

**My Help Comes From The Lord  
Who Made Heaven And Earth.**

**Psalm 121:2**

## **Peace Lutheran Church**

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Mill Valley, California 94941  
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**Pastor Ricky Adams**

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### **Mission Statement**

*To help all people know, believe and follow Jesus Christ*

**Sunday Worship      9:30 a.m.**

# Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church!

Whether you're a first time visitor or a long-time member, we welcome you to worship this morning! If you are visiting, we look forward to meeting you and hope you will join us again, soon. **We would appreciate your signing our guestbook before you leave.**



## Some Helpful Information

**Please Feel Free To Sit At Anytime During The Worship Service:** During the worship services at Peace Lutheran there are many times when the people stand. Sometimes the standing can be quite lengthy. We do not want to place any undue burden on anyone worshipping with us. Therefore, please feel free to sit whenever you desire. Thank you and Christ's blessings.

**Restrooms** – A restroom is located to the right just as you leave the sanctuary and enter the entrance hall. Restrooms for men and women are also located at the top of the stairs in the Parish Hall. Go into the lounge, turn right and continue up the stairs.

**Fellowship and Refreshments** – Immediately following worship, coffee and other refreshments and treats are served in Luther Lounge (the lounge just off the entrance hall). Come relax with us and enjoy the company as we will certainly enjoy your company.

**Please join us again next week!**

# Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## October 20, 2019

### Introduction

Jacob had a history of wrestling his way through things. From his father Isaac to his brother Esau to his uncle Laban to the angel of the Lord we hear about today, Jacob has contended against others and for the Lord. Perhaps you feel that way too. But God is the great contender who has wrestled for Israel of old and for you—with Jesus fighting in our place and on our behalf to win salvation for us. Therefore, do not fear, for the Lord fights for you and He who has done all things for your salvation will not abandon you to anyone or any power until you rest in His presence eternally. Though it seems we have great enemies, Christ is greater, and He will not allow them to snatch us from His hand. Thank you for worshipping at Peace Lutheran Church today!

**Prayer Before Worship** - O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. - Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009220.

**Pre-Service Music** (A time for reflection)

**Ringling Of The Bell**

**Welcome**

**Call To Worship** (Please stand)

Pastor: Remember Your people, which You have purchased of old,  
**People: which You have redeemed to be the people of Your heritage.**

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**People: and all that is within me, bless His holy name.**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
People: Amen.

**Entrance Song - Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty** (LBW #250. Please remain standing)

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty,  
Zion, let me enter there,  
where my soul in joyful duty  
waits for God who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessed is this place,  
filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 2 Gracious God, I come before thee;  
come thou also unto me;  
where we find thee and adore thee,  
there a heav'n on earth must be.  
To my heart, oh, enter thou,  
let it be thy temple now!
- 3 Here thy praise is gladly chanted,  
here thy seed is duly sown;  
let my soul, where it is planted,  
bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
so that all I hear may be  
fruitful unto life in me.
- 4 Thou my faith increase and quicken,  
let me keep thy gift divine;  
howsoe'er temptations thicken,  
may thy word still o'er me shine  
as my guiding star through life,  
as my comfort in all strife.

- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee,  
let thy will be done indeed;  
may I undisturbed draw near thee  
while thou dost thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows;  
here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

## **Psalm – Psalm 121** (Please remain standing)

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

**People: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

**People: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

Pastor: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

**People: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

Pastor: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**People: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

(We greet one another with signs of the Lord's peace)

## **Response - O Word of God Incarnate** (LBW #231. Please be seated)

- 1 O Word of God incarnate,  
O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,  
O Light of our dark sky:  
we praise you for the radiance  
that from the hallowed page,  
a lantern to our footsteps,  
shines on from age to age.

