



first sunday of advent

Order of Worship
November 28, 2021
[Livestream 10:15 am](#)

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

1300 E Aloha St
Worship 10:15 AM
Live stream found on
Grace Church Seattle's
[YouTube](#)

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:15 AM

Ages 6 months - 3yrs:
Room 119

Sermon Time Class

(4 years to 2nd Grade)
Children dismissed to the back
of the Sanctuary before sermon,
will return before communion.

Nursing Room

(Nursing moms only)
Back of Sanctuary, west side.

Family Room

Upstairs Chapel
Livestream Viewing



ADVENT 2020

Advent, the beginning of the church calendar, is the period of time that includes the four Sundays immediately preceding Christmas Day. The English word Advent is derived from the Latin verb *advenire*, "to come." Advent has to do with the Lord's coming to us. The Lord has come to us (at the birth of Christ), continues to come to us through the power of the Holy Spirit, and will come to us again bodily at the end of this age. Advent is a time to reflect upon all of the ways—past, present, and future—in which the Lord enters into our lives and our world.

Please remember that the purpose of Advent is not to imagine ourselves to be living at the time immediately preceding Christ's birth and so somehow pretend that we are waiting for him to be born. Neither is the purpose of Advent to think sentimental thoughts about the baby Jesus. There is no real spiritual power in any of this. Instead, the purpose of Advent is to pray for the coming of the Lord and to learn how to wait for him.

During Advent we remember his first coming and how he kept his promises to his people in the Hebrew Scriptures. Because he was faithful long ago, we can be assured he will remain faithful to the end. Dwelling on God's faithfulness during Advent is a way of enriching and strengthening our faith.

In addition, we also pray for a greater experience of his presence in our lives today. For this reason, Advent is a great time to begin a new practice of prayer, setting aside time for the Lord in our daily lives.

And, finally, Advent is a season to consider (or consider again) Jesus' promises to return to us in bodily form. On that day, he will powerfully and graciously deliver us from all evil, overthrow his enemies, and wipe away every tear. In this way, Advent is a time where we foster and cultivate our ability to faithfully and expectantly wait for the Lord's return.

Let us worship!

Adapted from Rev. Jeff Meyers

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Scripture quotations are from
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Front cover artwork:
Hope
Justin Milgate, 2021

REFLECTION QUOTES

What happens to a dream deferred?
Does it dry up
Like a raisin in the sun?
Or fester like a sore--
And then run?
Does it stink like rotten meat?
Or crust and sugar over--
like a syrupy sweet?
Maybe it just sags
like a heavy load.
Or does it explode?

Langston Hughes, "Dream Deferred"

Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.

Proverbs 13:12

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

Hebrews 11:13

WELCOME**PRELUDE: Show Us The King***Lyrics below for reflection*

Open wide, ye heavenly gates
 And show us the King of glory
 How long must we wait
 Must we wait for Your return

Open wide, ye heavenly gates
 And show us the King of glory
 How long must we wait?

OPENING WORDS*Isaiah 40:3*

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Our King and Savior now draws near;
O come, let us adore him.

*Stand if able***CALL TO WORSHIP***Based on Psalm 130:5-7*

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
 and in his word I hope.
 My soul waits for the Lord
 more than those who watch for the morning.

There is no darkness with you, O Lord.

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
 and with him is plenteous redemption.

There is no darkness with you, O Lord.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

