



Advent 12 17 23

# 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.

All Souls is a space to begin, or begin again, from anywhere. 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.

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## How do I get connected?

visit [allsoulsseattle.org](http://allsoulsseattle.org) for the latest

## All Souls Kids + Youth

[allsoulsseattle.org/kids](http://allsoulsseattle.org/kids) ( /youth )

## How can I serve?

[allsoulsseattle.org/connect](http://allsoulsseattle.org/connect)

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cover illustration: Lori White

The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

# Order of Worship

ADVENT / DECEMBER 17 2023



*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 simply to be together. This a space to begin, or begin again, from anywhere.*

## Call to Worship

Psalm 1

*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 adapted music Poor Bishop Hooper (2020)*

STANDING

<i>chorus</i> Oh the joy, the joy, the joy	Like trees along the river
Of those who delight in the law of the Lord	With leaves that never wither
Oh the joy, the joy, the joy of those	Like trees along the river
Who meditate day and night	With leaves that never wither
in the law of the Lord	Like trees along the river
Let all my delight be only in	With leaves that never wither
Your sweet and right instruction	Like trees along the river
Let all my delight be only in	With leaves that never wither
Your sweet and right instruction / <i>chorus</i>	Everything they do will prosper in You

## 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.'**

## Acclamation

Our King and Savior now draws near:

**O come, let us adore him.**

**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 afternoon, 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.*

## Psalm 126

*words adapted music Isaac Wardell and Bifrost Arts (2011)*

Our mouths they were filled  
filled with laughter

Our tongues they were loosed  
loosed with joy

Restore us, O Lord (2x)

*chorus* Although we are weeping

Lord, help us keep sowing

The seeds of Your Kingdom

For the day You will reap them

Your sheaves we will carry

Lord, please do not tarry

All those who sow weeping  
will go out with songs of joy

The nations will say

"He has done great things!"

The nations will sing songs of joy

Restore us, O Lord (2x) / *chorus*

*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.*

## Messiah

*words and music Bifrost Arts (2009)*

*chorus*

O come O come Messiah

O come our Hallelujah

O sing O sing Hosanna

O come Messiah, come

Come Verdant Joy,

Alpha, Omega, King

Sorrow and toil

No longer rulers be / *chorus*

BE 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.*

## 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.**

*Continues on the next page...*

*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.*

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.**

*Let’s acknowledge our need for Jesus to do what we cannot: heal, forgive, and restore where we have harmed, hurt, and broken. After a brief silence we will sing our confession.*

*T.J. Williams / E. Wilson*

*Fine*

Lord, ha - ve mer - cy. Christ, ha - ve mer - cy. Lord, ha - ve mer - cy on \_\_\_\_ me.

5

*D.C. al Fine*

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

## Receiving of Grace

*from* John 1:5; 1 Peter 2:24; James 5:11

*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.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. Let us remember the hope of the gospel: **In Christ, we are forgiven.**

## Blessing for Learning

*Childcare in the Giraffe classroom is provided for children ages 1-3. All classes (PreK-7th) meet today.*

Lord, bless these children whom you love, as they discover in their own language who you are.

**Give them a sense of being known and loved by you,** and the freedom to come fully as themselves.

Bless our teachers, and be present in their every word and interaction.

**Help us all to become learners.**

**Beloved children, go in peace. Amen.**

*Please stand and sing as kids go out and we prepare to hear from God's Word.*

*Music: by Poor Bishop Hooper (2020)*

**Oh the joy, the joy, the joy of those who delight in the law of the Lord. (2x)**

**Let all my delight be only in your sweet and right instruction. (2x)**

**Like trees along the river with leaves that never wither. Everything they do will prosper in You.**

## the 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.*

Psalm 126

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dreamed.  
2 Our mouths were filled with laughter,  
our tongues with songs of joy.  
Then it was said among the nations,  
"The Lord has done great things for them."  
3 The Lord has done great things for us,  
and we are filled with joy.

