



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday after Epiphany

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.”*

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.*

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

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

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

Intern Minister: Vikar Jacob Kröner, 262-626-4011

On the web @ www.peace-ucc.org, YouTube: Peace UCC Kewaskum

****Please stand***

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE “Thou Shalt Bring Them In” Handel

GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

*HYMN 655 “Come Away from Rush and Hurry”

Gathering Our Hearts Before God – Psalm 62:5-12

One: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the joy and mystery of Christ's birth be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

All: He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

One: On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

All: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

One: Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion;

All: In the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

One: Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

All: Once God has spoken; Twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.

The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

We humble ourselves before you precious Lord.

We offer our confessions, trusting in your promise and praying for the anointing of your grace.

Strong mother God, we gather at your feet knowing how tempting it is to follow our own paths and disregard your beckoning call. Gentle father God, we admit again that we have placed our own needs and desires above those of others. God of every name, we have been caught up in the tumult of life, busied with work and commitments, distracted by division and distress, focused on all that would draw us away from trusting in you. Help us to reorient our lives to your will. Guide us in placing those with whom we disagree, and even our enemies in the hollow of our hearts' prayers.

We confess before you and each other that we sin against you in thought, word and deed, by what we do and by what we leave undone. We don't love you with our whole heart; we don't love our neighbors as ourselves. We forget the power of humbling ourselves in You. Gather us again to yourself, forgive us, renew us, and lead us in your ways. We patiently 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's gracious Spirit reaches out to all. Let us rejoice for grace abounds, and through Christ we are forgiven.

***A RESPONSE OF HALLELUJA**

"Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le, lu-ja"

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

**The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you**

CHANCEL CHOIR “The Fruit of Love”

LESSON Ruth 3:1-2, 8-13 (Page 197)

The Children’s Time – As the children come forward,
please sing Hymn 437 “Jesus Loves Me” vs. 1

HYMN 347 “Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

LESSON Jonah 3:1- 4:1 (Page 708)

GOSPEL Mark 1:14-20 (Page 764)

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERTORY

***THE DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise God for all that love has done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**All: Beautiful Lord, gracious Savior, we open
our lives to Your spirit. We offer ourselves,
our labors, our love, all that we are, to You
and to Your world. Bless our gifts and
guide us as your servants. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

***HYMN 748** “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Karla Spaits, Mia
Dornacker; Video: David Dorn; Audio, Josh Spaits

Lectionary for January 28 - Deuteronomy 18:15-20 •
Psalm 111 • 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 • Mark 1:21-28

Happy Birthday Jan 21 – 27

1/21 Joanne Amerling
1/22 John Kletti
1/23 David Dorn
1/24 Shirley Miller
1/25 Andrew Charland, Kathy Krieser
1/26 Lorna Schwingle-Glass
1/27 Kyla Kivell

Calendar for the Week of January 21

1/21 9th grade confirmation 5:30-7:00pm
1/23 Lectionary 10 am,
1/24 XYZ Cards
1/25 Living the Question 10 am, Grief Group 1 pm

Altar Flowers – Peace Church, once again, needs sponsors for the altar flowers. The cost is \$20.00 per Sunday. Please contact Robin in the church office if you are interested. Thank you!

Youth Group Events – The Peace Church Youth Group will meet after the 2nd Sunday service in the youth room (2nd floor) on the following dates: January 28th, February 18th. All young people (grade 6 and up) and up are invited to attend!

Peace Church Scholarship - Reminder to all 2023-2024 Scholarship recipients: Your first semester grades need to be turned in to the church office no later than **Thursday, February 1, 2024**. You can mail your transcripts to Peace Church, P.O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040 or email them to office@peace-ucc.org. Any questions? Contact the church office at 262-626-4011.

Simple Soup Supper – will be held on Ash Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. A meal of soup and bread will be served. All are welcome! Please let Robin in the

church office know if you can bring soup and/or bread.
(office@peace-ucc.org or 262-626-4011)

Prayers of Healing

To a friend of Jackie McCurdy, who is receiving medical treatment for a benign cyst on his brain with potential surgery in the future.