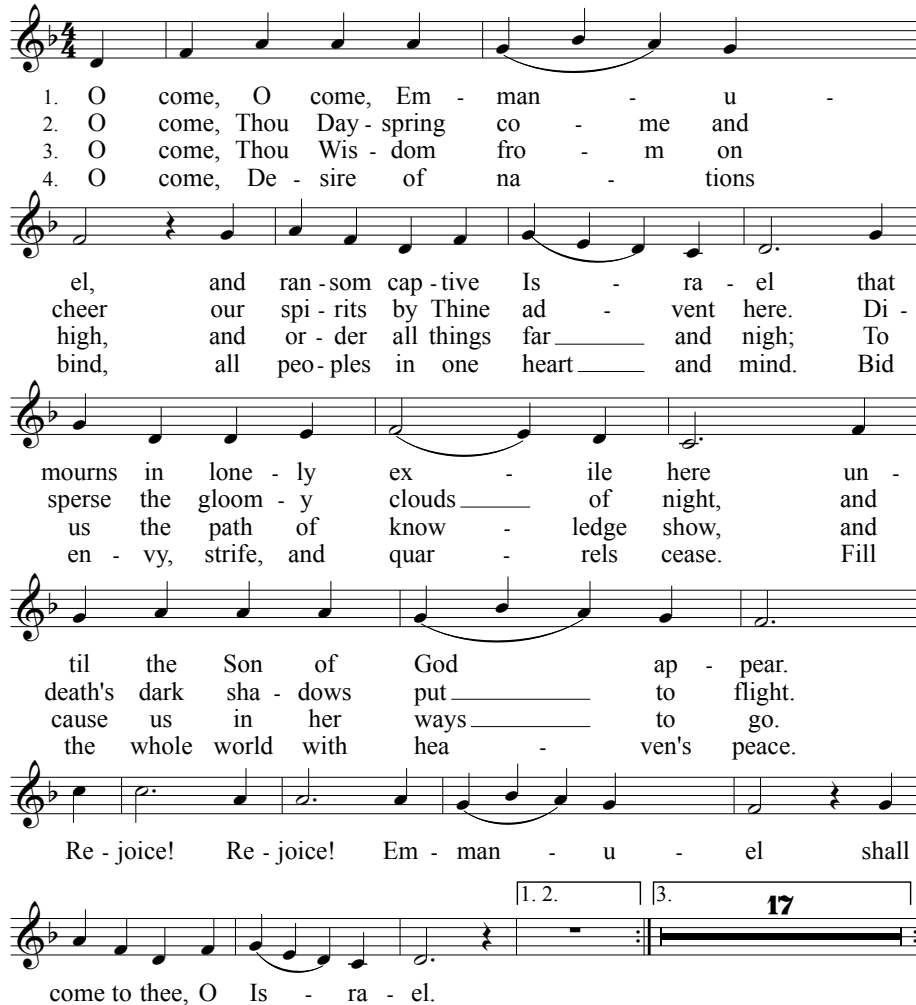
There is no darkness with you, O Lord.

John Arndt, David Gungor
 2014, The Brilliance Music

The small symbols you will see
 throughout these pages
 correspond to a "Key to Liturgy"
[available here](#) or printed and
 found in the lobby.

Our worship begins each week
 with a call to worship. We are
 gathered here today because
 God, our Creator, desires to
 have a relationship with us.
 Whether we realize it or not, he
 is the one calling us to
 himself—today and every day.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u -
 2. O come, Thou Day - spring co - me and
 3. O come, Thou Wis - dom fro - m on
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions

el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el that
 cheer our spi - rits by Thine ad - vent here. Di -
 high, and or - der all things far _____ and nigh; To
 bind, all peo - ples in one heart _____ and mind. Bid

mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un -
 spere the gloom - y clouds _____ of night, and
 us the path of know - ledge show, and
 en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease. Fill

til the Son of God ap - pear.
 death's dark sha - dows put _____ to flight.
 cause us in her ways _____ to go.
 the whole world with hea - ven's peace.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall

come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Words: John Mason Neale, 1851
 Music: VENI EMMANUEL (chant)

Seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Christians adopted the practice of the lighting of candles during Advent in the Middle Ages. Another candle is lit during each of the four Sundays of Advent, signifying hope, love, joy, and peace.

LECTIO SACRA

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36

Old Testament Reading

[14] "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. [15] In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. [16] In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'



"Lectio Sacra" means "sacred reading." It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the bible read during worship services. The assumption behind this practice is that we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's word.

(Continued on the next page)

Gospel Reading

[25] "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, [26] people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. [27] And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. [28] Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

[29] And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. [30] As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. [31] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. [32] Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. [33] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

[34] "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. [35] For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. [36] But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Christina G. Rossetti

Musical interludes are included in our service in order to provide space for reflection and worship.



*Adapted from The Abingdon
Worship Annual 2009, © 2008
Abingdon Press*

INTERLUDE In The Bleak Midwinter

Stand, Sit, or Kneel

CONFESSION OF SIN

Inspired by Luke 21

Almighty God,

**you warn us to read the signs
for the coming of your glory—
in the sun, the moon, the stars,
the roaring of the seas and the waves,
the distress among the nations.**

We have seen it all before.

