



Welcome

All Souls, seeking to be a church not just for ourselves, exists to be a vibrant expression of who God is— gracious, present, hospitable.

Launched in 2010, we are a worshipping community rooted in the belief that the historic Christian gospel is true, compelling, and promises to change our lives powerfully, in the direction of freedom, wholeness, and hope.

We seek to embody and articulate this gospel of grace, bringing about spiritual, social, and cultural renewal in Seattle and, through it, the world.

Please feel the freedom to participate actively in worship or to just listen and observe at your discretion. It is a time to process freely and safely the audacious claims of Jesus, and the inevitable tension between the beauty and scandal of God's grace, freely given to you.

As a church, we are part of that historical, counter-cultural community that Jesus started and continues to build, sustain, and perfect.

Anyone is welcome in worship, and we encourage you to come as you are. We understand that visiting a church for the first time can be intimidating. So it's our commitment to walk you through each component of the worship service so no one feels like an outsider. There will be no obscure, tribal language. No 'in-house' moments.

Our worship is structured, with liturgy and rich music that connects us to the church of old and those who've gone before us— we are deeply rooted in something much larger than ourselves or our own cultural moment. But worship should be accessible and enjoyable if it's to be meaningful.

We haven't heard the gospel for what it really is if we don't find it at once horribly offensive and staggeringly beautiful.

It is both heart-breaking and heart-mending.

So let us explore. *Let us worship!*

Exploring?

Do you have questions about the Christian faith?

Do you wrestle with intellectual barriers that make belief seem implausible, even irresponsible?

Do you struggle to reconcile a good God with a hurting world?

We recognize that belief is hard. That's why:

- We value questions, and the people who ask them
- We prize being a community where you can belong before you believe
- We assume, each Sunday, that there are people present who are not convinced
- We desire to talk to skeptics not about them
- You are welcome here...

So, be curious. Doubt. Ask. Explore.

How do I get connected?

visit allsoulsseattle.org for the latest

All Souls Kids + Youth

allsoulsseattle.org/kids (/youth)

How can I serve?

allsoulsseattle.org/connect

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cover art by Lori Bailey

Prepare him room.

Isaac Watts
"Joy to the World"

Order of Worship

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Please help us to be hospitable:

Face covering required indoors for all. Maintain six feet of space with people outside of your family or bubble. Participate online if you have symptoms of Covid-19 or have known exposure to someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

Please silence all devices for the duration of worship.

The Youngstown Movement Studio next door is available for those of us who need to wiggle while worshipping. Parents please accompany your children.

The Church calendar begins anew with the first Sunday of **Advent**. During this season we are called by the Church to remember that Christ came into the world at his birth, and that we are to anticipate that he will come again at his return. In both instances, Jesus comes as a light shining into a world that has been darkened by sin and death. Advent, then, is a word of hope that Jesus has come and is always coming into the darkness to make a way forward.

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader. Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

If you, or someone with you this morning, has special needs we do not want to miss an opportunity to serve you.

Please introduce yourself and let us know how we can support you best.

Our community gathers on Sundays to enter the presence of the Lord and offer him praise, as he graciously invites us to do. We come to sing, pray, encounter God's Word, celebrate Communion, and to simply be together. We're glad you're here, and as you're getting settled we invite you to sit toward the aisle, allowing access for others along the edges. Thank you.

Call to Worship

In the Bible, God calls us to worship, because it is not our natural impulse to come to Him. But He calls, reminding us of His pursuing love, and we respond in gratitude.

words (based on Luke 1:46-49) and music by Evan Wilson

My soul magnifies the Lord
My spirit rejoices in God
My soul magnifies the Lord, my Savior (2x)

For he has done great things
For he has done great things for me (2x)

Lighting the Advent Candle

based on Isaiah 9:2; 49:6

Each Sunday in Advent, we light a candle on this wreath as a sign of the coming light of Christ, the hope that breaks apart the darkness and rescues the world.

Hear the word of the Lord:

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

The Lord says, 'You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me.

