



**Peace United Church of Christ**

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

October 1, 2023

Eighteenth 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*

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](mailto:pastor@peace-ucc.org)  
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# WORSHIP SERVICE

## PRELUDE

## GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

**HYMN 696** "Come, Share the Lord"

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Watch and listen for the wonders of our God.

**All: Our God is among us.**

One: Watch and listen for the goodness of our God.

**All: Our God moves among us.**

One: Watch and listen, for God is here.

**All: Our God dwells among us...**

One: Dear friends, the Spirit of God gives life to the world!

**All: Life that never ends!**

One: Here and now Christ feeds the world!

**All: Plenty for all, enough for today.**

One: Come to the table of justice and love.

**All: No one will be turned away! No neighbor in need will go wanting!**

One: For we are all one family (English).

**Many: In all of our precious diversity, we are each made in the image of God.**

One: Somos todos una familia (Spanish).

**Many: We are all one family, all over the world. Rich and poor, hungry and over-fed.**

One: Wir sind alle eine Familie (German).

**Many: We are all one family hungry for a vision of a world where all are cherished as reflections of God.**

One: Let praise go up to God our Life!

**All: From every creature on God's good earth!**

## CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*(adapted from A New Zealand Prayer Book)*

One: Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**All:** We have sinned by building walls that divide the Body of Christ. We have sinned by claiming our differences as more important than our oneness.

Loving and all-seeing God, forgive us where we have failed to support one another. Forgive us for failing to be what we claim to be. Forgive us where we have failed to serve you; and where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to yours.

*(a time of silence)*

**One:** God forgives us, be at peace. Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is resurrection and reconciliation for the entire human race.

**All:** We shall all be one in Christ, one in our life together. Praise to God who has created us, praise to God who has accepted us, praise to God who sends us into the world.

A Response Of Hallelujah “Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le, lu-ja”

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you

**And also with you**

Salaam Alaykum

**Alaykum Salaam**

Please turn and greet one another with God’s peace saying, “Salaam Alaykum” (*sah-lahm ah-laay-kum, “Peace be with you” in Arabic, spoken in Sudanese UCC congregations*) and “Alaykum Salaam” (*“with you, peace also”*).

**LESSON** Exodus 17:1-7 (page 55)

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

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **GERMAN LITURGY (Preface Prayer)**

#737 Santo, Santo, Santo

*Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.*

*My heart is glad to say the words:*

*you are Holy, Lord!*

*Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora.  
Mi corazon te sabe decir: santo eres Senor.*

## **PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

(Words of Institution in German)

## **THE 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.”***

## **AGNUS DEI**

*Christe, du Lamm Gottes, der du trägst die Sünd der Welt, erbarm  
dich unser!*

*Christe, du Lamm Gottes, der du trägst die Sünd der Welt, erbarm  
dich unser!*

*Christe, du Lamm Gottes, der du trägst die Sünd der Welt,  
gib uns deinen Frieden!*

Translation:

Christ, lamb of God, you bear the sin of the world, have mercy on us!

Christ, lamb of God, you bear the sin of the world, have mercy on us!

Christ, lamb of God, you bear the sin of the world, give us your peace!

**CHANCEL CHOIR** “This Bread, This Cup”          Johnny Car

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (IN UNISON)**

**O God, in this simple meal you come to us  
again. You share yourself and your sustaining  
Spirit with our hungering souls. In the broken  
bread and the shared cup, the good news is  
proclaimed. Christ was born, Christ has died,  
Christ has risen, Christ will come again. Amen**

**HYMN 705**          “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

**GOSPEL**                  Matthew 21:23-32                  (page 755)

**LESSON**                  Philippians 2:1-13                  (page 894)

**SERMON**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “Let Us Break Bread Together”

**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**

**God of abundant love, with thanksgiving we return a portion of our gifts to you. God, we offer ourselves, our labors, our love, all that we are, to you and to your world. Bless our offerings and guide us in your service. Amen**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER**

## **BENEDICTION**

**One: 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!**

## **HYMN 698 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”**

## **POSTLUDE**

**Serving Today:** Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Video: David Dorn

**Today's Altar Flowers** are in honor of Jim & Joyce Meinberg's 68<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary from their children.

**Lectionary for October 8** - Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19 • Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15 • Philippians 3:4b-14 • Matthew 21:33-46

## **Happy Birthday Oct 1 - 7**

Oct 2 Gary Fisher (84), Fred Krieser,  
Howard Zemlicka (90)

Oct 4 Jennifer Scannell

Oct 5 Judy Christensen (80), Sherry McElhatton

Oct 6 Dane Piittmann

Oct 7 William Wiederanders (89)

## **Happy Anniversary Oct 1 - 7**

Oct 1 Jim & Joyce Meinberg (68)

Oct 2 Scott & Terry Buss (24)

Oct 7 Dale & Jennifer Scannell (23)

## **Calendar for the Week of October 1**

10/3 Lectionary 10 am,

10/4 XYZ Cards, Book Club 9:30 am,  
Community Meal 4:30 – 6 pm

10/5 Prayer Shawl Group – 1pm

**Community Meal** – The Peace Church Community Meal will start back up on Wednesday, October 4th from 4:30-6:00 p.m. with a cookout. The menu is chili & the fixin's, chicken noodle soup, cornbread, beverage & dessert. If you are interested in making a dessert, please contact the church office. Please join us! All are welcome!

**Keys Run/Walk** will take place on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Please be aware of the runners and walkers who will be on the street in front of the church starting at 11:00 a.m. that morning.

**Prayer Shawl Group** will meet on October 5th, the first Thursday of the month. We meet in the church library at 1 p.m. The group makes shawls for shut-ins and baptisms. We also make mittens for the Mitten Ministry. We welcome anyone interested in knitting and/or crocheting to join us. Please call Nancy Panzer (262-626-2817) if you want more information.

**The Peach Church Wednesday Morning Book Group** will be meeting on October 4 to discuss the book "The Forest of Vanishing Stars" by Kristin Harmel. The discussion starts at 9:30 a.m. in the music room across from the Peace Church office. All are welcome to attend the discussion. Please contact Lynn Rusch at [lynnrusch@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnrusch@yahoo.com) or 262-306-4025 for more information.

Future books include:

November 1: "The Yellow Bird Sings" by J. Rosner

December 6: "Women Talking" by Miriam Toews

**Peace Church Banned Book Group** – will meet on **Wednesday, October 18th at 1:30 p.m.** in the church music room. The group will discuss “All Boys Aren’t Blue” by George M. Johnson. Books are reserved at the Kewaskum Library and can be picked up starting September 15th. If you need assistance with obtaining a book, please contact the church office.

The Peace Church Banned Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month. Below is the schedule for the 2023 calendar:

October 18 - All Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson

November 15 - The Kite Runner by Kahlid Hosseini

December 20 - The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas

### **Prayers of Comfort**

To the family and friends of Nancy Hovland. Nancy passed away after a long illness on Saturday, September 23, 2023. A memorial service for Nancy will be held at Peace Church on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.

To Craig & Kendra Kinsey, on the passing of their newborn infant son, Valen Bruce Kinsey.

To the family and friends of Bob Dei, who passed away in his sleep last week.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** from Karen Grundahl for healing from successful surgery she had on September 12<sup>th</sup>.