Nothing seems to change.

Help us live with courage

**in this age of ambiguity
where wars are fought for peace
and freedoms are stripped
in the name of liberty.**

Forgive our lapse of focus,

our sense that nothing ever really changes.

Teach us to wait with patience,

**that we may be ready
as our redeemer draws near. Amen.**

(You are invited to confess your sins silently.)

RECEIVING OF GRACE

Based on Jeremiah 33:14-16 (NRSV)



The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will fulfill the promise I made
to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
In those days and at that time I will cause
a righteous Branch to spring up for David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
In those days Judah will be saved
and Jerusalem will live in safety.
And this is the name by which it will be called:
"The Lord is our righteousness."

*The Worship Sourcebook,
©2004 Faith Alive Christian
Resources*

People of God:

**Jesus Christ, our Lord,
whose coming we announce in this season,
is our righteousness.
In Christ, we are made right with God.
Thanks be to God!**

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

PRAYING THE PSALMS

Psalms 25:1-9



To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.
**Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

Praying through the psalms each week teaches us how to pray, using the prayer book of ancient Israel. As we pray, there will be pauses for reflection.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
**Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.**
Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
**Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!**

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
**He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.**

Teach Me, O Lord

1. Teach me, O Lord, your way of truth,
 2. In your com-mand-ments, make me walk,
 3. Your word sheds light up-on my path;
 4. I thirst for your com-mand-ments, Lord,

and from it I will not de-part;
 for in your law my joy shall be;
 a shi-ning light, it guides my feet;
 and for your mer-cy press my claim;

that I may stead-fast-ly o-bey,
 give me a heart that loves your will,
 your sound judg-ments to ob-serve,
 O look on me and show the grace

give me an un-der-stand-ing
 from dis-con-tent and en-vy
 my so-lemn vow I now re-
 dis-played to all who love your

8 1. 3. 2. 4. 4

— heart.
 — free.
 — peat.
 — name.

Text: Psalm 119, Genevan
 Psalter, 1912
 Music: Jess Allredge, 2014

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see
 in you the fulfillment of all my
 need and may turn from every
 false satisfaction to feed on you,
 the true and living bread. Enable
 me to lay aside the sin that
 clings so closely, and run with
 perseverance the race set
 before me, looking to you, the
 author and perfecter of my faith.
 Amen.



Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Jesus, you claim to be the way,
 the truth, and the life. Grant that
 I might be undaunted by the
 cost of following you as I
 consider the reasons for doing
 so. If what you claim is true,
 please guide me, teach me, and
 open to me the reality of who
 you are. Give me an
 understanding of you that is
 coherent, convincing, and that
 leads to the life that you
 promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am
 weaker and more sinful than I
 ever before believed, but
 through you I am more loved
 and accepted than I ever dared
 hope. I thank you for paying my
 debt, bearing my punishment
 on the cross, and offering
 forgiveness and new life.
 Knowing that you have been
 raised from the dead, I turn from
 my sins and receive you as
 Savior and Lord. Amen.

Seated

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Share with us your visit and prayer requests.](#)

PASSING THE PEACE

As recipients of God's grace, we gladly receive peace from him. In response to his grace, we also extend that grace to one another. Traditionally, Christians have greeted one another during this time in the service with the phrase, "*May the peace of Christ be with you*" and receive back the greeting "*And also with you.*"

GOSPEL LESSON

As He Promised

Genesis 21

Rev. Jason Davison

Sermons can be streamed and downloaded [here](#).

SERMON TEXT

[1] The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised. [2] And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. [3] Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. [4] And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.

(Continued on the next page)

[6] And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." [7] And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

[8] And the child grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. [9] But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, laughing. [10] So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son Isaac." [11] And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son. [12] But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the boy and because of your slave woman. Whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your offspring be named. [13] And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring." [14] So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

[15] When the water in the skin was gone, she put the child under one of the bushes. [16] Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, "Let me not look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. [17] And God heard the voice of the boy, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. [18] Up! Lift up the boy, and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make him into a great nation."