**I will make you a light to the Gentiles,
and you will bring my salvation
to the ends of the earth.'**

from the Book of Common Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Music at All Souls is comprised of "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs" (Eph. 5:19).

These are often works that date back as far as Jewish antiquity, anchoring us in the ancient roots of Christian faith. Sometimes these are newer works that reflect prayerfully and prophetically on our current moment.

They contain theological richness and focus on God's character and redemptive work. They also lend poetic voice to our deepest emotional expressions: praise and thanksgiving, anger and sorrow, hope and joy.

We sing because we believe God is with us— present in our worship; inhabiting the praises of his people.

seated

Confession happens within the context of relationship, both with God and each other.

We confess together, in community, before a gracious God who has given us himself.

Confession both acknowledges our need for mercy and celebrates its abundance in Christ.

Sin, in its essence, is a word that means, "an obsession or worship of oneself." Martin Luther described sin as "curving in on oneself," which causes a relational breach not only with people we harm, but also with God by not giving God the place he deserves in our lives as our loving Creator and Savior.

Canticle of the Turning

words: Rory Cooney / music: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN (Irish trad.; alt. Cooney)

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the
God of my heart is great
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the one who waits
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight
and my weakness you did not spurn
So from east to west shall my name be blest—
Could the world be about to turn?

chorus:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring
Let the fires of your justice burn
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near
and the world is about to turn
Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me
And your mercy will last from the depths
of the past to the end of the age to be
Your very name puts the proud to shame
and those who would for you yearn
You will show your might, put the strong to flight
for the world is about to turn / chorus

From the halls of power to the fortress
tower, not a stone will be left on stone
Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne
The hungry poor shall weep no more
for the food they can never earn
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be
fed, for the world is about to turn / chorus

Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp
This saving word that our forbears heard
is the promise that holds us bound
'Til the spear and rod be crushed by God
who is turning the world around / chorus

prayer of confession

Lord Jesus, we look with hope to the day when grief, sorrow, sin, sickness, and death are no more. For when you return, we will be made whole. But, we confess:

**Our hope in you is obscured by darkness—
we have not trusted you, and your power, and your promise
to bring light in the darkness around us;
to bring light in the darkness within us.**

In anger, we have forgotten your patience toward us. **Lord, have mercy.**
In lust, we have forsaken faithfulness and refused to wait. **Christ, remain faithful to us!**
In gluttony, we have denied our neighbors dignity, de-valuing "them." **Lord, have mercy.**
In sadness, we have forgotten times of joy. **Christ, remain faithful to us!**
In vanity, we have become blind to the people we claim to love. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world. **Be our light in darkness.**

T.J. Williams / E. Wilson

Lord, ha - ve mer - cy. Christ, ha - ve mer - cy. Lord, ha - ve mer - cy on ____ me.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son, Christ, ha - ve mer - cy on ____ me.

D.C. al Fine

Receiving of Grace

John 1:5; 1 Peter 2:24

We serve a God of limitless power and might. Yet, in all of his power he looks on us with mercy, and draws us into his family, because of what Jesus Christ has done.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

By his wounds you have been healed.

God's grace abounds for us, even in our weakness.

Let us remember the hope of the gospel: **In Christ, we are forgiven.**

standing

Reading

It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the Bible read during worship. We do this because we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's Word.

Philippians 4:4-9

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Psalm 85

1 You, Lord, showed favor to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

2 You forgave the iniquity of your people
and covered all their sins.

3 You set aside all your wrath
and turned from your fierce anger.

4 Restore us again, God our Savior,
and put away your displeasure toward us.

5 Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger through all generations?

6 Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?

7 Show us your unfailing love, Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

8 I will listen to what God the Lord says;
he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants—
but let them not turn to folly.

9 Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

11 Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.

12 The Lord will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest.

13 Righteousness goes before him
and prepares the way for his steps.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

standing

the Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed has for centuries helped people understand who God is, and the essential truths of Christian faith. Who is God? As we speak the creed now together it unites us with the Church globally and across the ages. We say this together as a community, because we need each other in life with God, and so that as a community we may grow as a vibrant expression of who God is.

