



ADVENT

# 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.

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.

You should always 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 the historic Christian gospel.

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.*



*All Souls*

# 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.

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How do I get connected? p. 8

All Souls Kids + Youth p. 9

How can I serve? p. 10

Smaller Groups p. 11

Giving as part of worship p. 12

*In preparation for the season of Advent, we are inviting artists from within our All Souls family to contribute to our space at Madison on Sunday mornings. As we enter this season of fading light, we are thinking about the contrast between light and shadows, hiddenness and revelation.*

*cover art by Lori Bailey*

A mist which soft breeze drives off,  
a flutter of finch through bushes,  
a fall of snow,  
candle's flickering flame,  
lily of a day's endurance,  
so fleeting is our existence.  
A slip of the foot,  
swerve,  
gasp,  
growth inside  
and we are gone.

"I heard a voice say 'Cry!' I said, 'What shall I  
cry?' 'Cry this,' said the voice:

'All flesh is grass,  
and all its beauty is like the flower of the  
field.'"

Isaiah 40  
as referenced by Nicholas Wolterstorff,  
Lament for a Son

# Order of Worship

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / HAPPY THANKSGIVING / 1 DECEMBER 2019



*Please silence all devices for  
the duration of worship*

**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.

## welcome

*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 scripture, 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.*

## standing

### call to worship

*from 'Come Light Our Hearts'*

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait (2x)  
Truly, our hope is in you (2x)

O joy above all other loves  
In you we find more than enough  
we come as we are, O heal and restore  
Come light our hearts

### lighting the advent candle

*based on Isaiah 9:2; 7:14*

*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 himself will give you a sign: the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son,  
**and he shall be called Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'**

Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation.  
**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

*This is a liturgy in which not  
only words, but also actions  
and symbols, speak.*

## invocation

*from the Book of Common Prayer*

*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.*

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

words: Charles Wesley

music: Rowland Pritchard

## hymns

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee

Israel's Strength and Consolation,  
Hope of all the saints Thou art  
Dear Desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart

O come, O come Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear

chorus:

Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel

## Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child, and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy precious kingdom bring

By Thine own eternal Spirit,  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all-sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

## O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From the depths of hell, thy people save  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave

chorus

Oh come Desire of Nations, bind  
All peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife, and sorrow cease  
Fill all the world with heaven's peace

chorus

words: unknown, 12th cent.  
trans. John M. Neale, 1851

music: Veni Emmanuel

*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.*

## reading + interlude

from the Jesus Storybook Bible

*Readings from Isaiah: Operation "No More Tears!"*

*This is the message God gave Isaiah...*

Dear Little Flock,

You're all wandering away from me, like sheep in an open field. You have always been running away from me. And now you're lost. You can't find your way back.

But I can't stop loving you. I will come to find you. So I am sending you a Shepherd to look after you and love you. To carry you home to me.

You've been stumbling around, like people in a dark room. But into the darkness, a bright Light will shine! It will chase away all the shadows, like sunshine.

A little baby will be born. A Royal Son. His mommy will be a young girl who doesn't have a husband. His name will be Emmanuel, which means "God has come to live with us." He is one of King David's children's children's children. The Prince of Peace.

Yes, Someone is going to come and rescue you!

But he won't be who anyone expects...

[But] the Rescuer will come. Look for him. Watch for him. Wait for him. He will come!

I promise.

## prayer of confession

*Here is a saying that is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance:*

*Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15)*

Lord of mercy,

always with us, always coming:

**We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent.**

**We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.**

**Forgive us.**

**Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds,**

**the intelligent courage of the Magi,**

**and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph,**

**that we may journey with them to Bethlehem**

**and find the good news of a child born for us.**

Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming.

*You are invited to acknowledge these things silently before God who hears you, and to draw hope from this promise: "Then I acknowledged my sin to you... and you forgave." (Psa 32:5).*

*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.*

## seated

*Confession of sin 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 is a word that basically means to insert oneself into space only God should occupy. Martin Luther described sin as a "curving in on oneself," which causes a relational breach not only with the people we harm, but also with God by not giving him the place he deserves in our lives, as our loving Creator and Savior.*

*Ancient Irish poem  
Trans. by Mary Byrne*

*Versified by Eleanor Hull*

*Traditional Irish melody*

## hymn

## Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom  
And Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord  
Thou my great Father and Spirit and Son  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only first in my heart  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art

High King of heaven, my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys,  
O bright heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

## receiving of grace

*based on Isaiah 40:1-2*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.  
Your sin is pardoned. The penalty is paid.

