



December 2025 Newsletter

Volume 31
Issue 12

From Pastor Joel Skindlov

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

A blessed Advent, as we enter this month of December! The church season, Advent, offers words of comfort and challenge. The church season gives us opportunity to pause and reflect on Christ's coming, as a child, born in a stable and Christ's return, when Christ returns to judge the world in righteousness. The tension resides in the variety of the already, but not yet world that God envisions for us and through us. Advent means "to come" and the weeks leading up to Christmas can serve as a time to prepare, watch, wait, and participate in God's work and presence in our lives and world now and in the future.

I'm struck by the hymn "What Child is This?" every year, but particularly in the longing and promise of Jesus' birth and life as we near the end of 2025. As I look out the window, the sun is out, yet the chilly wind brings a sense of the weather and season to come as we enter the last month of the year. It is a sense of the sun's warmth and also the colder weather and heading toward shorter daylight hours. This here, but not yet serves as a constant reality in our lives, whether it's watchful waiting, a sense of the drudgery of waiting, the weight of waiting, and yet also the expectancy of waiting and the new life and possibilities that continue to be revealed as Christ enters our lives and remains with us each and every day.

"What Child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?" (LBW, Lutheran Book of Worship, # 40 or you can look it up on the internet).

Christ the King Sunday concludes the church season of Pentecost. We move from the image of Jesus as a King, a royal ruler, seated upon a throne, high and lifted up, the powerful, filled with strength and might and yet not living as a usual or typical power broker or member of a royal family.

We expect this all-powerful Christ to thwart evil and sin by destroying them, which Jesus does, yet many times, Jesus puts his power into practice by healing, redeeming and setting people free from their bondage and captivity from sin and death. The watching, waiting and preparing allows followers of Christ to participate in God's work that happens in our lives and world as a promise to grant us the (continued on page 8)

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POP Pantry Needs For December

Food:

Small peanut butter jars,
jelly/jam, pancake mix, syrup,
cereal, canned tuna/chicken,
individual trail mix, meat sticks,
granola bars, soup, & boxed
meals.

Necessities:

Toothpaste, wrapped
toothbrushes, deodorant, little
lotions and dish soap

Hate shopping? Cash Donations can be
placed in the offering plate or
dropped off at the office in an
envelope, marked "Caritas Pantry" and
a volunteer will do the shopping for
you!

Thoughts From The Council President

Advent: (synonyms: arrival, appearance, emergence, onset, beginning)

We are entering the Advent season which prepares us for the celebration of Christmas. Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas (November 30 this year). During the next four weeks, we prepare our hearts and homes to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. This is a time of anticipation, reflection, and hope, as we remember the promises of God and look forward to the coming of the Savior. At Prince of Peace we will celebrate Advent with Wednesday evening services using the Holden Prayer service. On Sundays we will light the Advent wreath - each week emphasizing hope, peace, joy and love. On Sunday, November 30 we will once again celebrate with a Hanging of the Greens service, followed by a fellowship time where we decorate the sanctuary. This will be a good time to pause and focus on the true meaning of Christmas with friends and family.

Please Join us for Christmas Eve Candlelight service on December 24 at 7:00pm.

May this season fill your hearts with peace and joy.

Merry Christmas

Sue Parrish

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church publishes a monthly newsletter for members, friends and churches in the area. News articles, address changes, questions or comments should be addressed to:

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STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Joel Skindlov
Office Manager: Ami Elliott
Music Director: Janet Robel
Custodian: Mark Smith
Preschool Directors:
Sue Cole & Stephanie Perreiah

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Service - 9:00 am
Worship currently also streamed on FB at
"Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane"
Fellowship - 10:15 am

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm



Saturday, December 20, 2025

POP Fellowship Hall

**7am- Start cooking
7:30am-Enjoy breakfast & discussion**

Serving You This Month

Dec	Altar Guild	Communion Servers	Worship Assistants	Altar Flowers	Media	Ushers	Fellowship
7	Holly Christoff	Holly Christoff	John Renford	No Flowers-Advent	Bernie Polikowsky	Joe Rock	Executive Council
14	Susan Ames	Susan Ames	Randy Holland	No Flowers-Advent	John Renford & Ami Elliott	Doug Elliott	Jan Gilliam
21	Ginny Zimmerman	Ginny Zimmerman	Curt Froscheiser	No Flowers-Advent	Matt Christoff	Mel Nebelsieck & Dick Hawley	Holly & Matt Christoff
24 Christmas Eve	Sue Parrish	Sue Parrish	Cliff Hendrickson		Bernie Polikowsky		
28	Rebecca Hendrickson	Rebecca Hendrickson	Mike Sanborn		Bernie Polikowsky	Paul & Sue Parrish	