**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 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 sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

You hear us calling.

You hear us calling, Abba Father (2x)

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy (2x)

We pray to you, O Lord; you hear our voice in the morning.

God of compassion,

we remember the poor and the afflicted, the sick and the dying, the prisoners
and all who are lonely, the victims of war, injustice, and inhumanity, and all who suffer
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You hear us calling (2x), Abba Father

O Lord of providence, who holds the destiny of the nations in your hand,
we pray for our country. Inspire the hearts and minds of our leaders that they,
together with all our nation, may first seek your kingdom and righteousness,
that order, liberty, and peace may dwell with your people.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You hear us calling (2x), Abba Father

O God the Creator, we pray for all nations and peoples.

Take away the mistrust and lack of understanding that divide us; increase in us
the recognition that we are all your creatures.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You hear us calling (2x), Abba Father

O Savior God, look upon your church in its struggle upon the earth.

Have mercy on our weakness, bring an end to divisions, and scatter our fears.
Watch over the ministry of your church. Increase its courage, strengthen its faith,
and inspire its witness to all people, even to the ends of the earth.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You hear us calling (2x), Abba Father

O Loving God, we offer these prayers, joining the great chorus of those who, too,
sing your praise and depend on you alone.

We long for that day when all your children will live in your peace, and praise your name.

Until that day, give us sturdy patience and enduring hope,
rooted only in Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy (2x)

*We regularly pray for needs
in our community, our city,
and the world as an act
of obedience and love, and to
align our concerns with the
Lord's. If you have children
with you, please feel free to
use this time to teach them
to pray with us, as we ask
God to honor our hope that
we are becoming a vibrant
expression of who God is—
gracious, present,
hospitable.*

music by The Brilliance

PRAYERS FOR THOSE
NOT COMMUNING

Because All Souls is a church not only for the convinced but also for those journeying toward trust in Jesus, we gladly extend room for you to consider and dialogue. Use the prayers below during Communion as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.

PRAYER FOR THOSE
SEARCHING FOR 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

Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, and yet, 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 sin and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

* Hosanna means "save me!" but with Jesus came to mean "salvation is here!"

Communion

Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians.

EXTEND PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you always! **And also with you.**



GRATEFUL GIVING

Freely you have received; freely give. (Matthew 10:8)

INVITATION + THANKSGIVING

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. We give thanks to you with those who have gone before us, and with brothers and sisters around the world, and along with the angels and all the company of heaven, we praise you with one voice:

E. Wilson

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lo - rd, God of pow - er,
 hea - ven and ear - th are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in
 excelsis Deo, Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of
 the Lord, Ho - san - na in excelsis Deo. Ho - san - na in excelsis Deo.

BREAK BREAD

For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Cor 11:23-26)

Therefore, together, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast. **As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world, for by him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

DRAW NEAR

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;
Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Trinity Song

words and music by Sandra McCracken

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit

Holy Communion, Three-in-one.

Come with your peace, with your invitation

Bind us together in Holy love.

Messiah

words and music by Isaac Wardell

chorus:

O come, O come, Messiah

O come, our hallelujah

O sing, O sing, "Hosanna!"

O come, Messiah, come (2x)

Comfort and joy, Alpha Omega, He

Sorrow and toil, no longer rulers be

chorus

Comfort and joy, Alpha Omega, He

Sorrow and toil, no longer rulers be

chorus

Announcements (p.8)

Benediction

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. **Amen.**

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

Thanks be to God!

All Souls welcomes all who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, understand the meaning of the Lord's Supper, and are in good standing with congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive Holy Communion with us.

Please note that we use wine for Communion; non-alcoholic grape juice is in the smaller of the two goblets. For those with wheat allergies, a gluten-free cracker is available in place of the bread (ingredients: water, organic brown and white rice flour).

A word to parents:

Children are welcome at the communion table. To receive the Lord's Supper, a child must have been baptized and received as a communing member by the leadership of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. If you have any question about how this process works, please speak with one of our pastors.