For Jill Rhoads, and Kathy Thomas as they continue to seek healing for body and soul as they struggle with cancer.

Prayers of Comfort

To Janette Loomis and David Loomis and the family and friends of Edgar Loomis, who passed away peacefully on January 17th, 2024. A memorial service will be held in the spring.

Prayers of Celebration

To Jill and Paul Rhoads, on the birth of their grandson, Hudson Thomas Rhoads. Hudson's parents are Scott & Danielle.

To Emil & Sandi Radeztsky on the birth of their first great-grandchild, Molly. Molly's father is Emil & Sandi's grandson, Peter.

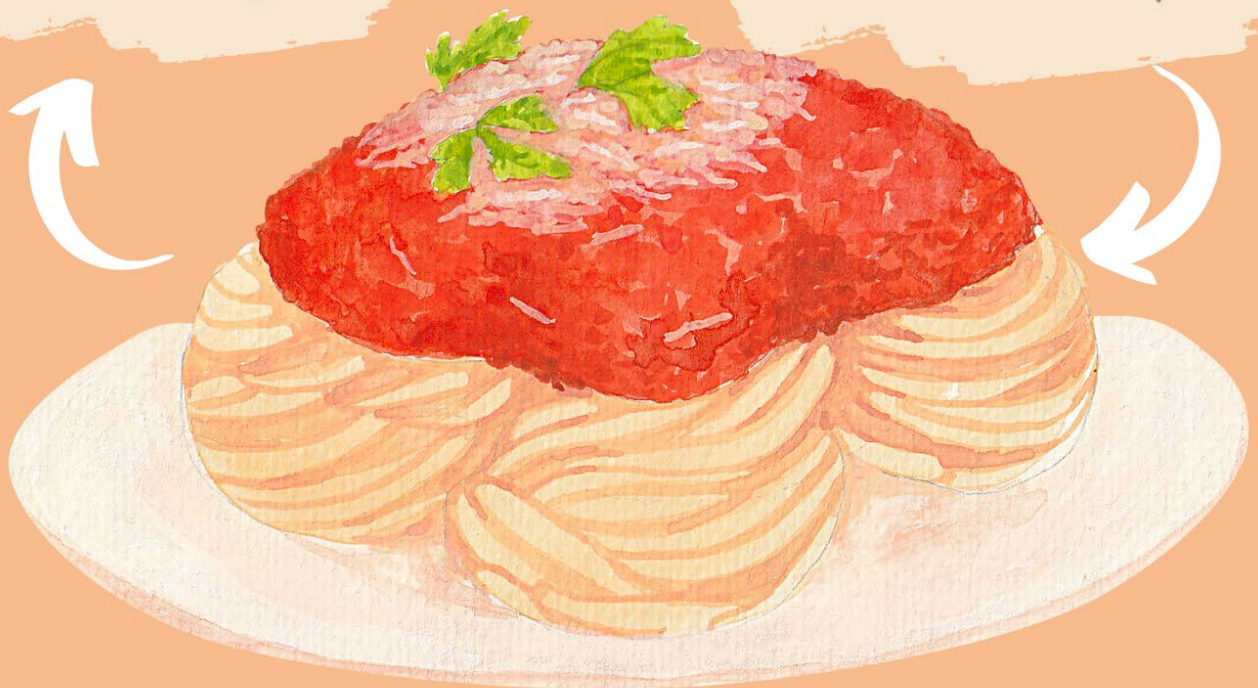
To Josh Spaits, as he became an uncle again. Josh's sister, Meghan Peterson gave birth to a baby girl, Briar Rose Peterson.

PEACE UCC

Community Meal

Free to All!

February 7th
4:30-6:00 pm



Spaghetti & Meatballs, Garlic
Bread, Green Salad, Beverage
and Desserts

320 Main Street, Kewaskum