



**Peace United Church of Christ**  
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard  
September 11, 2022  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*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.***

**\* Stand if you are able**

**PRELUDE**

“Beach Spring”

arr. Lorie Line

**GREETINGS - ANNOUNCEMENTS – PRAYER REQUESTS**

**\*HYMN 436**

[“Grace Alone”](#)

One: Bring honor and glory to the Lord of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God.

**All: We bring to God a humble spirit, and a repentant heart. We come ready to learn and to share as we live our faith together.**

One: God we come before you affirming that we are each a vessel of your creation, blessed to overflowing with your witness. Open our hearts as we answer your ongoing call to discipleship.

**All: Help us seek out the lost parts of ourselves as well as the lost parts of our community. Support us as we pour out your love to even the smallest parts of your creation. Touch our hearts with your spirit as we worship and celebrate YOU!**

**Confessing with Psalm 14:1-7**

One: Gracious God, if we say we do not have sin the truth is not in us. We offer you our confession:

**All: Lord we often pursue our foolish ways instead of your ways. Even when we do good our egos often drift to our self-interest instead of God's pure offering. Have mercy on us. We turn to the words of the Psalmist:**

One: “Fools say in their hearts, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is no one who does good.

**All: The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God. They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse; there is no one who does good, no, not one.**

One: Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon the LORD?

**All: There they shall be in great terror, for God is with the company of the righteous.**

**You would confound the plans of the poor, but the LORD is their refuge. O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!”**

One: Each time we stumble, we fear for the truth tellers who would shine Your light on our ways and remind us of what we already know in our hearts. Forgive us our failings and let your truth set us free.

Grant us strength as we humbly 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.”**

One: “When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be celebrate.”

Rejoice for the Lord hears our prayers. We are sought out and made new through the gift of God’s grace.

**\* The Gloria Patri**

**“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

**↑The Passing of the Peace**

Peace be with you

**And also with you**

**Epistle**

[1 Timothy 1:12-17](#)

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**The Children’s Time-** As the children come forward, we sing 🎵 “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know” vs. 1

**Blessing of the Backpacks – please bring your backpacks forward to receive a blessing.**

Let us Pray: God of all knowledge and wisdom, these backpacks, students, and teachers remind us that another school year has begun. We pray your blessing on these backpacks:

**May the burdens in them be light. May your Holy Spirit watch over those who carry them, students young and old. And may that Spirit be at work with all those who seek to fill backpacks and students with knowledge and inspiration - teachers, staff, parents and community. Help all of us to discover and develop the gifts you have given us. As we grow in knowledge, help us to also grow in kindness and compassion, learning respect for ourselves and others.**

**Bless these backpacks as symbols of your blessings surrounding us with encouragement, support, and love. In the name of the great Teacher at whose knee we are all students, Amen.**

**9:30 only – Dedication of our Sunday School Teachers**

**\*Congregation: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist**

you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

Hymn 20

[“Like a Mighty River Flowing”](#)

OT Lesson

[Exodus 32:7-14](#)

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Gospel

[Luke 15:1-10](#)

(Page 798)

Sermon

“Choosing to Live with Grace”

Special Music

“Oh, How I Love Jesus” arr. Robert Vandall  
(piano duet – Sherry McElhatton & Karla Spaits)

### ↑Prayer of Dedication

God of all creation, remind us again that all of creation flows from you, everything that is, is yours. Through our gifts begin to refocus our hearts toward claiming and serving you first. Amen.

### Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer

### Prayer Response – “Hear Our Prayer, O’ Lord”

The image shows a musical score for the prayer response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, in - cline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. A - men." The music is a simple, hymn-like melody.

Used by Permission CCLI #1619690  
HEAR OUR PRAYER  
Irr.

WORDS: Psalm 143:1  
MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

### Benediction

One: May God give us light to guide us, courage to support us, and love to unite us, now and evermore.

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia and Amen.