God's grace abounds for us, even in our weakness.  
Let us remember the hope of the gospel: **In Christ, we are forgiven.**

## responding to grace

*from the General Thanksgiving*

Let us pray in response to what God has done for us.

**Lord, we thank you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**Give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts, we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving ourselves to your service,  
and by walking before you in your ways, all our days. Amen.**

## prayer of thanksgiving

We give you thanks, Lord, our rock, our fortress, our deliverer,  
for the continual evidence of your mercy in our lives;  
for your goodness, for your unyielding grace.

We want to be anchored in your compassionate love.

**We thank you for calling us to faith in Christ, and equipping your sons and daughters  
to seek and invest in what would honor you.**

**Give us hearts that are aligned with yours.**

**Teach us to love well, and courageously— purposefully, deliberately.**

We thank you for putting your Spirit within us, for giving us the mind of Christ,  
for gathering us into your family, the church.

**We thank you for calling us to a life of gratitude— give us grateful hearts.**

**We thank you for calling us to enduring hope— be our hope, Jesus.**

We thank you, Lord,  
who satisfies the thirsty, fills the hungry with good things, and heals the hurting,  
for your faithfulness.

**We want to celebrate your abundant goodness— show us how.**

We thank you, Lord, that you provide for our needs,  
**for the food on our tables, for the clothes on our bodies,  
for the beds we sleep in, and for the homes that shelter us.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## doxology

Thomas Ken 1674, Louis Bourgeois 1551

*standing*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*dox-ol-o-gy  
(from doxa, meaning glory):*

*An expression of praise to  
God emphasizing his Triune  
nature (Father, Son, Holy  
Spirit).*

## community rhythms + practices

*Preschool and elementary-  
age children are dismissed  
to All Souls Kids following  
announcements, where  
they can learn and discover  
in a language and style  
more suitable to them.*



Rev. Andy Pelander

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.

Ho-sa-nna is a word that means "save me!" but came to mean "salvation is here!"

word

grateful giving

Freely you have received; freely give.

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 gifts go toward ministry initiatives of All Souls and the relief of those in need.

If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give. Let us know you're here, as well as any questions, comments or prayer requests you may have, by placing your comment card in one of the offering bowls as they are passed. Read more about giving in worship on p.12.

Matthew 10:8

table

The Lord's Supper, also called Communion or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. As we celebrate together, prayer stations are set up on the window-side of the room, where community leaders are available to pray with or for you.

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.**

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 by singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lo-rd, God of pow'r and might,  
 hea - ven and ear - th are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
 Bless-èd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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.**

*standing*

hymn

Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

Lord, make us servants of your peace:  
Where there is hate, may we sow love;  
Where there is hurt, may we forgive;  
Where there is strife, may we make one.

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek  
To be consoled, but to console,  
Nor look to understanding hearts,  
But look for hearts to understand.

Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;  
Where all is gloom, may we sow hope;  
Where all is night, may we sow light;  
Where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Dying, we live, and are reborn  
Through death's dark night to endless day;  
Lord, make us servants of your peace,  
In heaven's light, Lord, make us one

benediction + sending

Live lives of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord,  
who takes pleasure in those who trust Him and put their hope in Him.  
Go now in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **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 Session 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.*

*words: St. Francis of Assisi, paraphrased by James Quinn*

*music: O WALY WALY, trad. English melody*

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

*Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture is taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version (ESV) or New International Version (NIV).*

### **Connect with us via email!**

The primary channel for church-wide communication at All Souls is email— periodic notes (2-4 monthly) with event and opportunity reminders and important updates, plus letters from our staff and leadership.

Send an email (right now!) to [info@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:info@allsoulsseattle.org) to be added, or to update your address on file, thank you.

