



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

December 26, 2021

First Sunday after Christmas

Our mission: Love like Jesus...

Welcome all, love all, grow in faith together, and seek justice for all.
"Just as I have loved you, you should love each other." – John 13:34

We, the members of Peace United Church of Christ, believe that we are called to be a congregation of grace and welcome to all of God's children:

- to celebrate every person as a child of God, created in God's image.
- to love all as God has first loved us.
- to acknowledge the presence of, and offer healing to the wounds of oppression, injustice, prejudice, and hate, and to stand with those who are left out.

Following Christ's example, we welcome and include everyone in all aspects of life, leadership, and ministry of the church. We affirm persons of all races, nationalities, sexual orientations, gender identities, family structures, physical or mental abilities, political stances, faith backgrounds and socio-economic status.

In the way of Jesus, we stand against acts of hate and violence in all their forms.

Therefore, we declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming Congregation, where an extravagant welcome and grace are extended to all, and each person's gifts are celebrated, welcomed, nurtured, and blessed, that all may be one. Amen.

Approved by Peace Church 10/20/2019

Our vision: "Peace Church exists to feed souls,
grow in God's extravagant love and
together serve all of God's children and creation."

WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude "Carol of the Bells Fantasy" Vandall

Greetings – Announcements – Prayer Requests

↑Hymn #201 "He is Born"

Gathering Our Hearts Before God – from Psalm 148

One: May the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens: Praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; Praise him all His host! Praise him, sun and moon; Praise him, all you shining stars! Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever.

Many: Praise the Lord from the earth all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth. Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

One: His glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him.

All: Praise the Lord!

The Call to Confession and Words Of Assurance

One: With humble spirits we offer our confession to you, O God:

Many: God of perfect rest, we have run busily from one activity to another, from one possession to another, and from one love to another. We want to be quiet, but we can't. We are distracted by the loud messages of the world calling us to buy and to sell, to build and to boast, and we look for a quiet place of rest. The noise of the traffic drowns out our dissatisfaction, and we move from day to day in a whirl of activity designed to climb the success ladder. We are tired and we need to rest. God of perfect rest, be our resting place, and let us sleep safe in Your arms.

One: Jesus loves us with an unconditional love that cuts through our pride and problems to the heart of our needy souls. His death and resurrection

provide forgiveness of sin, confidence for today and hope for the future.
Praise God for eternal rest.

↑Act of Praise #338

“King of Kings”

King of Kings and Lord of lords, glory, hallelujah!
King of Kings and Lord of lords, glory, hallelujah!
Jesus, Prince of Peace, glory, hallelujah!
Jesus, Prince of Peace, glory, hallelujah!

↑The Passing of the Peace

Peace be with you

And also with you

Epistle

[Colossians 3:12-17](#)

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Children’s Time - Please sing: “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know”

↑Hymn # 199

“Carol at the Manger”

Gospel

[Luke 2:41-52](#)

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Sermon

“God With Us”

Rev. Russ Knoth

Special Music

“Duet Fantasy on Joy to the World”

Vandall

Prayer of Dedication

Lord, as we offer our gifts in the spirit of the gift you gave to us -the babe born in Bethlehem- open our eyes that we may recognize the work of your Spirit among all people, everywhere. And should we walk in some things on separate ways, present before us the common goal towards which we travel on the road to Bethlehem: humbleness, friendship, reverence, and peace. Bless these gifts that they may help us spread your love in the world.

Pastoral Prayer – Lord’s Prayer

“Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

Benediction

Leader: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: We go with God's steadfast love before our eyes, God's faithfulness beneath our feet, God's justice burning in our souls. Amen!

Announcements

↑#188 Angels We Have Heard on High

Postlude

Lectionary for January 2: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 • Psalm 148 • Colossians 3:12-17 • Luke 2:41-52

SERVING TODAY

Visiting Minister: Rev. Russ Knoth
Organist: Sherry McElhatton
Musician: Karla Spaits

Litanist: Jerry O'Connor
Video: Jake Lemke
Audio: Joshua Spaits

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday – December 26 – January 1

Dec. 26 Anna Piittmann
Dec. 27 Scott Buss
Dec. 29 Damian Koch, Cathy Stern
Dec. 30 Taylor O'Brien-Flasch, Isabelle Vey
Dec. 31 Matthew Jankowski
Jan. 1 David Dorn

Happy Anniversary – December 26 – January 1

Dec. 29 Jean & Jeff Reigle (48)
Dec. 30 Matt & Rachel Schemelin (21)
Jan. 1 Martha & Dennis Wilson (8)

NEWS & NOTES

A Reminder To All Scholarship Recipients That Your First Semester Grades Are Due In The Church Office By February 1st.

Calendar for the Week of December 26, 2021

Pastor Eric and Robin Mock are out of the office the week of December 26th. The office will be covered by a volunteer on a limited basis. Please call ahead before stopping by.