\*Hymn 667

[“God has Spoken by the Prophets”](#)

### Postlude

**Lectionary for September 18:** Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 and Psalm 79:1-9 • Amos 8:4-7 and Psalm 113 • 1 Timothy 2:1-7 • Luke 16:1-13

**Serving Today:** Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Mia Dornacker Litanist: Jerry O’Connor, Audio: Josh Spaits Video: David Dorn & Kaitlyn Scannell



The flowers on the altar today are in honor of the Sunday School teachers.

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## ***BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES***

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### **Happy Birthday September 11 – September 17**

Sept 11 Valerie Vorpahl

Sept 13 Katie Pendowski

Sept 14 Knox Gitter, Kaylee Wiskirchen

Sept 16 Tracy Boettcher, Barbara Busch, Loran Butzlaff (83)

### **Happy Anniversary September 11 – September 17**

Sept 11 William & Carol Butzlaff (57), Dennis & Cheryl Novotny (57)

Sept 13 Marilyn & David McIntosh (64)

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## ***NEWS & NOTES***

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### **Calendar for the Week of September 11**

9/13 Lectionary 10 am, Consistory 6:30 pm, Men's choir practice 6 pm, Chancel 6:30 pm, Mitten Ministry-start up meeting 5:30 pm

9/14 XYZ Cards

9/15 The Tidings deadline - October

**Peace Church Mitten Ministry** – Heidi Rodenkirch will be available on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Mitten Ministry. There will be a 30 minutes meeting to exchange ideas, show where supplies are located in the church, and talk about the interest in a group knitting/crocheting session. All are welcome!

**Prayer Shawl Group** – will meet the first Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be on October 6<sup>th</sup>. The group will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the library.

**Peace Church Grief Group** will meet on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 in the Youth Room. All are welcome!

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes** – start on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. We will have an information session today at 11:00 in the youth room. Register for class with the church office at [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org) or 262-629-4011.

**Stained Glass Windows Available:** Our church has some old stained-glass windows from the doors that were replaced several years ago.

Would anyone have any interest in them? If so, please contact Karen Kletti 262-224-2212

**Band Together for Banned Books** – Peace Church will be starting a monthly “Banned Book Club” in January of 2023. Once a month we will meet to discuss classic and contemporary titles that have been banned by various school districts around the country. Titles such as “To Kill a Mockingbird”, “The Outsiders”, “The Hate U Give”, “Maus”, and many more. Dates and time TBD. If you have an interest in joining, please contact either Chris Rode at [rustypeaches1966@gmail.com](mailto:rustypeaches1966@gmail.com) or the church office at [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org). Watch the upcoming Tidings and bulletins for more information.

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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 for Healing:**

We pray for Nancy Krahn, who had surgery on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Prayers for Comfort:**

We pray for Scott Buss’ mother, who is in hospice.

### **Prayers of Celebration:**

We celebrate with Olivia and Beau Backhaus, on the birth of their daughter, Persephone Ann. Persephone was born on Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **Contact Peace Church**

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

*Pastor Eric cell: 262-707-0758 - [pastor@peace-ucc.org](mailto:pastor@peace-ucc.org)*

*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), Peace on [Facebook](#), YouTube at: [Peace UCC Kewaskum](#)*

## **Come Sing with Us!**

The Chancel Choir and men's choir will be starting rehearsals soon, and they need you! Music has always been an important part of the ministry of Peace Church, and we need you to help keep this program alive. All voices and singing abilities are welcome and encouraged to join us.



**Chancel choir rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, September 13th, at 6:30 pm in the choir room. Men's rehearsal will also start on the 13th at 6:00 pm, followed by the Chancel rehearsal.**

Choir practice is held weekly, usually for an hour. Depending on our numbers and availability, Chancel Choir will sing twice a month, and the Men's Choir will sing once a month.

Please consider singing with us.

There are a lot of nice voices in our congregation.  
Let's all come together to make beautiful music unto the Lord!

If you have any questions,  
please see Bill Stangl or text him at 262-483-0699.