Also, to see the full community calendar, visit [allsoulsseattle.org/events](http://allsoulsseattle.org/events).

## Gathering

### **LIVING HERE: A CHURCH FAMILY DINNER TABLE CONVERSATION**

Many of us gathered together for a family style dinner on Nov. 17 to imagine the next ten years as All Souls. If you couldn't make it, we would like to include you in what was discussed and shared. Please listen to the recordings and learn more at [allsoulsseattle.org/parish](http://allsoulsseattle.org/parish).

### **WOMEN'S EVENING OF MIXED MEDIA COLLAGE + READING + SONG**

Thursday, Dec 12, 7:30-9:30p

Advent means "coming." Come contemplate the "comings" that Advent awaits and anticipates with your All Souls sisters. We'll read, sing, create, and reflect. No artistic skills required. Ages 12+ welcome. RSVP to [kara@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:kara@allsoulsseattle.org) for address and directions.

save the date(s)

### **COME, O LONG EXPECTED (CHRISTMAS) PARTY**

Sunday, Dec 15, 7-9:30p

Our most festive gathering of the year returns, at West Seattle's Dakota Place (Calif./Dakota), when we'll celebrate this season of joy and hope together. Carols, dessert, coffee provided; please bring wine to share. **Parents:** arrange childcare at home or sign-up your kid(s) ages 3+ for childcare at The Art's Nest, 6:45-9:30p— pay what you can options; sign-ups required ([suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org)).

### **CHRISTMAS LESSONS + CAROLS**

Sunday, Dec 22, 10a

Celebrate Christmas with All Souls as we tell and sing the story of Christ's birth. Invite friends!

## Growing

### **WARM SPRINGS SUMMER SERVICE TRIP IS BOOKED!**

All Souls is returning to Oregon this summer June 27-July 4 to serve the Warm Springs tribe, alongside Sacred Road Ministries. We hope to send a team of 20 adults and youth, ages 13 & older. It's not too early to plan! Contact Suzanne Case for more information and to secure your spot.

### **CURIOS ABOUT CHRISTIAN FAITH?**

Do you wonder if God is real, or what his posture toward you might be? Do you wrestle with intellectual barriers to belief, or wonder how God could be good or loving amid so much pain in the world? Are you curious about how to connect with God— how to talk to him or listen to him? If yes, you're not alone— and a community leader would happily talk with you and/or hear your story. Contact Charlotte Aljets to get connected with a conversation partner ([charlotte@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:charlotte@allsoulsseattle.org)).

### **LEARN + SERVE**

One of the marks of Christian maturity and growth is moving from being self-centered to others-centered. More curious about someone else's questions, experiences, hopes. Toward that end, we are trying something new as a community— this year, All Souls staff will curate events and experiences that help us to learn from and serve among our **Native American** and **First Nations neighbors**. How might we, together, discover who God is in fresh ways this year as we engage with the Native American experience in our city? Visit [allsoulsseattle.org/native](http://allsoulsseattle.org/native) for details.

### **CARE + COUNSEL**

The Bible teaches that God has given us powerful tools to navigate difficulty and grapple with hard questions: the Holy Spirit, the gospel, and community. At All Souls we lean heavily on these for encouragement, direction, and life-change. So whatever it is, you should know it's okay to talk about it (relationships, sexuality, addiction, marriage/family, faith, etc.). Don't wait. To meet with a pastor or other leader confidentially, or for a counseling referral: [pastor@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:pastor@allsoulsseattle.org)

### **How do we desire to be 'formed,' spiritually?**

The gospel cultivates gratitude, generosity, patience, and compassion... and also a sense of wonder— a curious heart that seeks to know God more deeply and more intimately. Together, these are the makings of being 'spiritually formed'... alongside others, journeying toward maturity in Christ.

Coming to understand the gospel is the beginning of a process that gradually transforms how we do every aspect of life as new desires, new hopes, new thoughts, and new affections emerge. As we engage this new life in the Spirit, we find ourselves drawn to doctrines, practices, and disciplines that enable us to know Jesus more intimately, and savor Him more fully.

# All Souls Kids + Youth



Our ministry to children is designed to equip and partner with families as you seek to invest in the spiritual wholeness of your children.

