

# Confirmation

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# 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.

# 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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LOVE IS NOT BLIND; THAT IS THE LAST THING IT IS.
LOVE IS BOUND; AND THE MORE IT IS BOUND
THE LESS IT IS BUIND.

- G.K. CHESTERTON

## CONFIRMATION / FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT / MARCH 30 2025

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

# Call to Worship

from Psalm 24

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 and music Evan W. Wilson (2020)

STANDING

The earth is the Lord's And everything in it The earth and all who live in it Come now and receive Blessing from the Lord And vindication from our God

Lift up your heads (lift up your heads) You mighty gates (you mighty gates) Be lifted up (be lifted up) You ancient doors (you ancient doors) That the King of Glory may come in

Joel 2:27-28, 32t; Acts 2:17, 21

The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,

## And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.

Your old men shall dream dreams

#### And your young men shall see visions.

You shall know that the Lord is in the midst of his people.

## That he is the Lord and there is none else.

And it shall come to pass

That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

**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.

# 'Here I raise my Ebenezer'

Confirmation Candidates Share

In the Bible, an "Ebenezer" (meaning "stone of help" in Hebrew) is a memorial or a stone set up to commemorate God's help and protection. Confirmation candidates will take turns sharing about an object they have selected that expresses how God has met them throughout the confirmation cohort process. As they share, pray for the Holy Spirit's strengthening presence in their lives.

## Come Thou Fount

words by Robert Robinson (1758) music "Nettleton" by John Wyeth

Come, thou Fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing thy grace
Streams of mercy, never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of God's redeeming love

Here I raise my Ebenezer
Hither by thy help I come
And I hope, by thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home

Jesus sought me when a stranger Wandering from the fold of God He, to rescue me from danger Interposed his precious blood

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let thy goodness, like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it
Seal it for thy courts above

'Here I raise my Ebenezer'

Confirmation Candidates Share

# We Abide, We Abide in You

words and music the Porter's Gate (2017)

We are the vineyard You have planted Tend our leaves and wild branches We abide, we abide in You We abide, we abide in You

Fruit growing from our strength and labor Rain on us with grace and favor We abide, we abide in You We abide, we abide in You

Where can my soul find living water?
Apart from You we bear no fruit
O plant my feet down by the river
We abide, we abide in You

## Confession

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. 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.

## 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.

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.

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.



# Receiving of Grace

1 John 2:1-2

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.

If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, forgive your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen**.

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

Hear and know that you are forgiven, and be at peace. Thanks be to God!

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

May we walk in your life-giving ways to glory of your Holy Name!

# 'Here I raise my Ebenezer'

Confirmation Candidates Share

# Blessing for Learning

Children up to age 6 are invited for a time of play in the giraffe class during the homily, and will be brought back upstairs for the Confirmation.

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

Music: Psalm 1 by Poor Bishop Hooper (2020).

Oh the joy, the joy of those who delight in the law of the Lord.

Oh the joy, the joy of those who meditate day and night in the law of the Lord.

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

# the Collect for the Day

A "collect" is a summarizing prayer in the Book of Common Prayer that helps us to pray collectively (where the word "collect" comes from) linking a promise from the biblical story with a need for that promise to be true and experienced among us.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

# the Readings

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.

Joshua 4:19-24

19 On the tenth day of the first month the people went up from the Jordan and camped at Gilgal on the eastern border of Jericho. 20 And Joshua set up at Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken out of the Jordan. 21 He said to the Israelites, "In the future when your descendants ask their parents, 'What do these stones mean?' 22 tell them, 'Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.' 23 For the Lord your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The Lord your God did to the Jordan what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over. 24 He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God."

Psalm 34:1-8

- 1 I will extol the Lord at all times;
  - his praise will always be on my lips.
- 2 I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
- 3 Glorify the Lord with me;
  - let us exalt his name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

- 5 Those who look to him are radiant;
  - their faces are never covered with shame.
- $\,$  6 This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;
  - he saved him out of all his troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good;
  - blessed is the one who takes refuge in him

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please stand. Just before the gospel reading, the church has traditionally sung a refrain of praise to celebrate Goa's desire to draw near to us, even becoming one of us taking on our humanity in Jesus Christ. Music by The Porter's Gate "Drive Out the Darkness" (2020)

Come O Come. Be our light. Drive out the darkness.