Our pastoral staff and other leaders are available following the service for prayer or to answer any questions you may have about All Souls.

Announcements

Advent Vespers

Vespers, our Wednesday evening prayer service, is back! Join us for a shared meal + a time of singing and prayer at Trinity WS (and on Zoom). All Souls Youth will be joining vespers, in lieu of regular Wednesday eve gatherings.



To RSVP for dinner, follow the QR code.

- Wed. December 15: 6-7p, dinner; 7-7:30 vespers
- Wed. December 22: 6p, vespers; 6:30-8 Christmas family dinner!

Christmas Eve Liturgy

Friday, December 24, 8:15-9p on Zoom

Advent Giving Opportunities

Seeking to be a church not just for ourselves, and a vibrant expression of who God is, please join us in these two specific partnerships this Advent season:

- **YoungLives:** We are thankful for the continued opportunity to come alongside YoungLives and their mentoring ministry to teen moms and their children. We invite you to consider sponsoring a meal or Christmas gift for a YoungLives family this holiday season. Contact Alyssa Reeve (alyssa@allsoulsseattle.org)
- **Department of Children, Youth, and Families:** Join us in supporting foster care this season by donating to our local DCYF. Bring formula, bottles, and pacifiers on Sundays during December. For a list of which items to donate, follow the QR code or email Nancy Spiro (nancyspiro@gmail.com).



All Souls Youth Group!

On Wednesdays during Advent, all Middle and High school students are invited to join for dinner and vespers (see above). Contact Suzanne Case with any questions (suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org).

Parents: join the All Souls Youth Parents channel on Instagram @allsoulsyouth_parents

COMING UP

- **Youth Christmas Party:** December 12 4-6p at Trinity WS. Bring a snack to share (not required), a white elephant gift (\$5 max, recycled gifts are okay!), and one empty tissue box (any size). Friends welcome!
- **Summer Service Trip:** All Souls is sending a team of 20 teens and adults back to Warm Springs, Oregon this summer. The dates are July 2-9, 2022. Interested? Pick up an informational flyer and plan on attending an **informational meeting today** between services: Sunday, Dec 5, 10:40-10:55a in the theater (worship space).



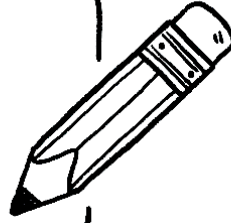
All Souls Kids update: Beginning in January, we are hoping to open up childcare for 1-2 year olds, and Sunday school for 3-5 year olds during both services. All Souls needs to hire two childcare workers and recruit a team of at least 20 volunteers from our community in order to execute both of these programs. Please be praying that God would provide two amazing childcare team members to love and care for our toddlers! And if you are interested in learning about the requirements for and volunteering in our preschool Sunday school room, please follow the QR code to the interest form. Contact Suzanne Case (suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org) for more information.

All Souls KIDS!

What's something you
HEARD during worship today?

A GUIDE FOR
EXPLORING
WHO GOD
IS TO US!

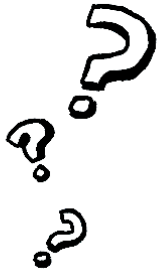
Did you hear any
words that were
NEW to you?



AS YOU
LISTEN...



Draw something that
inspired your IMAGINATION:



What's ONE question
you'd want to ask
your parents or pastors?

What's ONE question
you'd want to ask GOD?

Who do you want, or need,
GOD to be to you today?

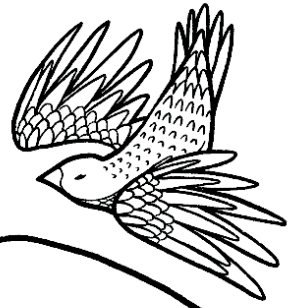
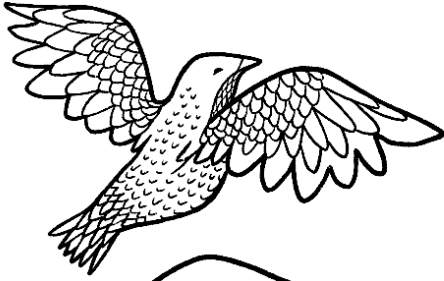
PRAY:

Ask GOD to take
care of everything you
need. He always hears
you, because He loves you!

draw!
color in!