We value the presence and role of kids and students in our community, and are committed to cultivating an environment where they feel known, loved, and respected. We intend to draw them into an engaging, enjoyable, and provocative encounter with the gospel using language familiar to them. We encourage them to learn to ask good questions in the discovery of who they are and who God is, in the hope of building a foundation that shapes their lives for years to come!

Because worship is a celebration of grace, not a theological lecture, children of all ages are encouraged to join us at any time during the service—we are used to having them around! We also offer a safe place for kids to be together during the service.

- ▶ **Nursery (4mos-new walkers) and Toddlers (18mos-2 yrs):** Both rooms are open through the entire worship service and are fully staffed by providers who are trained in First Aid/CPR. Little ones receive excellent care in a safe, peaceful space set up specifically for our babies and toddlers. Please sign your child in and out with childcare providers when you arrive and pick up. You will be contacted during worship, if needed.
- ▶ **3-year-olds, Pre-K (4-5 yrs), and Kindergarten:** Children begin in worship, and are dismissed midway to these dynamic and fun classes. Kids will receive excellent care as they play, sing, read, do crafts, and have a nut-free snack. *The Jesus Storybook Bible* is our primary teaching tool. Please sign your child in and out with classroom teachers when you drop-off and pick-up.
- ▶ **1st, 2nd/3rd grades, and 4th/5th grades:** Kids begin in worship and are dismissed midway to class where they will learn and discover in a language and style more suitable to young, growing hearts and minds. Our instruction is framed around a cyclical exploration of key Biblical truths and gospel realities. 1st grade students are dismissed by their teachers to rejoin their families after worship. 2nd-5th grade students are brought up by teachers to rejoin their families before the Lord's Supper.

## Middle and High School Students

We desire to be a community where each of us experiences significant, lasting relationships that would highlight the active presence of Jesus in the lives of His people, and where we would encounter Jesus in ways that will shape our understanding and experience of His grace for the rest of our lives. And this is true regardless of age!

We are excited about the opportunity for youth to be together consistently, and grow spiritually through a gospel-focused, relational, service-oriented ministry. Our hope is that students will feel welcomed and enjoyed by each other and leaders, and ultimately by our Savior, Jesus.

- ▶ **Youth Group:** Students meet weekly on **Sundays, 5-7p** to share a meal, play, and enjoy small group discussion on spiritually formative topics. Hosted at the home of Suzanne and Jeff Case in Arbor Heights; contact [suzanne@allsoulssseattle.org](mailto:suzanne@allsoulssseattle.org) for directions.
- ▶ **Sunday mornings:** Students are invited to gather weekly to connect and meet leaders before worship. They are invited also to serve in various capacities during worship, or to remain with family, friends, or youth leaders during the service.
- ▶ **Upcoming:** All Souls Youth Christmas Party + Jam Night! Sunday, Dec 8, 5-7p / Trinity West Seattle. Bring a friend!

Additionally, **Young Life** has many opportunities for youth to connect, and to explore the gospel. To learn more, ask one of our student ministries staff or visit [westseattle.younglife.org](http://westseattle.younglife.org).

*If you have special needs or have a friend or family member with special needs, we do not want to miss an opportunity to serve you.*

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

### SAFETY NOTE:

In the unlikely event of an emergency or evacuation, all children will be escorted immediately from their classrooms to the field behind the building. Parents should exit onto the terrace through the doors on the right side of the stage and meet children on the field to sign out their kids with teachers.

### Parents:

*There is a designated and semi-private area in the teachers' lounge, through the double doors in the back-left corner, for anyone during the worship service.*

*Please use this at your convenience.*

learn more:  
[allsoulssseattle.org/kids](http://allsoulssseattle.org/kids)

# How can I serve?



Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. (Romans 12:11)

We are called to serve, not to be served.

As Jesus came into the world to serve rather than to be served (Mark 10:42-45), our desire is that we as a church would regularly serve each other and also the under-resourced and marginalized of our neighborhood and city.

## ALL SOULS COMMUNITY

We value— and rely on!— a collaborative culture at All Souls.