Bible Readings for the Month

Sunday, December 7

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm: 122

2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-13

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, December 21

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm: 80:1-7,17-19

2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday, December 28

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm: 148

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Sunday, December 14

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm: 146:5-10

2nd Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Wednesday, December 24-

Christmas Eve

1st Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm: 96

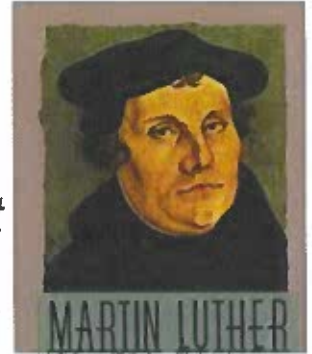
Gospel: Luke 2:1-20



News from POP

Luther's Prayers

O merciful God, what a kind and gracious Father you are, to deal so sincerely and paternally with us poor and judged sinners. You did release your most precious possession, your Son, Jesus Christ, into the jaws of death and the devil. You did require that he should descend into the deep and again ascend on high and conquer the captivity which has held us all in slavery. Through this we are your dear children, his brothers and sisters, and inheritors of all his eternal, heavenly blessings. Give us your Holy Spirit so that he may preserve us to the end in faith. Grant your grace that youth and those unborn, the weak in faith and those not properly instructed, may get and keep a right understanding in the doctrine of becoming fellow citizens with the angels. So highly privileged are we who believe in Christ. Amen.



Financial Update

2025 Charitable Donations

If you are looking to bolster your charitable donations for 2025, all contributions need to be in the church offering by **Sunday, December 28.**

Your financial support of Prince of Peace is always appreciated.

Upcoming December Events

- Stewardship Pledge Sunday-December 7th
- Tree of Sharing: Wrapped gifts due back by Sunday, December 14th
- Christmas Worship Schedule:
 - Advent Worship Services:
Wednesdays, December 3, 10 & 17.
- Sunday School Christmas Program- Sunday, December 21st during worship service.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:
Wednesday, December 24th 7pm
- Church Office Closed-December 22-26.



Mark the Date!

- Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 25th following worship service

Call for Volunteers to Serve Prince of Peace in 2026

Please consider serving on church council or being a Treasurer or Financial Secretary. Even if you have never served before, or you have served previously, we encourage you to prayerfully consider how you might be led to contribute to our church's mission in the coming year.

Church Council Members

Council members are elected for a 3-year term at the Annual meeting. The purpose of council is to represent the congregation in the mission of the church; to maintain and protect the property; and manage the business and budgetary issues. They attend monthly council meetings and act as a liaison between the council and a committee. *For more information, please talk to Sue Parrish.*

Church Council Executives


President, Vice President and Secretary and Treasurer make up the Executive Council. They are elected by the congregation at the Annual meeting. Executive Council meets 2 or 3 times a month and deals with budget, business and personnel issues. They set the agenda and business for the monthly council meetings and congregational meetings. *For more information, please talk to Marie Tamura.*

Treasurer

The Treasurer plays a vital role in overseeing the church's finances, maintaining accurate records, and supporting the stewardship of our resources. If you have a background in finance, accounting, or simply a heart for responsible service, we encourage you to consider this important position. *For more information, please talk to Sue Parrish, Susan Ames, Linda Fernan and Marie Tamura*

Financial Secretary

- Receives and posts the giving to Prince of Peace on a weekly basis and reports the information to the Treasurer and church office and individual members as requested.
- Schedules counters who count, deposit and report the weekly offering to the Church and the Financial Secretary.
- Oversee the direct deposit that members can use to make their donations. The Financial Secretary has access to Vanco, our On-line ACH Processor, to input the information as requested.
- Orders and distributes to church members their offering envelopes.
- Software is available for inputting and reporting giving information.
For more information, please contact Randy Fleiger.

