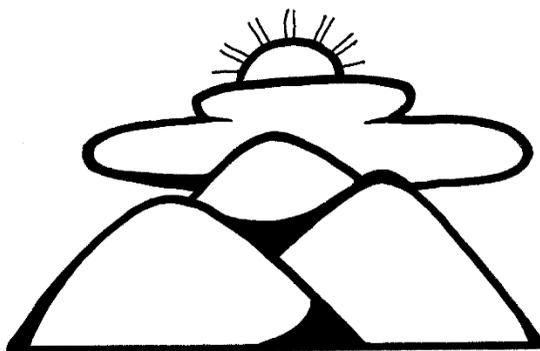


** As We Gather at Your Table*

ELW 522

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

***The Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray... **Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

¹ Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³ “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

⁶ “With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

...the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

¹ Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**² Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**⁴ In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those
who fear the Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do
not take back their word.**

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes
against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never
be overthrown.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

....the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

** Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

***Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter

...Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they



will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord... **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon – Pastor Carol Jeunnette



** Canticle of the Turning*

ELW 723

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

(A brief silence.)

Each petition ends with: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for Dianna Shamel, Michael Knapton, Bill Goulding, Lynn and Phil Klein, Diane.

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

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

Share the peace with each other as you are comfortable.

*** Offering Prayer**

Let us pray... **God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Proper Preface



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

* Words of Institution & Lord's Prayer (*traditional version*)

*Invitation to Communion

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.

Please come forward as you are able to receive communion.

Lamb of God – found on Liturgy Sheet

*Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace, now and forever.

***Prayer after Communion**

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Blessing**

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



** Rise Up, O Saints of God!*

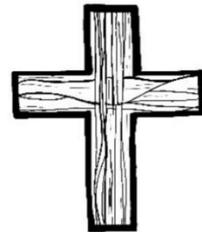
ELW 669

Announcements for the Good of All

Offering - Please place your gifts in the baskets in the back of the Sanctuary.

***Dismissal**

Grow in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.



Peace Lutheran Announcements for February 1, 2026

Church Website: www.peacelutheranburlington.org

Church Email: peacelca@gmail.com

Pastor Carol's email: pastorcarol.peace@gmail.com

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Attendance for Sunday, January 25, 2026 – 22 confirmed

General Offerings \$470.00 Mt Meru \$24.00

*Worship Assistants for today – Council member in charge: Marilyn Hart,
Lector: Kent Zahn, Communion Assistant: Janet McGinty, Offering counter:
Kent Zahn, Tech: Sean McGinty*

Office Hours... Pastor Carol's office hours are Wednesdays from 9am-noon. Drop in and say "Hi"!

Burlington Senior Center... Looking ahead we will begin collecting in February for the Burlington Senior Center. They are in need of paper cups (no Styrofoam), small paper plates and napkins to be delivered March 1.

Thursday morning Bible study group... will meet this week on Thursday February 5th, at 9:30 am in the church narthex. They will continue the schedule of every other Thursday.

Mid-Day Women's Gathering... will meet Wednesday February 11th, 11:30 am, in the Peace fellowship hall. Bring your own lunch and beverage, dessert will be provided. Carol Chaffee will host.

The Chosen... today we will watch the final episode of season 5. Please join us. DVDs of previous seasons are available to borrow, if interested.

50th Anniversary... Plans are underway for our anniversary celebration. On the last Sunday of each month, from May through October, we will remember and celebrate one decade of the congregation's life together. The planning committee, however, could use some help. Our overall purpose is to celebrate 50 years of ministry. We are looking for a theme and a bible story or verse that are descriptive of the congregation. We would like your input. The theme could be something like "Celebrating God's Faithfulness" or "Firm and Unwavering Faith." Ideas for Bible verses include "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10); "the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5); "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded" (Luke 12:48); or "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Or the Bible verse could be a particular story that is meaningful to you. We will be gathering your ideas on Sundays, February 1, 8 and 13. Write them down at home and place them in the square basket on the shelf in the narthex, or grab a sheet of paper when you pick up your bulletin. Your thoughts and ideas are important. The committee will meet the week of Feb. 13 to choose a theme and continue planning.