



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
January 8, 2023
Baptism of Christ

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

Rev. Gregory Whelton is our visiting minister today. Rev. Whelton grew up in Michigan where he also served four churches before coming to St. John's UCC, Sheboygan. He helped raise his four children and shared his faith with the church and community for 31 years. He plays in the Delta-X band and rides his Harley and serves as an officer of Sheboygan Elk's Lodge #299. Thank you Rev. Whelton!

***Stand if you are able.**

WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude

Greetings – Prayer Requests – Announcement

8:00 a.m. service - Stewardship/Mission Moment

***Hymn 123** [“Fairest Lord Jesus”](#)

Turning our Hearts to God – Psalm 29

One: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Many: **Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

One: The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

Many: **The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

One: The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

Many: **He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

One: The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

Many: **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

One: The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, “Glory!” The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

Many: **May the LORD give strength to his people!**

All: ***May the LORD bless his people with peace!***

Confessing and Receiving Forgiveness

Leader: Please join in lifting up your voices as we confess our sins before God.

All: Merciful and beloved Savior, we confess that many times our own troubles overshadow the countless struggles of others. Too often we fail to humble ourselves and offer our time and talents to those who are in need. We easily get caught up in our own desires, our own ways, our own fears instead of opening ourselves to Your transforming love.

As we pray, we come to You in our brokenness. We long for Your baptismal waters of change. Anoint us and claim us again as your children. Remind us that we are created in Your image to be God carriers. To stand in for You, filled with the Holy Spirit, so that we might overflow into Your world.

We offer our prayers trusting in Your continual offer of grace and hope. We pray as Jesus taught us: “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.”

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe in the good news of the Lord

All: In Jesus Christ, we are always forgiven.

***Hymn 177** “Jesus, Name Above All Names”
 **Jesus, name above all names,
 beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord.
 Emmanuel, God is with us,
 Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

***The Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

Lesson [Matthew 3:13-17](#) (Page 739)

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

***Hymn 676** [“Come, Be Baptized”](#)

Old Testament Lesson [Isaiah 42:1-9](#) (Page 554)

Lesson [Acts 10:34-43](#) (Page 840)

Sermon "You know who He is, do you know who you are?"

***Prayer of Dedication**

Beloved Lord, our gifts are simple and only through you sufficient. Let our offerings remind us of your invitation to be a part of God's will in the world. Guide us in offering our whole selves to You. In Christ's light we pray: Amen.

Special Music "We Who Believe" Hanson

Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer

Response "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

9:30 a.m. service - Stewardship/Mission Moment

Benediction

One: And now may the glory and love of God surround you. May the peace and grace of Christ dwell deep within you. May the power and presence of the Holy Spirit uphold you. Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Many: **We go to love and to serve for we are the church!**

All: **Alleluia and Amen.**

***Hymn 231** ["Arise, Your Light Is Come"](#)

Postlude

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Lia Piittmann, Mia Dornacker, Litanist: Chris Rode, Audio: John Bliese, Video: David Dorn

Lectionary for January 15: Isaiah 49:1-7 • Psalm 40:1-11 • 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 • John 1:29-42

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday January 8 - 14

Jan 9 Todd Schmidt
Jan 11 Jade Brei, Xander Kivell
Jan 14 Karen Secor

Anniversaries January 8-14

January 13 Emil & Sandi Radeztsky (28)

NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of January 8, 2023

1/8 Sunday School 9:30 am, 9th Grade Confirmation 4-5:30 pm
1/10 Lectionary 10 am, Church Council 6:00 p.m.
1/11 XYZ Cards, Faith Formation Class 7-8:30 pm
1/12 Grief Group 1 pm

Peace Church Banned Book Group – will have their first discussion on Wednesday, January 18th at 1:30 p.m. in the church music room. The group will discuss the classic “To Kill a Mockingbird” by Harper Lee. Books are on reserve at the Kewaskum Library and can be picked up starting December 18th. If you are in need of assistance with obtaining a book, please contact the church office.

2023 Peace Church Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up TODAY in the parking lot lobby. If we have inadvertently missed you, please indicate that on the sheet provided and we will quickly correct our error.

Art/Craft Sale: Take a look at the tables near both entrances at church to find hand crafted items for sale! Items will change monthly, and proceeds will go towards a designated fund at church. If you are interested in being one of the 'vendors', talk to Karla Spaits, Nancy Stoffel, or Sandi Radeztsky. To date, \$644 have been collected.

Peace UCC on Local Cable – In the West Bend service area we are now on cable television. This week’s service will be broadcast on Monday afternoons at approximately 1:00 p.m. On Sunday mornings the prior week’s service will be broadcast in sequence with other area congregations at approximately 10:15 (it depends on the length of the services before us). This will be on Spectrum channel 987, and AT&T channel 99. Please let us know how this works for you.

Peace Church Community Meal –Our next Community Meal will take place on February 1st, and the first Wednesday of each month. The

next meal will be a spaghetti dinner. Our prayer is that we may gather with one another and with our community to break bread and share fellowship. Come all who are lonely, come all who are hungry, come all who wish to celebrate being together! All are welcome!! Please contact the church office if you have any questions or wish to help.

Peace Church Food Pantry located in the parking lot of Peace Church, has been very busy lately helping individuals and families in need in our community. Please consider purchasing food or personal hygiene items (toilet paper, kleenex, bars of soap, liquid hand soap) for the pantry. Frozen food items can be safely kept in the pantry during cold weather, which we monitor. We also will take cash donations and will purchase items for the pantry. Thank you!

Lost and Found – a Kindle was found in Fellowship Hall following our community meal on Wednesday, January 4th. Please call or email the office to identify and claim. 262-626-4011 or office@peace-ucc.org

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

Current prayers will be listed for one week unless otherwise indicated. Requests may be emailed to 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 Comfort:

We pray for the family and friends of Robert “Robbie” Thomas, who passed away unexpectedly on December 23, 2022. Robbie is grandson to the late Roland & Heidi Thomas, nephew to Kathy Thomas.