- 2 The church from you, dear Master,  
received the gift divine;  
and still that light is lifted  
o'er all the earth to shine.  
It is the chart and compass  
that, all life's voyage through,  
mid mists and rocks and quicksands  
still guides, O Christ, to you.
- 3 Oh, make your church, dear Savior,  
a lamp of burnished gold  
to bear before the nations  
your true light, as of old;  
oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims  
by this their path to trace,  
till, clouds and darkness ended,  
they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

## First Reading - Genesis 32:22-31 (Please remain seated)

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

<sup>22</sup>The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup>So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup>Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup>Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

## **Second Reading - 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5** (Please remain seated)

Paul continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

<sup>14</sup>But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup>and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. . . . <sup>4:1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

## **Gospel - Luke 18:1-8** (Please remain seated)

Jesus tells a parable of a hateful judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

## Theme Song - O God, Our Help in Ages Past (LBW #320. Please be seated)

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home:
- 2 Under the shadow of your throne  
your saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is your arm alone,  
and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood  
or earth received its frame,  
from everlasting you are God,  
to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight  
are like an evening gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night  
before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
soon bears us all away;  
we fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.



## Message

### My Help Comes From The Lord Psalm 121

**Response** - Have Mercy on Us, Lord (Tune: LBW #309. Please remain seated)

- 1 Have mercy on us, Lord,  
and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living Word;  
it saves us from despair.
- 2 Have mercy on us, Christ,  
and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole  
that new life may begin.
- 3 Have mercy on us, Lord;  
make sin and shame depart.  
Renew us with your saving pow'r;  
create in us new hearts!

Text: Gracia Grindal, b. 1943. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

**Sharing The Gifts Of God** (Please remain seated while the offerings are received)

**Confession Of Faith - Apostles Creed** (Please stand and confess together)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. 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 sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## Prayer Of The Church (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Knowing the one in whom we trust, and with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need. - A brief silence. - Faithful partner, you will not leave us without a blessing. Wrestle with your church and renew it for the sake of the world. Preserve our life in you, so that we faithfully name you before the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant us joy in these autumn days. As the daylight shortens and summer's green abundance decays, scatter the seeds that will bring forth new life in the spring. Keep watch over your whole creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Mercifully extend your ancient promises to all people. Keep and defend the nations from all evil, and be their shade and protection. Held in your steadfast love, guide the human family in ways of mercy and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Our help comes from you, maker of heaven and earth. Hear the cries of those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and help us not to lose heart, so that your healing love prevails in our lives. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Speak through us in our encounters with Holy Scripture. Hearten and strengthen ministers of faith formation, so that all who belong to you may be capable and equipped for good works in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

### **Additional prayers:**

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We thank you for your grace made manifest in the saints who have gone before us. Living in hope, bring us all to the joyful feast that has no end. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Trusting and delighting in you, we commend all our lives into your loving hands. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer** (We pray together. Please remain standing)

**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.**

## **The Prayer For Peace** (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Let us pray. . .O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,

**People: give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **Benediction** (Please remain standing)

**Pastor:** Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit Bless each of you.

**People:** **Amen**

## **Dismissal** (Please remain standing)

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Closing Song - O Christ, You Are the Light and Day**

(Tune: LBW #36. Please remain standing)

- 1 O Christ, you are the light and day;  
you drive the gloom of night away;  
grant, Light of light, your word to show  
the light of heav'n to us below.
- 2 Arise, O God, our shield, repel  
the darts and subtleties of hell;  
let your right hand, outstretched above,  
guard those who serve the Lord they love.
- 3 All-holy Lord, in humble prayer  
we ask tonight your watchful care  
and pray that our repose may be  
a quiet night, from perils free.
- 4 To God the Father and the Son  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One,  
be glory in the highest giv'n  
by all on earth and all in heav'n!

Text: Latin hymn, 6th cent., sts. 1-3; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, st. 4; tr. William J. Copeland, 1804-1885, sts. 1-3, alt.