[19] Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. [20] And God was with the boy, and he grew up. He lived in the wilderness and became an expert with the bow. [21] He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

[22] At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, "God is with you in all that you do. [23] Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my descendants or with my posterity, but as I have dealt kindly with you, so you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned." [24] And Abraham said, "I will swear."

[25] When Abraham reproved Abimelech about a well of water that Abimelech's servants had seized, [26] Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today." [27] So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant. [28] Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart. [29] And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?" [30] He said, "These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that this may be a witness for me that I dug this well." [31] Therefore that place was called Beersheba, because there both of them swore an oath. [32] So they made a covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines. [33] Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and called there on the name of the Lord, the Everlasting God. [34] And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines.



Kate Bluett, Paul Zach
2021 Integrity Worship Music
PG Songs And Hymns
ASCAP

MUSICAL OFFERING

He Comes

Lyrics below for reflection

He comes, the Lord's anointed one,
and we shall see his face
as clear as if the rising sun poured out
the light of grace.

He comes, and we shall hear his voice
not as some distant sound
but tones that make the heart rejoice
when love long lost is found.

He comes, and we shall go to him
set free from ancient chains,
adorned in mercy's diadem
to glory in his reign.

He comes, the Lord, as one of us;
he comes to judge the earth:
How wonderful, how glorious
his long-awaited birth!

He comes, not to the wise and great,
but to the bound and poor,
so low himself that potentates
must kneel to pass his door.
He comes, with favor in his hands,
our empty souls to fill,
to make a highway through the sands
and bid the storms be still.

Offering Tiles

Many of us tithe electronically and this can be a wise practice and a blessing to the church. A downside can be the loss of the embodied practice of physically bringing our offering to the Lord. If it will aid you in your worship to reclaim a physical expression of tithing, tiles are now available in baskets at our welcome table for you to choose and place in the offering basket as it is passed.

To give to the Grace General Fund, you can give several ways:

- To give via text message, text GODISLOVE to 206.859.9405.
(This will take you to our on-line giving page)
- To give via the Grace app, look up "Grace Church Seattle" on the App Store or Google Play and click the giving tab within the app.
- Give via Venmo (Give to @graceseatle.org; all transactions are private)
- Give via PayPal (Give to bookkeeper@graceseatle.org)
- To gift stock, contact our bookkeeper@graceseatle.org
- Mail to check to:
Grace Church Seattle
400 E Pine St, #215
Seattle, WA 98122

To give to the Serving the City Fund or Deacons Fund, you can give several ways:

- For text, online, and app giving, specify "Serving the City" "Deacons Fund" in the "Fund" field.
- For all other giving, Indicate "Serving the City" or "Deacons Fund" in the memo or comments field.

TELLING GOD'S STORY

Grace's leadership has recently re-articulated our congregation's vision, mission, and values. These are an attempt to answer these two questions:

- Who are we as a church?
- What is the work God is calling us to do?

For the next several weeks, we will be hearing from various people in our congregation about how God is working both in their lives and in the life of our congregation.

POEM: ADVENT GOOD WISHES

*Give you joy, wolf,
when Messiah makes you meek
and turns your roar into a cry that
justice has been done for the poor.*

*Give you joy, lamb,
when Messiah saves you from jeopardy
and all fear is overwhelmed
by his converting grace.*

*Give you joy, wolf and lamb together,
as Messiah brings worldwide peace and,
side by side, you shelter
under Jesse's spreading shoot.*

David Grieve

Prayer for Receiving Communion

Lord Jesus, your perfect life, death, and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.



From the Revised Common Lectionary

A collect (KOL-ekt) is simply a prayer meant to gather the intentions of the people and the focus of worship into one succinct prayer.

Receiving Communion

We will come forward by rows, starting at the front and alternating sides to ensure distancing in the center aisle. As you come forward, please maintain distance with your neighbor.



Communion Elements:

Cup: Wine or Grape Juice

Challah Bread: Contains wheat, egg, milk, instant yeast (Many thanks to Danielle Taniguchi for freshly baking challah bread each week!)

Rice Crackers: Organic Brown Rice Flour, Organic White Rice Flour

Prefilled, factory-sealed communion

elements also available:

Communion wafer ingredients: wheat flour, water, vegetable shortening (soybean oil, cottonseed oil).