Tuesday – NO Lectionary Group

Wednesday – XYZ Cards, NO 9th Grade Confirmation Class; NO Bible Study

Friday – Office Closed – New Year's Eve



Middle School Youth Group

Karla and Josh Spaits are leading the Middle School Youth Group with lots of fun activities and events! Spread the word, bring a friend, come!

DECEMBER

- **January 1st.**
- **January 8th - 5-8 pm Movie and Games**
- **January 15th - Tubing at Sunburst**
- **January 22nd TBD and January 29th TBD**

2022 Offering Envelopes are available in the **Narthex**. Please take them home. If we have inadvertently missed you, please call the church office and we will quickly correct our error. **DO NOT USE UNTIL 2022.** Please note that your envelope number might have changed from previous years!

All 2021 contributions must be in the church office on **December 30th** to be credited in 2021. Thank you.

Peace Church Kitchen Remodeling Project Update

For the last couple of years, there has been a committee that has been working diligently on a plan to remodel our church kitchen. We have met with many contractors to discuss our project and are in the process of getting pricing.

When the time comes to dismantle the kitchen, we would like to find a new home for the existing cabinets, stove, refrigerator, dishes, and cups. If you would like to bid on these items or know someone that does, please write your name and phone number on a piece of paper along with your bid and put it in an envelope. Drop this off at the church office. If you have any questions, the committee consists of Mary Billman, Kathy Mertz, Nancy Stoffel, Becky Manthei, Shirley Ogi, Clark Pearson, Pastor Eric, and Karen Kletti.

Peace Church's New Sign

Our Peace Church sign on First Street has been updated thanks to Mary Billman, Sandi Radeztsky, and John Kletti. The garden surrounding the sign has always been maintained and filled with beautiful plants thanks to Rachel Kluever. Rachel's family originally paid for the stone structure many years ago.

PRAYER LIST

Please let us know of any updates to the Prayer Lists

Those in Need of Healing: all shut-ins and those experiencing pain or loss

Members:

Rev. Bob Blackburn
Fran Charland
Dave Domasky
Betty Graff
Jon Herbst
Jackie McCurdy
Marilyn McIntosh
Dennis Novotny

Sharon Ostermann
Jason Piittmann
Lynn Rusch
John Schmahl
Mary Tessar
Greg Vorpahl
Bev Winninghoff
Connie Zemlicka

Friends & Family:

Ezekiel
Gene
Rose Ambler (B. Hallen)
Pat Jordan (B. Hallen)
Lorrie (H. Bruenn)
Jenna Butchlick
Julie (Breitbach)
Eric Covington (Fleury)
Howard Floeter (Lemke)
Klaine (Lemke)

Jason Lemke
Patricia Hohl
Debbie (Hallen)
Jeremy (Rodenkirch)
Alan Kuehl (J. Manthei)
Gerald Piittmann
Babette Rhoads
Josie Schoneman
Colin Volm

Those Dealing with Cancer:

Members: Betty Fleury, Laurie Struck, Carol Butzlaff, Dean Roe, Jim Roe, Joan Schleif, Heidi Rodenkirch, Sheri Rehn

Friends & Family:

David (Grundahl)
Betty (J. Michaels)
Kathy (Augustin)
Heidi (Manthei)
Henry (Meinberg)
Jean Cornell (Herriges)
Bonnie Erickson (Winninghoff)
Kerri Estep (Atwater)
Alan Floeter (Lemke)
Youdy Gaston (Thomas)

Nancy Gruebling (Kletti)
Paula Hader (Adler)
Brenda Jacklin (Piittmann)
Kathy Jarolimek (Henk)
Kathy (S. Augustin family)
Sheri Theep (Van Beek)
Sue Mitchell (Rhoads)
Dennis Liepert (J. Michaels)
Sandra Senn (P. Behr)
Susan Tolonen

Those in Hospice care and their families: Ruth Whyte

Those Serving our Country

Thank you to the following who are currently serving in the **Armed Forces**, for their courage, strength, and dedication to keeping us safe:

Julia (Leithold) Beasley (Air Force)

Sgt. Tyler Graff (Air Force – Betty Graff grandson)

Spencer Guenther (Air Force – Van Ess nephew)

Matthew Jankowski (Army National Guard – Jackie McCurdy grandson)

Luke Linden (Army National Guard – Joanne Amerling grandson)

Major Erik Rundquist (Army)

Maggie Singer (Army National Guard)

Dallas Stolowski (Marine Corp. – Knoth grandson)

Ryan Wunsch (Army National Guard – McElhatton son-in-law)

Samuel Zemlicka-Retzlaff (Air Force)

PEACE CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Us At: P. O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040

Church Office – Robin Mock 262-626-4011 - office@peace-ucc.org

Pastor Eric cell: 262-707-0758 - pastor@peace-ucc.org

Pastor Bob Blackburn, Visitation Minister (currently on medical leave)

Peace Church Prayer Chain - prayers@peace-ucc.org

On the web @ www.peace-ucc.org Find Peace on [Facebook](#) On YouTube at: [Peace UCC Kewaskum](#)