# Serving The Lord With Gladness

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>Ricky Adams</b>
<b>Pianist:</b>	<b>Janet Reese</b>
<b>Coffee:</b>	<b>Laureen Schneeberger</b>
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	<b>Nancy Adams</b>

## Activities This Week:

<b>Sunday – October 20</b>	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>After Worship</b> <b>11:00</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b> <b>Blessing of the Animals</b> <b>Council</b>
<b>Tuesday – October 22</b>	<b>9:30am -12: 30 pm</b> <b>6:30-8:30</b>	<b>Stage Door (PH)</b> <b>Women’s Bible Class (PH)</b>
<b>Wednesday – October 23</b>	<b>2:45-6:15 pm</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Patricia Miner (S)</b> <b>Stage Door (PH)</b>
<b>Thursday – October 24</b>	<b>9:00 am – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Pastors’ Meeting (LL)</b>
<b>Saturday – October 26</b>	<b>8:30-9:30am</b> <b>9:30a-12:30pm</b>	<b>Pilates (PH)</b> <b>Stage Door (PH)</b>
<b>Sunday – October 27</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>  <b>3-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b> <b>And Sacrament</b> <b>Oktoberfest</b>

**Information About Peace Lutheran Church** - If you desire to know more about Peace Lutheran Church such as teachings; affiliations, membership or other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Adams.

Office Phone – (415) 388-2065  
Home Phone – (415) 388-7190  
Email – [pastor@plcmarin.org](mailto:pastor@plcmarin.org)

**Flowers** – Flowers today are given to the glory of God.

**Anniversaries** – Blessing to those celebrating anniversaries this week.

**Today - Mark & Laureen Schneeberger**

**Birthdays** – Blessings to those celebrating birthdays this week!

**Thursday - Marian Ball  
Bob Atkins**

**Servers** – Every Sunday there are several people that help serve during the worship service and coffee hour. Peace Lutheran needs your help. We need people to prepare Coffee hour and serve during that time. We need Ushers. We need lay readers who read the second lesson during worship. Please consider these needs and sign up to serve in the way you choose. Thank you.

**Oktoberfest! - Sunday, October 27 from 3pm-5:30pm!** Sign up on the sheet in the entryway. Invite you friends!

**2020 Calendars** - Please consider bringing in all the extra 2020 calendars you receive so we can give them to our friends at Fireside in December.

**Blessing Of The Animals** – In honor of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi on October 4, several people have asked if we could bless our pets/service animals. We will do so today after the worship service in the courtyard. Thank you.

**Flowers** – If you would like to donate flowers for worship in memory of a person or observing a personal event, please contact pastor via email at [pastor@plcmarin.org](mailto:pastor@plcmarin.org)

**Sunday Bulletins** - for Peace Lutheran church are available online for use during the worship service. The link is <http://bulletin.plcmarin.org>

**Like us on Facebook** at Peace Lutheran Church Mill Valley or @peacelutheranmill. Pastor Adams post a weekly blog on Facebook and Peace Lutheran's website at [www.plcmarin.org](http://www.plcmarin.org)

## **Weekly Devotional Helps**

### **October 20 – October 26, 2019**

#### **Morning Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

#### **Evening Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

#### **Prayer For The Sick**

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

### **Scripture Readings Through The Week**

#### **Monday – October 21**

Psalm 57  
1 Samuel 25:2-22  
1 Corinthians 6:1-11

#### **Tuesday – October 22**

Psalm 57  
1 Samuel 25:23-35  
James 5:7-12

#### **Wednesday – October 23**

Psalm 57  
1 Samuel 25:36-42  
Luke 22:19-46

#### **Thursday – October 24**

Psalm 84:1-7  
Jeremiah 9:1-16  
2 Timothy 3:1-9

**Friday – October 25**

Psalm 84:1-7  
Jeremiah 9:17-26  
2 Timothy 3:10-15

**Saturday – October 26**

Psalm 84:1-7  
Jeremiah 14:1-6  
Luke 1:46-55

**Scripture Readings For Next Sunday****Reformation Sunday**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**  
**Psalm 46**  
**Romans 3:19-28**  
**John 8:31-36**

**Commemorations**

**October 23 - James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62:** One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.

**October 26 - Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676; hymnwriters:** These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

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