Sit, Stand or Kneel

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Almighty God,

**give us grace to cast away the works of darkness,
and put on the armor of light,
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to visit us in great humility.**

That in the last day,

**when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Seated

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Introduction to the Lord's Table

The Words of Institution

Words: John Mason Neale, 1851
 Music: VENI EMMANUEL (chant)

Musical interludes are included
 in our service in order to provide
 space for reflection and worship.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Charles Wesley, 1744
 Rowland H. Prichard, 1830

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Stand if able



Come, Thou long ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy
 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and
 peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us
 yet a king, Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy
 find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,
 gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it
 hope of all the earth Thou art. Dear De - sire of ev - ery
 rule in all our hearts a - lone; By thine all suf - fi - cient
 na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 mer - rit Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.



BENEDICTION

1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

Now may our God and Father himself,
 and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you,
 and may the Lord make you increase
 and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you,
 so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness
 before our God and Father,
 at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. **Amen.**



SENDING

Let us go forth and serve the world
 as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

THIS SUNDAY
10:15 AM Worship

...NEXT WEEK
9:00 AM Christian Formation Classes
10:15 AM Worship

SUNDAYS

Sunday Worship 10:15 AM. Join us for in-person worship or join us via [livestream](#) on YouTube on Grace Church Seattle's page.

Christian Formation Hour Dates for Ministry Year.

DEC 5	MAR 6
DEC 19	MAR 20
JAN 16	APR 3
FEB 6	MAY 1
FEB 20	MAY 22

Adult Christian Formation Hour. Join us as we engage with Job. Job is a curious book. Labeled by some as poetry and labeled by others as horror, this book demands our attention. Job will not let us off the hook with easy answers and he often seems demanding of God that his questions get answered. In this year's Christian Formation hour, we'll dive into the text and learn to ask the hard questions with Job. Counselors will periodically aid us in some nuanced discussion around grief and trauma and we'll learn how the Bible teaches us to lament and even get a chance to write some of our own. It will be a holistic class that engages spirit, body, and mind.

Grace Kids. In our Christian Formation classes our youngest children are studying New Testament Stories and our 3rd-5th graders are learning about the Parables of Jesus using the DWELL curriculum. A Children's Worship Guide is available every week in the foyer for our children to use during the worship service. A combined class for 6 months through 3 year olds is available during the worship service downstairs in room #117. We also have a Sermon Time class for 4 year olds through 2nd graders. A mother's nursing room is located in the back of the sanctuary on the west side. A family room is provided in the Upstairs Chapel with a Livestream viewing. We use KidCheck (<https://www.kidcheck.com/>) to check children into our programs. Please create a free account: [Sign Up Using Mobile App](#) OR [Sign Up Using Website](#). For questions, please contact Linn Haralson at linn@graceseattle.org.

Youth. YCG classes started Sunday, October 3 during our Christian Formation Hour at 9:00 AM. This year our high schoolers will be partnering with adult YCG leaders in leading our study of the book of John. Every Sunday of Christian Formation, youth will meet for a short game, Bible study and prayer in small groups. Also, beginning on Monday, October 4, 6:00 PM to 7:45 PM, 10 week Alpha course will begin! Alpha is an interactive time of learning and discussion around the basics of the Christian faith, where young people will inquire of the faith and one another over a weekly meal. Youth from Central Community Church, Saint Ambrose, and Grace Church Seattle will be gathering at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1200 10th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98102. For questions, please email Pastor Jason at jason@graceseattle.org.

Pastoral Care. Please contact us if you have needs or if you have resources you would like to offer our community. We can be reached at pastoralcare@graceseattle.org.

CONNECT

Connect Groups. We have a wide variety of groups: Community Groups, Bible Studies, Growth Groups, Prayer Groups, Men's Groups, Women's Groups, and Listening Prayer Groups. To find a group, or if you are interested in starting one, please contact our Director of Community Formation, Jamie Afshari jamie@graceseattle.org.

SERVE

Congregation. There are many ways to serve in the congregation. Please contact [Danielle Taniguchi](#) or go to our [website](#) for more information.

City. Grace partners with a number of great organizations in the city. To find out more, please contact [Pastor Jason](#) or go to our [website](#).

GIVE

You can give financially to Grace many ways.