Come, and end all the violence. Come, do not be silent. Come, cling to your promise.

Come, break all injustice. Come, Jesus, Come.

12 Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him 13 and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. 14 Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jewish leaders that it would be good if one man died for the people.

15 Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, 16 but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the servant girl on duty there and brought Peter in.

17 "You aren't one of this man's disciples too, are you?" she asked Peter.

He replied, "I am not."

18 It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.

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

Homily

The Right Rev. Bishop Brian Wallace

# Musical Interlude

## Nicene Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic\*

and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism

for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

\*catholic meaning all believers across time and around the world.

# Confirmation

In Confirmation, we ask God by His Holy Spirit to strengthen Camden Smithco, Claire Reeve, Ethan Faunce, Eliana Faunce, Elle Case, Hayden Williams, Jake Huey, Lachlan Johnson, Nadya Peterson, Nathan Huey, Nikko Martin, Rylan Mahoney, Silas Johnson, Soren Peterson, and Soren VenHuizen for perseverance in their relationship with God and the Church; also for participation in the Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ here on earth—in their vocations, stories, and relationships—as it is in heaven. Confirmation is grounded in Scripture: the Apostles prayed for, and laid their hands on those who had already been baptized (2 Timothy 1:6-7; Acts 8:14-17; 19:6). And while Confirmation is not a sacrament in the same way as Communion and Baptism, it represents an inflection point for the confirmands and the church family to mature in Christ. The candidates, their Confirmation leaders, sponsors, and parents may come forward.

### PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Presenters Bishop Brian, we present these persons to receive the laying on of hands.

Bishop Have they been adequately prepared?

Presenters They have.

#### BISHOP TO ALL GATHERED

Dearly beloved, it is essential that those who wish to be Confirmed or Received in this Church publicly confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior; become his disciples; know and affirm the Nicene Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and have received instruction in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and the Catechism of the Church. God's grace is imparted in baptism, through which we are made God's children by adoption and given the Holy Spirit. By the power of the Spirit, manifested in gifts and fruit, we are enabled to be God's people for the sake of the world.

Now, these candidates desire publicly to confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and their commitment to follow him as Lord. They also desire the strengthening of grace through the laying on of hands that the Holy Spirit may fill them more and more for their ministry in the Church and in the world.

#### **BISHOP TO THE CANDIDATES**

Do you, here in the presence of God and the Church, renew the solemn promises and vows made at your Baptism and commit to keep them?

I do.

Do you renounce the Devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

I do.

Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I do.

Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

I do.

Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

I do.

Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life?

With God's help, I will.

#### BISHOP TO THE CONGREGATION

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ? We will.

### BISHOP PRAYS AND LAYS HANDS

Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, we beseech you to strengthen these your servants for witness and ministry through the power of your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in them your manifold virtues of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and the spirit of holy fear, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

Each confirmand comes before the Bishop. The Bishop, then laying his hands upon the person's head, shall pray:

Strengthen, O Lord, with your Holy Spirit, your servant *N*., whom we recognize as a member of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, and receive into the fellowship of this Communion. Empower *her* for your service, and sustain *her* all the days of *her* life. **Amen.** 

The Bishop then makes the sign of the Cross with the Oil of Chrism on the forehead, and calls them by name, saying

N., I sign you with the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be upon these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Holy Word, that they may faithfully serve you in this life, and joyfully dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

# Grateful Giving

Freely you have received; freely give



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.

PFACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

INVITATION + THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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.

#### **SANCTUS**

Sing: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

**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.

# We Will Feast in the House of Zion/Nothing to Fear

Joshua Moore, Sandra McCracken (2015) / Audrey Assad, Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach (2019)

chorus We will feast in the house of Zion We will sing with our hearts restored

He has done great things We will say together

We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire

He is the Lord our God

We are not consumed by the flood Upheld, protected, gathered up / chorus

In the dark of night, before the dawn

My soul be not afraid

For the promised morning, oh how long O God of Jacob be my strength / chorus

Every vow we've broken and betrayed

You are the faithful One

And from the garden to the grave Bind us together, bring shalom / chorus

And there is nothing to fear

Nothing to fear

There is nothing to fear

Nothing to fear

For I am with you always

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.