We're not here to consume or spectate, but to **lean in, take ownership, and serve**, no matter what we bring to the table. We honor God with what he's given us and seek to bless those around us, as a family, on Sundays and throughout the week.

*current needs / opportunities to serve:*

- ▶ **Sundays** - As you might imagine, it takes many hands to turn a middle school into a warm, welcoming worship space. We need volunteers to help with set-up, greeting, coffee/snacks, and more. Contact: Shannon (shannon@allsoulsseattle.org).
- ▶ **Make a Meal** - As a way to tangibly serve one another in challenging or transitional seasons of life, we as a family make meals for each other. To make *or request* a meal, please contact communitycare@allsoulsseattle.org. Thank you!
- ▶ **All Souls Kids** - Modeling and sharing the gospel to/with children is one of the more impactful ways one can serve. There are consistent needs in classrooms serving ages 2 through 5th grade, and your help is needed! The commitment is only one Sunday a month, and training and materials are provided— no experience necessary! Contact: Suzanne Case (suzanne@).

## NEIGHBORHOOD + CITY

Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you. (Jeremiah 29:7)

As a church 'not just for ourselves,' there are also lots of ways to serve and seek the well-being of our neighborhood and city through All Souls. We are primarily interested in connecting volunteers to vital service organizations already serving for the sake of renewal, mercy, and justice.

*current opportunities:*

### ▶ **Serve + Partner with Foster Care**

All Souls seeks to come alongside, serve, and support families, organizations, and agencies helping children in foster care in the West Seattle area. We heed the call from James 1:27 to "look after orphans and widows in their distress."

- Sat, Dec 7, 4-7p / Foster Family Holiday Celebration (11659 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98168)— serve foster families by providing childcare for children in foster care during a holiday celebration hosted by Beverly Park Baptist Church. Contact suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org to sign-up.
- Wed, Dec 11, 11a-2p / DCYF Office (4045 Delridge Way SW)— bless local social workers and learn more about the needs of our community by serving at the annual Department of Children, Youth and Family holiday staff appreciation lunch. Volunteers needed to pick-up and drop-off food, decorate, set-up, and clean-up. Contact nancyspiro@gmail.com

### ▶ **YoungLives**

YoungLives, the ministry of Young Life to teenage moms, invests in life-on-life mentoring with teen moms through entering into their lives, building relationships with them and their little ones, modeling the unconditional love of Christ, and encouraging them to become the women and mothers God created them to be. There are a variety of ways to serve and many levels of commitment are welcome! To learn more, contact Alyssa Reeve (alyssa@allsoulsseattle.org).

- Donate a blanket for a Christmas gift to YL moms (\$33): give via allsoulsseattle.org/give (memo: YoungLives blanket)
- Cook a meal for the YL Monday night gatherings for moms, little ones, and mentors (HG or GG service opportunity!)
- Donations baby supplies: NEW convertible carseats, Ikea stackable high chairs, diapers (sizes 4-6), and wipes

# Smaller Groups in Community

## GROWTH GROUPS

To grow spiritually, each of us needs consistent time praying and listening with God and others. Growth Groups gather weekly for gender-specific deeper spiritual exploration and prayer, and are a more intentional and intimate place to focus on life with God. Also, as those who've participated will attest, these groups foster a unique depth of relationship with others. There are groups that are ongoing and some that are still forming, with a variety of meeting times and locations. To learn more and connect, contact Shannon Smith ([shannon@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:shannon@allsoulsseattle.org)).

## HOME GROUPS

In a world that pushes us toward isolation, we need community— a place where we're known, loved, and belong.

We need local 'family' — siblings in Jesus we can lean on, learn with and from, care for, and celebrate growth alongside.

Home Groups, designed to invite us into this relational space, are a vital part of our shared life and growth in Christ— places of care and community where we discover and live the Christian life together.

Simply put, they are the best way at All Souls to integrate as a newcomer, build lasting friendships, and to consistently be in each other's lives. We are a community that places high value on this time together in God's word and in prayer, and also serving our city and neighborhoods.

Generally, groups meet to discuss scripture, share stories, pray, plan service projects/relationships, and share meals.