4 Restore our fortunes, Lord,  
like streams in the Negev.  
5 Those who sow with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.  
6 Those who go out weeping,  
carrying seed to sow,  
will return with songs of joy,  
carrying sheaves with them.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

12 Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. 13 Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. 14 And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else. 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 19 Do not quench the Spirit. 20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt 21 but test them all; hold on to what is good, 22 reject every kind of evil. 23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it. 25 Brothers and sisters, pray for us. 26 Greet all God's people with a holy kiss. 27 I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers and sisters. 28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

John 3:22-30

22 After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized. 23 Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized. 24 (This was before John was put in prison.) 25 An argument developed between some of John's disciples and a certain Jew over the matter of ceremonial washing. 26 They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him."  
27 To this John replied, "A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. 28 You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.' 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 30 He must become greater; I must become less."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

## Homily

## The Advent of Joy

Rev. R.J. March

## Musical Interlude

*Musical interludes are included to provide space for reflection and worship.*

## Prayers of the People

Let us cry out to God on behalf of our unhoused neighbors:

That those in positions of power may work tirelessly to provide food, clothing and housing to all in need, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the city of Seattle may support holistic policies and actions that address homelessness, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That shelters may have the funding, staff, and volunteers necessary for providing safe places of refuge for unhoused neighbors, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all those in helping professions may have the wisdom, patience, creativity, endurance, and strength needed for companionship those who are experiencing homelessness, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all people with no place to call home may be guided to places of peace and security, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That your Church may continually announce the good news of your coming kingdom, the kingdom in which homelessness will be no more, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, who made, is making, and will make your home with us, be a shelter for our neighbors who are unhoused. Provide and protect. Renew and restore. As we wait for your coming, increase our longing and hope for the day when you will finally set all that is wrong right. As we prepare for your coming, renew our commitment to embodying the good news of your already not yet kingdom.

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

## Grateful Giving

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.





## Communion

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

### 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.*

### THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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 with one voice:

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

### 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.**

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

# Galatians 2:20

music by *The Welcome Wagon* (2017)

I have been crucified with Christ	And the life I now live in the flesh
I have been crucified with Christ	I live by faith in the Son of God
It is no longer I who live	Who loved me and gave himself for me
But Christ who lives in me	He loved me and gave himself for me

God Most High,

**We thank you for welcoming us, teaching us and feeding us. We deserve nothing from you but in your great mercy, you have given us everything in your Son Jesus Christ. We love you and give ourselves to you to be sent out for your work. Grant us your blessing, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Eternal Light

words and music *Paul Zach, Joshua Jay Miller and Kate Bluett* (2021)

Eternal light shine in my heart	Eternal peace quiet my soul
Shine in my heart and drive the dark away	Eternal love never let go
Eternal hope lift up my eyes	
Lift up my eyes to see your dawning day	You are the same
Eternal light shine in my heart	yesterday today forever (3x)
Eternal hope lift up my eyes	You never change
	You have no beginning
Eternal peace quiet my soul	And you have no end
Quiet my soul like the waters flow	
Eternal love stand by my side	Eternal light shine in my heart
Stand by my side and never let me go	Shine in my heart
	And drive the dark away

## Benediction

John 15:11-13

These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. **Amen.**

Now go into the world in peace. Have courage, hold on to what is good, honor all people, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, restore the wandering, and share the gospel.

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 and non-alcoholic grape juice for Communion. For those with wheat allergies, a gluten-free cracker is available in place of the bread (ingredients: cauliflower, brown rice flour, tapioca starch, coconut milk powder, pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, sesame seeds, mustard powder, sea salt, garlic powder, onion powder).*

### **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 questions about how this process works, please speak with one of our pastors.*

*Scripture appears in the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) or the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted.*

*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

**Wednesdays in Advent: Vespers** Join us for our final midweek, evening prayer featuring choral worship music, a reflection from All Souls' pastoral team, and a piece of art to guide our meditation on the coming — or Advent — of Jesus. **December 20 from 6:30-7:30p.** Childcare is available.