- Our General Fund, which goes to support the mission and worship of our congregation
- Our Deacons Fund, which goes to help those in our congregation and community who are facing unexpected financial need
- Our Serving the City Fund, which goes directly to our efforts to serve the hurting and marginalized in our city

For more information, please go to graceseattle.org/giving

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Volunteers Needed! With the return to in-person worship, we need people willing to help with communion, ushering, check-in, and reading. Please contact Danielle Taniguchi at danielle@graceseattle.org to sign up!

UPDATE: No Young Adult Group Nov. 28: Brent and Phoebe will be out of town next Sunday for Thanksgiving. The group will resume Dec 5th. As a young adult, it can be difficult to find friendship in Seattle. You've probably just moved here, got to or out of college, or you're coming out of your Covid-19-enforced hermitage and finding it difficult to meet people. If you consider yourself a young adult and are interested in growing in the community and breaking bread with others, join us for weekly dinner on Sunday nights in Eastlake! For those living or working downtown, in South Lake Union or the University District, it should be a quick bus ride on the 70. Reach out to Brent Williams at brent.williams333@gmail.com for the specific location, or if you have any questions.

UW Campus Ministry Christmas Party Help: Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at the University of Washington will be having their annual Christmas party for students on Friday, December 3rd. They are looking for someone to provide dessert and/or drinks for approximately 50 students. If you are interested in helping out, please contact David Birnie david.birnie@ruf.org.

Advent Retreat at The Layne: A Visit to the Manger, Saturday, December 4, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM: In this busy, even frantic, time of celebration, we invite you take a morning and personally experience the glory and wonder of Jesus' vulnerable birth. Put yourself there, smell the smells, see the small details, and ask why those details appear to you now, ask what they have to say to you. Please register to attend at www.soulcareseattle.com. If you have any questions email shelly@soulcareseattle.com.

Grace Kids & Youth Christmas Short Film: Church-wide viewing of our short film will take place after church on December 19. The link to the short film will be kept private on our YouTube page but will be made available for families who participate to share with out-of-town friends and family and to watch from home.

Christmas Eve Service: Friday, Dec. 24th, 5 PM

We will be celebrating Christmas Eve during our evening Lessons & Carols service at 5 PM. Our gathering will be in-person at the church building as well as live-streamed on [YouTube](#). Childcare will not be provided this year, but the family room (with livestream) as well as the nursing mothers room will be available.

Sermon Time Class: We have the minimum number of volunteers needed to add another class during our worship service. Our Nursery/Toddler class will care for 6 months to 3 years old and our Sermon Time class will care for 4 year olds through second grade. For the Sermon Time class, children will begin worship in the sanctuary and be dismissed to class at the beginning of the sermon. Parents will need to check their child into Sermon Time class at the KidCheck stations and print a name tag for their child. This can be done before the worship service begins. For questions, please contact Linn Haralson at linn@graceseattle.org.

Volunteer Scheduling Changes: We will be working on transitioning our volunteer scheduling platform for both Sunday morning and Grace Kids volunteers to Planning Center and discontinuing the use of Elvanto starting Jan 1, 2022. There will be more information to follow as the date approaches.

Growth Groups: These groups will focus on a Rule of Life in order to grow with two others in desired areas (communion with God, emotional health, and service are just a few areas one group might decide to flourish in). If you have questions please email Jamie Afshari at jamie@graceseattle.org.

Mom's Group: Jennifer Martin leads a group of mothers who meet on Zoom each Thursday from 2-3pm. It's a time to share and support one another as we walk with Jesus in raising our little ones.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

KidCheck Sign-In: We will be using the KidCheck program for all youth and children under the Age of 18. Please create a free account, from the comfort of your home; it's simple and will only take a few minutes. Once you've created your account, you simply use your 10 digit phone number to check-in with us on Sunday mornings. Creating your account prior to Sunday will help us have a smoother transition. [Sign Up Using Mobile App](#) OR [Sign Up Using Website](#). Questions? Please email Linn Haralson at linn@graceseattle.org.

Book Club: Stephanie Pommer leads our book club for Grace. The next meeting will be in December (specific date TBD) at 10:30 AM. This group meets over Zoom. To join, email Stephanie at stephanie@graceseattle.org.

