



**Peace United Church of Christ**  
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard  
May 22, 2022  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

*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

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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

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

***Welcome visitors! Please take a moment to complete a Guest Information card in the pew racks in front of you. Please place the completed card in the offering plate.***

***Prayer Requests\_- As we gather together as one family in Jesus Christ, we covenant to hold one another’s joys and concerns. Please share your prayers with us by writing them on the “Prayer Request” slip found in the pew in front of you and return them to the usher or place them in the offering plate. Thank you.***

***Visiting Minister: Rev. James Schleif served in the Navy and had a 28-year career in commercial nuclear power before pursuing a true sense of calling to ministry. He served as pastor at St. John’s UCC in Hartford and Slinger. Rev. Schleif currently serves at the UCCI (United Church Camps Inc.) Director of Ministry and Site Operations. (3/20, 4/24, 5/22)***

**\* Stand if you are able**

**PRELUDE**

“I Will Rise”

arr. Lorie Line

**GREETINGS - ANNOUNCEMENTS – PRAYER REQUESTS**

One: God of Grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. As we gather this day help us to hear the story of how you nurture each of us and then send us out with a witness for one another and the world. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN 248**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of Light”

**OPENING OUR HEARTS TO GOD – PSALM 67**

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

**Many: And also with you.**

One: We lift our hearts and voices offering praise with the words of the psalmist:

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

**Many: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

One: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

**Many: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

One: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

**Many: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere God.**

**CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS**

We confess the brokenness of our lives before one another and our God:

**Beloved Lord, you are persistent in inviting us to listen to your will for our lives, but we often fail to be bold enough to follow. You long for us to embrace the grace and peace that you offer, but we cling to the brokenness that we create and make familiar. You constantly reach out to us in connection, and we turn inward and away from your promise. God, how can we be created in your image and still be so flawed and fragile? We know the promises, we hear the assurances, but we struggle to live transformed lives. We sin against you in thought word and deed, by what we do and by what we leave undone. Forgive, renew us, empower us to claim your resurrection ways. Make your kingdom ways known to us as we pray *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.***

God invites us to be kingdom people and assures us that we are loved, forgiven, capable of sharing in God's will for the world. Sing praise to the God of mercy.  
**Amen**

**\*OUR RESPONSE** “Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le, lu-ja”

**\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Peace be with you

**And also with you**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** “Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”  
Arr. William Felton

**LESSON** [Acts 16:9-15](#) (Page 845)

**CHILDREN’S TIME** - As the children come forward, please sing Hymn # 437 “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know” vs. 1

**\*HYMN 602** “Who Is My Mother, Who is My Brother?”

**GOSPEL LESSON** [John 14:23-29](#) (Page 824)

## SERMON

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of great abundance, your love overwhelms us. Accept these gifts and bless their use to transform lives. Bless us as an offering of your love shared with the world. Amen.**

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### BENEDICTION

**One:** God of wonder, bless each of us and remind us daily that we belong to you. Send your Spirit upon us that we might know your presence as we live and trust in you.

**All:** **We go to carry your witness of love into our homes, into our lives, and into your creation. Alleluia and Amen.**

**\*HYMN 319** "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

### POSTLUDE

**Lectionary for May 29:** Acts 16:16-34 • Psalm 97 • Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 • John 17:20-26



The flowers on the altar today are memory of Edward Lehmann from his wife, Della.