# All Shall Be Well

words by Julian of Norwich (1390) music and arrangement by John Van Heusen (2017)

Thank you for the sun Thank you for the moon

Thank you for the stars at night

And the darkness too Bless you for your peace Bless you for your grace

Bless you for your perfect love

And your perfect ways

chorus And all shall be well All shall be well

All manner of things shall be well (x2)

Use me as you will

Remove my selfish pride

Create in me a servant's heart

To bless your holy bride

And when my work is done

And the seeds are sown

Please receive my spirit, Lord

And welcome me home / chorus

Benediction Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. **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 English Standard Version (ESV) 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

Listening Conversations The Friday's pastoral email was an invitation to hear from the All Souls community as we plan for the next year and also prepare for our Pentecost when we hear from each other about how the Holy Spirit has been at work drawing us more deeply into life with Jesus.

Sign up for a Listening Conversation (in person or via video call):

With R.J.: various times and days via the QR code >>

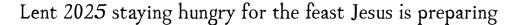
With Sonya: Monday evenings and any time Tuesday, sonya.luchauer@gmail.com

With Nicole: reach out for a time, nicoleashleybennett@gmail.com

With Kara: reach out for a time, kara@allsoulsseattle.org

With Suzanne: reach out for a time, suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org

Co-Work Friday Bring your work or some reading and make All Souls offices your office on this coming Friday April 4 from 8:15a. Feel free to stop by or stay for the day. Coffee and lunch are provided. Childcare is available from 3-5p. Happy hour including some ping pong is available 4-5p. Bring a colleague or friend.



Wednesday Worship Service + Meal join us from 6-6:20p for prayer in the Commons followed by a potluck soup dinner from 6:20-7:15p.

## Holy Week: April 13-20

Palm Sunday— all are welcome to gather in the Commons for a special procession into the Sanctuary

Wednesday— no midweek worship service

Maundy Thursday— dinners in homes, use QR code to sign up to host or attend >>

Good Friday— interactive stations of the cross in the Commons 2-5:30p, childcare provided

Saturday Easter Vigil— begins around the bonfire on 35th at 6:45p, childcare provided up to age 6

Easter 'Sunrise' Service— worship at 9a, coffee + a fire blazing in the Lincoln Park shelter that faces the Ferry Dock

# 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 receive and extend the hospitality of Christ in our neighborhoods. See page 11 for details and contact R.J. March (rj@) to learn more.

## Youth Group —

Youth group meets on Wednesdays 6:30-8p at Trinity. Dinner included. All middle and high school students welcome! Contact Suzanne@ for information about youth ministry at All Souls.

No youth group this Wednesday, April 2nd. Join for mid week prayer and dinner, and come upstairs for a special

Warm Springs summer service trip: July 26th-Aug 3rd. Confirm by paying a deposit of \$150 by April 1st. Contact suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org for more details.

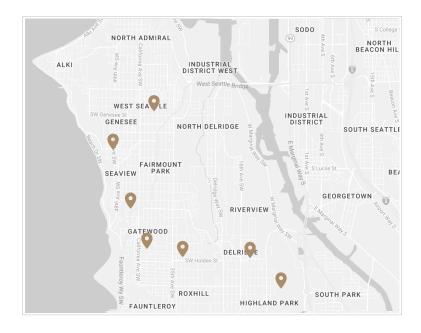
# Weekly Friday Email

Stay connected: learn about ways to grow and serve with All Souls by subscribing and adding our email info@allsoulsseattle.org to your contacts.



# 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

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

To connect with one of these groups, visit: all souls seattle.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 two classes: Lion Class (PreK-1st grade), and Bear class (2nd-5th).

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.

Both classes will meet your teachers at the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery is provided for the entire worship service, ages 1-3. Parents: sign your little one in and out in the Giraffe (nursery) classroom. Nursing mothers are welcome to use the nursing mother's room as needed, located next to the sanctuary.

# What happens in class

Classes begin with a greeting and lighting of the Christ Candle. Each student is invited to share a response to a question relating to the theme of the lesson.

Next, we dive into the story of the week, followed by discussion. Discussion questions point to God's character, His rescue plan for the world, and the unending hope and love available to us because of Jesus. After the discussion, students participate in a short activity like acting out the story or a simple craft.

This fall, we are practicing prayers of Help, Thanks, and Wow! Classes close the prayer time in the Lord's Prayer, together.

After the worship service, children are offered a lollipop as part of the benediction, or blessing. When we hand them the lollipop we say "Peace be with you". The response is "And also with you"

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

child protection policies >>



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's the curriculum?