Groups meet regularly through the academic year, shifting to a more informal, intermittent schedule during summer months. To learn more about a group and how to jump in year-round please contact R.J. March, or a group host(s) directly.

*PLEASE NOTE: Group rosters are typically capped at 12 adults (plus kids). If a group is full, staff will help you find another option.*

Neighborhood	Contact	Time
ADMIRAL	Andy Lewis + Ruth Rogers Lewis <a href="mailto:ruthrogerslewis@comcast.net">ruthrogerslewis@comcast.net</a>	Wed / 7 - 8:30p
ALASKA	Peter + Kara Barrett <a href="mailto:kara@allsoulsseattle.org">kara@allsoulsseattle.org</a>	Sun / 5 - 6:30p <i>includes a meal and childcare</i>
ARBOR HEIGHTS	Jeff + Suzanne Case <a href="mailto:suzannecase3@gmail.com">suzannecase3@gmail.com</a>	Tues / 6 - 7:30p <i>includes a meal</i>
	Matt + Nancy Spiro Nicholas + Alyssa Incorvaia <a href="mailto:nancyspiro@gmail.com">nancyspiro@gmail.com</a>	Tues / 6 - 7:30p <i>includes a meal</i>
COLUMBIA CITY	Daniel + Shiyun Chen <a href="mailto:danielandshiyun@gmail.com">danielandshiyun@gmail.com</a>	Sun / 5 - 6:30p <i>includes a meal</i>
GENESEE	Joseph + Sydney Buckley <a href="mailto:joseph@bkly.org">joseph@bkly.org</a>	Sat / 10 - 11:30a <i>includes brunch</i>
	Matt + Amy Huey <a href="mailto:amy_c_huey@yahoo.com">amy_c_huey@yahoo.com</a>	Mon / 6:30 - 8p
HIGHLAND PARK	Nate + Lori Bailey <a href="mailto:hi.loribailey@gmail.com">hi.loribailey@gmail.com</a>	Thurs / 6:30 - 8p <i>includes a meal</i>
	R.J. + Carolyn March <a href="mailto:rj@allsoulsseattle.org">rj@allsoulsseattle.org</a>	Sun / 5 - 6:30p <i>includes a meal and childcare</i>

*group information can also be found at [allsoulsseattle.org/connect](http://allsoulsseattle.org/connect)*

# Giving as part of worship

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's 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 ought to be worshipful. When we are generous with others, we are reminding one another of the great generosity of our 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.

- Place cash or check in the offering on Sundays
- 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](http://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](mailto: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.*

## STAFF

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[andy@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:andy@allsoulsseattle.org)

**Rev. R.J. March**  
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## ALL SOULS KIDS + YOUTH

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*Sunday hosts:*  
**Elba Martin, Valerie Pherson,**  
**and Abby Pierce**

ELDERS  
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**Chris Ball**      **Dan Reeve**  
**Peter Barrett**      **Thad Williams**

CONSISTORY  
[consistory@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:consistory@allsoulsseattle.org)

**Charlotte Aljets**      **Rachel Faunce**  
**Joe Berg**      **Graeme Hanson**  
**Suzanne Case**      **Nancy Spiro**

## worship location

Sundays 10a  
Madison Middle School  
3429 45th Ave SW

## All Souls Loft

4138 California Ave SW, 2nd fl

## mailing address

PO Box 16613, Seattle 98116

206/829-8349  
[info@allsoulsseattle.org](mailto:info@allsoulsseattle.org)



5 In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. 7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

13 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth

57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. 59 And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, 60 but his mother answered, “No; he shall be called John.” 61 And they said to her, “None of your relatives is called by this name.” 62 And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. 63 And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And they all wondered. 64 And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. 65 And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, 66 and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, “What then will this child be?” For the hand of the Lord was with him.

67 And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

68 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has visited and redeemed his people  
69 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
in the house of his servant David,  
70 as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,  
71 that we should be saved from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us;  
72 to show the mercy promised to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant,  
73 the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us  
74 that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,  
might serve him without fear,  
75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.  
76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people  
in the forgiveness of their sins,  
78 because of the tender mercy of our God,  
whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high  
79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit,  
and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.