**Co-Work Fridays** will resume in the new year.

**Christmas Eve Service:** Bring friends, family, and neighbors to a joint Christmas Eve service with Trinity as we team up with our hosts to worship at our usual time of **4p on Sunday, December 24.** Drinks and desserts to follow. **There will not be a Christmas Day service on Monday.**

**Christmas Eve Cookies:** We are looking for volunteers to make or pick-up cookies for our joint service with Trinity on Christmas Eve. We are hoping to contribute a total of 15 dozen. Email Alyssa (alyssa@) to let her know how many you're planning to bring.

## Serve Together

**Get to know unhoused neighbors.** If you are interested in preparing a meal or serving, please contact Kara (kara@).

**Assist asylum-seeking neighbors.** If you have flexibility to make a new friend as you drive them to an immigration appointment or have opportunities to assist with employment and housing, please contact R.J. (rj@).

## Group Life

### Home Groups —

In a world that pushes us toward isolation, we need community—a place where we're known, loved, and belong. Home Groups are one of the main ways we learn to enjoy and extend the hospitality of Christ in our neighborhoods. See page 9 or contact R.J. (rj@) to learn more.

### Grace Groups

#### Women's Book Study — on Fridays, 9:30a

Alissa Moor and Lydia Peterson are co-leading a study by Jen Wilkin, *None Like Him*, exploring ten attributes of God. We will resume meeting **Friday mornings in January 9:30-11:00a** (not meeting on public school holidays). For childcare, email: alissamoor@gmail.com or lydia.s.peterson@gmail.com.

#### Grace Groups @Work

Join conversations that explore how to live more by God's grace @work. Make new connections and deepen connection with other All Souls people working in your field: for tech (contact Greg, greg@kroleski.com), for education (contact Tyler, tylerashby@gmail.com), to start a new group (contact R.J., rj@allsoulsseattle.org)

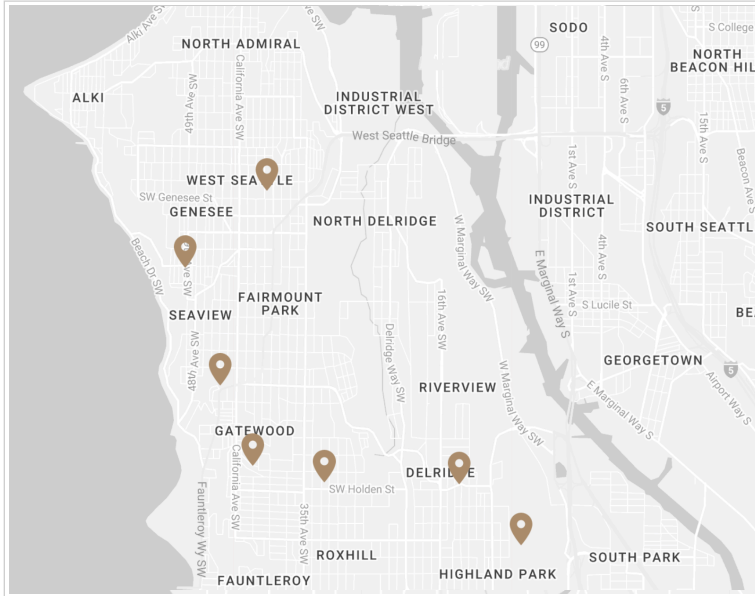
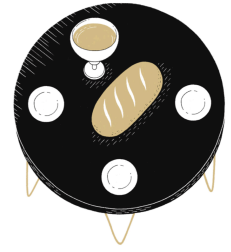
### Youth Group

**8th-12th grade-** Youth group resumes January 3rd.

**Dec 19** Middle school students serve at Village Green for Bingo Night, 6:30pm

# Home Group Map + Details

These are open groups anyone can join at any time, built to be a place to share—food, stories, hopes, and life.