Youth Central/Alpha: Grace is partnering with Central Community Church and St. Ambrose Church beginning October 4, 6:00 to 7:45PM, for a 10 week apologetics class for 6-12th graders! Our location has changed from the SDA church to Trinity Lutheran Church, 1200 10th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98102.

Please email Jason Davison at jason@graceseattle.org for more details.

Seward Park Walking Group: Every Thursday, regardless of weather, meet by the bathrooms at 10:00 AM (babies in strollers and leashed pets welcome). Contact Linn Haralson at linn@graceseattle.org if you would like to join.

Listening Prayer Group Opportunity at The Layne 2021-22

"By beginning with the revealed word of God, Lectio Divina (listening prayer) continues the conversation that God has begun. We first pay attention to his approach to us and focus on our receptivity. Scripture becomes a means for God to feed, heal, and love us. We open ourselves to God's presence and respond with our hearts."

-Stephen J. Binz – Conversing with God in Scripture

A Listening prayer group is a small group that meets with the intention of building a community around the word of God. During this time together we will listen to God's word read out loud. We will have an opportunity for individual silence and reflection on the scripture and then conclude our time together, sharing the gifts that God has given in our silence with him. Please join us for listening prayer, led by Shelly Morse, at the Layne on the following dates at 7:00-9:00 PM:

- Thursday, December 16
- Wednesday, January 19
- Thursday, March 10
- Wednesday, April 27
- Thursday, May 12

Please RSVP to Shelly Morse at shelly@soulcareseattle.com if you plan to attend a meeting.

GraceLife Distribution List: GraceLife (gracelifeseattle@googlegroups.com) is an email group designed to foster spontaneous generosity and hospitality among anyone and everyone who regularly attends Grace. The distribution list allows anyone who signs up to send out an email to the larger group. It's designed to let others know about a party you'd like to invite others to join, a game night you'd like to host, a request to borrow something, a post to give goods away, a need you'd like to ask for help from the larger group, etc. Email Danielle Taniguchi at danielle@graceseattle.org.

(Continued on the following page)

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

Weekend Silent Retreat:

• **January 14-16, 2022**

Weekend Silent Retreats are back!

After a year of Covid, we are once again able to gather together and rest in the beauty and quiet of [Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center](#), to seek the face of God, and find ourselves held in Jesus' loving gaze. This is good for the soul. Really good! Participants will meet one on one with our retreat leaders on Saturday and Sunday as a way to check in, see how the retreat is going, and to provide prayer materials for your retreat. There are trails nearby, amazing views of Puget Sound, warm fireplaces, and private bedroom/bathrooms for your privacy and relaxation.

"God never tires of giving, nor can He exhaust His mercies.

Let us not tire of receiving."

St Teresa of Avila

Register early as space is limited and will fill up!

Cost: \$250.00

Scholarships are available

Registration Deadline: January 2nd

To register: Email danielle@graceseattle.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

11/28 Advent I
Worship Service 10:15 AM
(In-Person and Livestream)

12/05 Advent II
Christian Formation 9:00 AM
Worship Service 10:15 AM
(In-Person and Livestream)

12/12 Advent III
Worship Service 10:15 AM
(In-Person and Livestream)

12/19 Advent IV
Christian Formation 9:00 AM
Worship Service 10:15 AM
(In-Person and Livestream)

12/24 Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols
Worship Service 5:00 PM
(In-Person and Livestream)

Emergency Plan

In the unlikely event of an emergency or evacuation, all children attending a Grace Kids Class will be escorted immediately from their classrooms to the farthest edge of the front lawn, at the corner of E. Aloha St. and 13th Ave. E., where they can be reunited with their parents or guardians.

STAFF

Rev. John Haralson, Pastor john@graceseattle.org
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Tamarack Randall *on sabbatical*

PASTORAL CARE

Not sure who to contact? If you have needs or resources you'd like to offer the community, please contact us at pastoralcare@graceseattle.org.

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP(RUF)

Rev. David Birnie david.birnie@ruf.org

The vision of Grace Church Seattle is to see the city of Seattle look more and more like the city of God.

Worship Location 1300 E Aloha St, Seattle, WA 98102
and Livestream on Youtube
Office Location 400 E Pine, Suite 215 Seattle, WA 98122

graceseattle.org
office@graceseattle.org
pastoralcare@graceseattle.org