F.A.O.

Our lessons follow the big story of the Bible using content from Dwell, the Jesus Storybook Bible, and pastor created content.

## Is there an at-home connection?

Yes! Each week's scripture passage will be included in the all church email, the Friday prior to class, to give families a heads up about what your child will be learning. Families are encouraged to talk about the story at home by asking children to retell the story and something new they learned about God.

# 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 7551 35th Ave SW Seattle, WA 98126

Visit 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

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 2024/25** began October 1, 2024 with the intention this year to invest in becoming "a countercultural community of the well-rested" through experiencing rest and extending rest to others. You can learn more by using the QR code >> Our new budgeted average expense is \$44,000/month.

# Confirmation

#### What is confirmation?

Confirmation is a "rite" or practice of the church connected to baptism. In baptism, a person receives the Holy Spirit and becomes a member of the family of God. In confirmation, we pray for daily increase in the Holy Spirit, in the life of the baptized person, for Christian life in the service of Christ and his kingdom.

### Confirmation refers to the rite in which a baptized person:

Makes a public confession of faith in Jesus and commits to follow Jesus as Lord;

Receives a strengthening of grace through the laying on of hands, that the Holy Spirit may fill them more and more for ministry in Church and the world; and

Renews their baptism vows.

## **Strength for Perseverance**

Suffering is one of life's guarantees. Confirmation seeks to equip for that suffering in such a way that with Paul in Romans 5:3-5, we can "know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." Confirmation is about maturity that leads to perseverance through a deepening or strengthening of the Christian life.

## **Strength for Participation**

Confirmation is also about mission or vocation. In baptism, a person is sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever. In confirmation, a person is strengthened by the Holy Spirit for following Christ and serving God's kingdom. Scripture teaches that the Holy Spirit gives gifts for building up the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:7). Confirmation invokes the Holy Spirit's anointing and blessing on baptized persons for proclaiming the gospel in word and deed. In this regard, confirmation is similar to ordination. It marks a person for service in God's kingdom.

#### **Confirmation at All Souls**

Confirmation is being introduced into the life of All Souls through our Youth ministry beginning with 8th graders and up. We intend to offer a confirmation cohort every other year for youth. In the future, we hope to offer confirmation to adults who desire the gift of this strengthening rite in their perseverance and participation with God and His coming Kingdom.

#### How you can participate:

Pray for the fourteen youth beginning the confirmation journey, the sponsors (Sonya Luchauer, Kira Brown, Erik Bennett, Wenbo Wei, Tyler Ashby, and Jeff Case) who will companion them, and the leaders (Luke Crook, Suzanne Case, and R.J.) who will teach and facilitate retreats. Pray for youth, sponsors and leaders to know more deeply who God is and how God sees and loves us and the world; To reveal what community in Christ makes possible; To help identify personal ways we can work and serve in God's Kingdom; and To taste how meaningful life can be with the support of mentors and friends.

#### Cover Costs

Each family paid a fee for their youth to cover the cost of the retreat. We are hoping to raise funds through donation to cover the costs of materials and supplies (including a confirmation backpack for each confirmand with books and supplies), and to cover the retreat registration for each adult volunteer attending. The goal is to raise \$2500. Follow the QR code and select "Confirmation" from the drop-down menu to contribute.



All Souls of WHEAR	hat's something you - D during worship today?
Did you hear any words that were NEW to you?	Draw something that  Now IMAGINATION:
What's ONE question You'd want to ask Your parents or pastors?	Inspire
What's ONE question you'd want to ask GOD?	
GOD to be to you toda	PRAY:  Ask GOD to take care of everything your need. He always hears you, because He loves you!

# **All Souls**

Steve Simmons, *prayer + listening* 

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

PASTORAL HOSPITALITY

Rev. R.J. March, rector Elle Case
Rev. Kara Nichols Barrett, priest Ethan Faunce

Suzanne Case, pastor, community

Rt. Rev. Todd Hunter, bishop KIDS / YOUTH

Rt. Rev. Brian Wallace, *suff. bishop* 

VESTRY NURSERY

Anja Vander Hijde

Adam Aljets, treasurer

Corey Moraign

Jen Eckert OPERATIONS

Merrilee Thompson, *warden*Abby Hannifan

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Sonya Luchauer

WORSHIP + OFFICE LOCATION

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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