## ALASKA

Peter + Kara Barrett  
**Every other Sunday, 6-7:30p**  
indoors, mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

## GATEWOOD - NORTH

Andrew + Jen Eckert and Steve + MaryAnn Simmons  
**Every other Thursday, 6-7:30p**  
online, mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

## GATEWOOD - SOUTH

Luke + Terri Crook  
**Every other Sunday, 6-7:30p**  
mixed group of adults, meal included

## HIGHLAND PARK - EAST

Jeff + Suzanne Case  
**Every other Sunday, 6-7:30p**  
indoors, mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

## HIGHLAND PARK - SOUTH

R.J. + Carolyn March  
**Every other Sunday, 10-11:30a**  
mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

## SEAVIEW

Dustin + Kelley Long  
**Every other Tuesday, 6-7:30p**  
mixed group of adults, kids + teens welcome, meal included

## WESTWOOD

Thad + Lauren Williams and Erik + Nicole Bennett  
**Every other Wednesday, 6-7:30p**  
mixed group of adults, kids welcome

To connect with one of these groups,  
visit: [allsoulsseattle.org/connect](https://allsoulsseattle.org/connect)



# All Souls Kids + Youth on Sundays

Our ministry exists to help children in partnership with families to know Jesus, and experience his love.



## Sunday School

Sunday school classes are offered during worship October through June. We currently have four classes: Lion Class (PreK-K), Deer Class (1st-2nd grade), Bear Class (3rd-5th) and Zebra Class (6th-7th). All classes meet downstairs. Students will be signed in upon class arrival and signed out after dismissal back into worship.

**First time here? Welcome! All Souls Kids staff and volunteers are here to greet you and answer any questions.**

Kids will be dismissed from the service to their teachers prior to the scripture reading, and escorted to their classrooms. Teachers will bring students back to rejoin families just before the Lord's Supper.

Lion and Deer classes meet teachers at the back of the sanctuary. Bear and Zebra classes meet your teachers at the front of the sanctuary. Look for the clipboard with your class animal!

Nursery is provided for the entire worship service, ages 1-3. Parents: sign your little one in and out downstairs in the Giraffe (nursery) classroom.

## F.A.Q.

*Can I join my child in class, if they need me?*

Absolutely! Parents may accompany children to class for as long as needed.

*Can my child stay in the service with me?*

Yes! Children of all ages are welcome in the service at any time. Clipboards with paper and WikiSticks are available for busy hands.

*What will they be learning?*

Children ages PreK through 7th grade will be learning about Jesus and the big story of the gospel through lessons from the Dwell Curriculum. Lessons include story, prayer, and fun activities. Classes are designed to be engaging for all children, whether this is their first or hundredth Sunday at church!

*Is there an at-home connection?*

Yes! Each Sunday we encourage parents to ask children questions about what they learned! Perhaps these questions may help guide your discussion:

- Ask your child to retell the story from class today.
- What does this story teach you about God?
- Is there anything you'd like to ask God about this story?
- What is one thing you'd like to remember about this story?
- How is this story about you?

*How can I view your child protection policies?*

Simple! Scan the code.



Additional questions? Contact Suzanne Case  
suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org

## 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, in addition to during worship, 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](https://allsoulsseattle.org/give) (ACH now available)



- ▶ 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. If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give.*

*We thank God for your partnership in this work, and invite you to ask him how you might best reflect his radical, sacrificial generosity with your own.*

**Fiscal Year 2023** began this October (projecting \$40k surplus) as we hope to see All Souls this year grow in organizational health, wisdom, and listening to God. Our new budgeted average expense is \$44,300/month. November giving was \$27,362.12 (net -\$16,938).

# All Souls

of The Diocese of Churches for the Sake of Others (C4SO)

## PASTORAL

Kara Nichols Barrett, *deacon*  
Suzanne Case, *pastor, kids + youth*  
R.J. March, *rector*

## COMMUNITY / LITURGICAL ARTS / OPERATIONS

Alyssa Reeve  
Kelly Smith

## VESTRY

Adam Aljets, *treasurer*  
Corey MORAIGN, *new*  
Jen Eckert, *new*  
Merrilee Thompson, *secretary*  
Nicole Bennett  
Rachel Faunce, *people's warden*  
Sonya Luchauer, *new*  
Thad Williams, *senior warden*

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

## KIDS / YOUTH

Elba Martin

## WORSHIP + OFFICE LOCATION

Trinity West Seattle - Sundays, 4p  
7551 35th Ave SW

## MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 16613, Seattle WA 98116

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

Instagram: @allsoulsseattle  
Podcast: 'All Souls Church of Seattle'



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