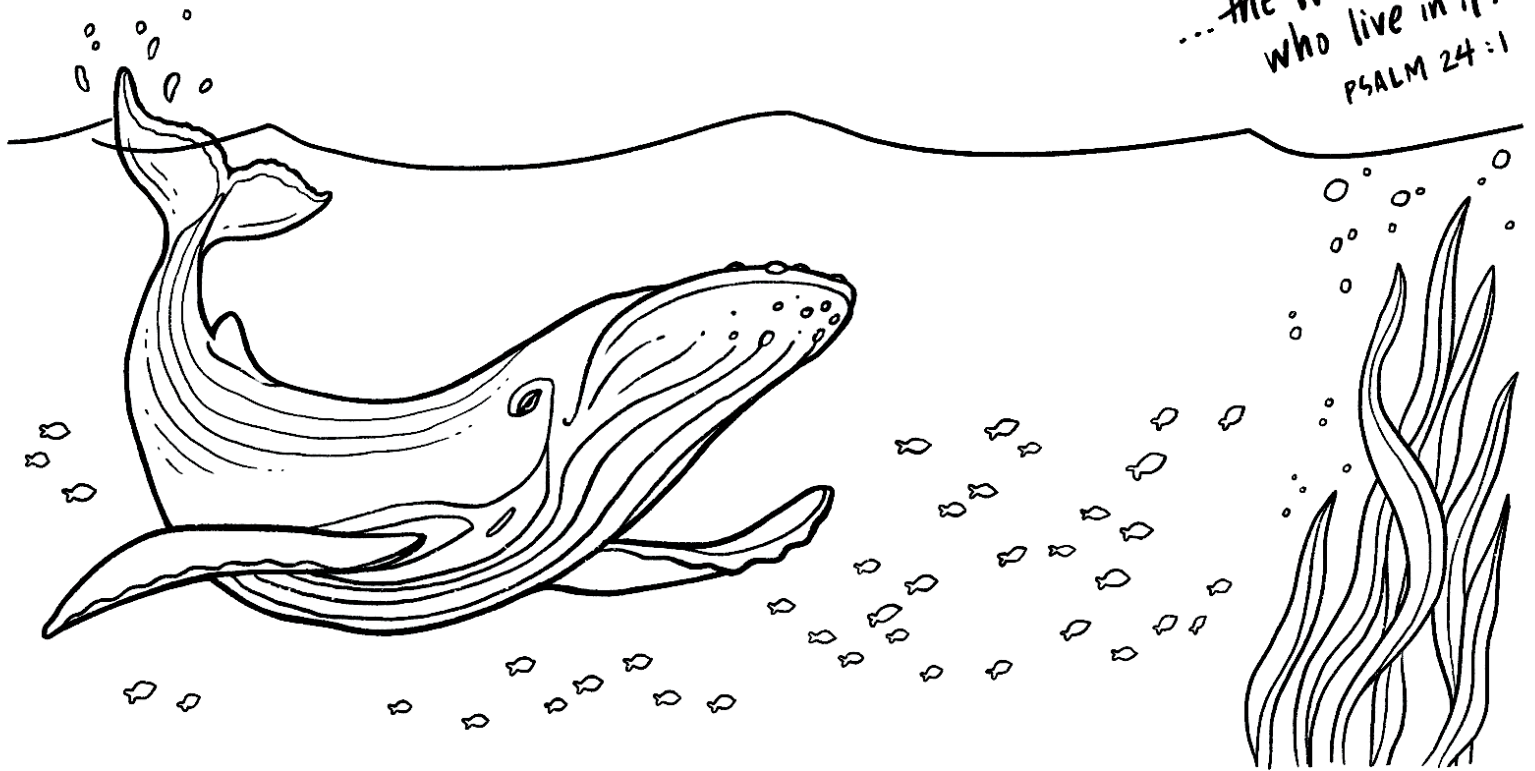
All Souls KIDS doodle page

for kids
of ALL ages!