**Serving Today:** Organist: Sherry McElhatton  
Litanist: Chris Rode Video: Jake Lemke Audio: Joshua Spaits

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## ***BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES***

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### **Happy Birthday May 22-28**

May 22 Margaret Schmahl, Kris Schmidt, Matthew Spoerl  
May 24 Don Neitzel (84), Cory Stern, Brandon Zolp  
May 25 Jeff Mielke, Alexia Polzin  
May 26 Russ Knoth  
May 27 Lori Becker, Jori Schmeling

## Happy Anniversary May 22-28

- May 22 Jen & Carl Eisen (7)  
May 24 Jack & Jennifer Chamberlain (24)  
Mark & Mary Steinhardt (42)  
May 26 Jim & Doreen Mohr (44)  
May 27 Cal & Sharon Rauch (50)
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## NEWS & NOTES

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### Calendar for the Week of May 22

- 5/22 Scholarship Cookie Sale at Sunday Fellowship  
All-Congregation Meeting following the 9:30 service  
5/24 Lectionary 10 a.m., Consistory meeting 6:30 p.m.  
5/25 XYZ Cards  
5/26 Grief Group 1 p.m.  
5/29 Only 1 worship service at 9:30 a.m.

**All Congregation Meeting – TODAY** – following the 9:30 a.m. service. There will be a discussion regarding improvements to the cemetery using Memorial Fund dollars that are designated for cemetery use, followed by a congregation vote.

**Sunday, May 29 Worship Service** – there will only be one worship service on Sunday, May 29, at 9:30 a.m. That service will be a worship of music. Please join us as we celebrate with the many musically talented members of Peace Church.



**Youth & Adult Habitat Trip** – The Youth Habitat trip scheduled for June 5 – June 11, 2022, has been changed to Youth and Adult trip. If you are interested in participating, email or call Karen Kletti (262-224-2212) or Peace Church.

**TODAY! Scholarship Cookie Sale** sponsored by the Scholarship Committee. This year the Peace Church Scholarship awarded scholarships to fourteen students. Thank you, Peace Church members, for supporting this wonderful program!



### **Middle School Youth Group Calendar**

Sunday, May 22 – Trampoline Park after church  
Friday, May 27 – End of semester cookout and yard games (5-8 p.m.)

**Peace UCC Grief Group** - Led by Chris Rode, this group meets the 2nd & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm in the Youth Room. For more information, please contact the Peace Church office.

**Peace Church Book Discussion Group** will be meeting on Wednesday, June 1, at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the book "The Dearly Beloved" by Cara Wall. Chris Rode will be the discussion leader. The group will not be meeting in July and August but will resume the first Wednesday in September. If anyone is interested in being a part of the group starting in September, please contact Lynn Rusch by e-mail ([lynnrusch@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnrusch@yahoo.com)) or phone (262-306-4025). Lynn needs to know as soon as possible so that enough books can be ordered from the library.

**Bulletin and The Tidings** - The Peace Church Sunday bulletin is printed on **Thursdays**. If there are any notices that you need in the bulletin, please email the church office at [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org). The deadline for the monthly Tidings newsletter is the **15<sup>th</sup> of each month**. Please direct those articles to the office as well.

**Thank you** to Kim Bocher, for training a group of 9 church members on how to use the AED unit. Thanks to the 9 members who were willing to learn this life-saving measure! The AED unit is located directly outside the choir loft door on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the church.

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## ***PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK***

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*Current prayers will be listed for one week unless otherwise indicated. Requests may be emailed to [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org) or by calling the office at 262-626-4011. You may also share your prayer requests by writing them on the "Prayer Request" slip found in the pew in front of you and return them to the usher or place them in the offering plate.*

**Prayers of Thanks** – to Josh and Karla Spaits for leading the youth group over the past year in many faith-based activities and community service projects. Thanks also to the members of the youth group for being such wonderful ambassadors of Peace Church!

**Prayers of Comfort** to the victims, the victims' families, and the police, first responders, medical doctors, and nurses who were impacted by the mass shootings in Buffalo and Milwaukee last weekend. May our witness of prayer and solidarity bring some

sense of comfort to their lives and may the God of all love and compassion provide solace and healing.



### **Contact Peace Church**

*Peace UCC - P. O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040*

*Church Office – Robin Mock, 262-626-4011 - [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org)*

*Sharon Stier, Interim Visitation Minister, 414-531-0837 - [sstier@outlook.com](mailto:ssstier@outlook.com)*

*Peace Church Prayer Chain - [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org)*

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