Birthdays	Anniversaries
<p>December 1-Randy Fleiger December 5-Karen Heimbigner December 8- Marie Tamura December 14-Cliff Hendrickson December 16-Helen Cogley December 21-Stephanie Feist December 22-Delores Shelton December 26-Carol Hawley Sue Parrish</p>	<p>December 21- Bill & Sue Burgermyer</p> 



Karen Rogge and family would like to thank all who helped with Don's Celebration of life. Everyone who donated food, set up, served and cleaned up after. Also thank you for all the prayers and love shared with us during Don's illness and passing. The support and caring helped get us through. Thank you to Pastor for his visits, prayers and support. A special thank you to Ami for her help with the service and to Mark for all his work setting up chairs and taking down the tables and chairs. Our church is a blessings.

Thank You

Bible Study: 10:30 am Wednesday, December 3, 2025



Quilts for Kids: 9:00 am Tuesday, December 9, 2025



Charity Quilters: not meeting in December



Please join the women for these monthly events.

Also, before leaving any fabric, speak with a quilter about what they could really use to complete quilts.

Pastor's article continued (continued from page 1)

courage, compassion and power to embody and imagine a world and way that looks to care, share and serve as the hands and feet of Jesus in our world, in our community, our neighborhoods, and households.

In Jesus' birth, we receive God in the flesh as a tiny, helpless, vulnerable little baby, laid in a manger and dependent on his parents for food and nurture. The amazing surprise that God comes to dwell with us and take on flesh and blood, to be a human person instead of a superhero, who understands and walks with us in the beauty and messiness of humanity, not as a favor to us from some far away God, but from the God we know in Jesus who enters the world as fully God and fully man. Christ's birth marks God's willingness to enter into humanity's particularities and predicaments, even as we attempt to comprehend the depths of our joys and pains, our struggles and our celebrations.

We have the opportunity to wonder and embody the gift of the Christ child, the gift of God's sustaining presence and power that allows us to loosen our grasp slightly on our control and rest and be renewed in God in Christ's already but not yet presence in our here and now.

How might God tend and strengthen your relationship this Advent? How might God's faithfulness throughout the generations be a comfort and opportunity to see ourselves and those around us as beloved people of God?

Blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas!

Peace,

Pastor Joel

P.S. Watch for FUNday Monday videos the Mondays beginning in December leading up to Christmas. I'll be offering a song, a Bible story, and devotion as we move through the Advent season. Faith Unity and Nutella (Nutcracker?), (Nativity?), or some other word to encourage your creativity? They'll stream live on our Facebook page and can also be accessed on our YouTube page.



Community Events

Save the
DATE

2 FREE

Christmas

Concert options

BY

BellaCristo

Community Handbell Choir

Sat, December 13 at 7 pm

at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church

115 N Raymond Rd, Spokane Valley, WA 99206

OR

Sun, December 14 at 3 pm


at Holy Cross Lutheran Church

7307 N Nevada, Spokane, WA 99208

COME ENJOY THE SOUNDS OF THE SEASON WITH TRADITIONAL
CAROLS, HOLIDAY FAVORITES & SO MUCH MORE!
HEAR HANDBELLS WITH ORGAN AND CHIMES.
ALLOW US TO SET THE HOLIDAY MOOD FOR YOU.

*FREE WILL DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

December 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 5:30 pm Praise Group 6:00 pm Fellowship/Outreach 7:00 pm Committee Night	3 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:15pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Advent Service	4 Church Office Hours 9am-12:30pm	5 Church Office Closed	6
7 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane" Pledge Sunday Sunday School	8 10:00 am Executive Council	9 9:00 am Quilts for Kids 5:30 pm Praise Group 	10 6:15pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:00pm Adult Choir	11 1:00 pm Bible Study	12 Church Office Closed	13
14 POP PANTRY SUNDAY 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane" Sunday School 10:30 am Council Meeting	15	16 5:30 pm Praise Group	17 6:15pm Men's Choir 7:00 pm Advent Service 7:00pm Adult Choir	18 1:00 pm Bible Study	19 Church Office Closed	20 7:00 am Men's Breakfast
21 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane" Sunday School Christmas Program	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 7:00 pm Candlelight Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27
28 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane"	29	30	31	Church Office Closed		