The earth is
the LORD's,
and everything
in it...

...the world and all
who live in it.
PSALM 24:1



Giving as Part of Worship

All we have is given to us by God. Our offerings express this joyful dependence and our commitment to join God in his work of renewal. Whether we have much or little, God calls us to treasure and trust Him above all. So we are to give as generously as we are able, knowing that He who met our most dire need through Christ will continue to provide for every need we have. All giving goes toward ministry initiatives of All Souls and the relief of those in need.

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, scripture says the Church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. So, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting this as a spiritual practice— that you might grow in faith.

We recognize, too, that as the church, we must consistently remind one another of the truth that everything we have is a gift from the Lord.

The Bible says that 'we know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich' (2 Corinthians 8:9). Jesus' death on the Cross represents the most generous gift ever given— when he gave up everything in order to reconcile us to God.

Giving cheerfully, sacrificially, and consistently is a part of our worship— not because it's something churches do, but because giving in response to the gospel is intended to be worshipful. When we are generous with others we are reminding one another of the great generosity of God.

All Souls seeks to build community, love our neighbors, and work for peace and justice within Seattle. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own financial needs, but to be able to serve those in need in our city and neighborhoods.

There are a few ways that you can contribute financially to All Souls:

- ▶ Mail a check, or set up automatic bill pay through your bank, payable to:
All Souls
PO Box 16613
Seattle, WA 98116
- ▶ Visit allsoulsseattle.org/give
- ▶ For any assistance or questions about:
Giving on a recurring basis via EFT (electronic fund transfer), stock donation, or non-cash contribution options (e.g. property or vehicle donation) please contact bookkeeper@allsoulsseattle.org

The intentional financial participation of those who consider All Souls their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. If you have questions about tithing or biblical guidelines for giving, please ask. If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give.

Amidst one of the longest seasons of challenge most of us have ever experienced, we want to celebrate how God has continually met our community's financial needs. This has allowed All Souls to continue in her mission, entering our eleventh year of worship together, as a church in and for our neighborhood seeking to be a vibrant expression of who God is— gracious, present, hospitable. 98.5% of our costs from last year were covered by careful cost adjustments by staff, and your continued giving and support. We thank God for your partnership in this work!

This year, as we look at our budget, there are few things to note: Pandemic realities have led to our giving and expenses shrinking around 20% over the last 2 years. However, this year we anticipate additional costs and have built them into our budget as we resume in-person Sunday gatherings. We have budgeted as realistically as possible, though many uncertainties remain about our costs this year. Our new budget of \$600,000 (\$550,000 last year) assumes a 10% growth in giving, and even then we are prepared to dip into our reserves about \$70,000 as we expect our costs to be closer to \$670,000. The pastors and leadership of All Souls invite you to join us in this generous risk, investing in our shared life together this next year.

November Giving Goal: \$50k November Actual Giving: \$44k Deficit: \$6k

Online giving:



All Souls

CLERGY

Rev. R.J. March
Rev. Andy Pelander

VESTRY

Charlotte Aljets
Peter Barrett
Joe Berg
Suzanne Case
Rachel Faunce
Graeme Hanson
Dan Reeve
Nancy Spiro
Thad Williams

COMMUNITY / LITURGY

Charlotte Aljets
Kara Barrett
Emma Groppe

ART / MUSIC

Lori Bailey
Alyssa Reeve
Evan Wilson

KIDS / YOUTH

Jeff Case
Suzanne Case
Carrie Mahoney

OFFICE

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MAILING ADDRESS

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info@allsoulsseattle.org



It is the smallest of all seeds,
but when it has *grown* it is
larger than all the other garden
plants and becomes a tree, so
that birds of the air come and
make nests in its branches.

Matthew 13:32