

Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard October 30, 2022 Twenty-first 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.

Prelude

Greetings – Prayer Requests

*Hymn 531 "Rejoice in God's Saints"

The Prayer of Invocation

God of all creation, claim us again as your own. You are the God of hope and healing, vision and wholeness. As we journey into this day move our hearts to worship you with humility, move us to worship you with honest praise and thanksgiving!

Confessing and Receiving Forgiveness

We gather our hearts as we confess our brokenness.

All: God of our parents in faith, through the ages you called forth people – courageous, faithful, and steadfast. Forgive us when we disregard the witness of those who have gone before us. Our memories are dim. Our faith does not burn with a passion as that of those who offered their entire lives to you. Open us to the past and to the bold testimonies of faith in our world today. Connect us to the great cloud of witnesses so we may proclaim Christ's justice and compassion in our own time.

(silence for reflection)

For what we do, for what we fail to do, we ask your forgiveness, your guidance, your strength. Lead us beloved Christ that we might be faithful enough to live for you. Humbly 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 welcomes us, like a mother scooping up her lost children, like a father embracing his prodigal offspring. We are encouraged to learn from Christ's forgiveness, to offer it to ourselves and others again. In Christ Jesus, you are forgiven.

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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

May the peace of Christ be with you **And also with you**

Turning to God - Psalm 149

One: Praise the Lord! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the saints.

Many: Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion rejoice in their King. Let them praise his name with dancing, making music to him with tambourine and harp.

One: For the LORD takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with salvation. Let the saints rejoice in this honor and sing for joy on their beds.

Many: May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands,

One: to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron, to carry out the sentence written against them.

Many: This is the glory of all his saints. Praise the LORD.

The Children's Time- As the children come forward, we sing "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" vs. 1

Blessing of The Hats and Mittens Project

One: We gather to bless these gifts of our congregation's hands.

All: With love and prayers they have been carefully crafted.

One: We offer them to our brothers and sisters who are in need.

All: God, we ask that you bless these caps, mittens, and scarves. Bless them with warmth and the steadfastness of your Love. Bless them with the witness that we are all knit together as one family of your children. Grant that they may be received as

offerings of the light of faith and the hands of Christ.

Amen

†The Covenant of Reception of New Members (in unison)

Filled with joy, we the members of Peace Church welcome you anew into this community of faith. As disciples of Jesus Christ we pledge you our friendship and our prayers that together we may grow in lives of true faith and Christian service. May God confirm the covenant made here this day, and bless our ministry and witness to the risen Savior.

*Hymn 580 "We Are Called to Be God's People"

Gospel <u>Luke 19:1-10</u> (Page 802)

Sermon "What are You Looking At?"

Special Music "The River" by Jordan Feliz

†Prayer of Dedication

Call to us constantly, beloved Lord, and remind us of your goodness revealed to us in diverse peoples and experiences. As we raise our hands in offering help us to refocus our lives on what is right, and true, and just. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer – A Time of Remembrance:

One: At the rising of the sun and its going down,

All: we remember them.

One: At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,

All: we remember them.

One: At the opening of the buds and the rebirth of spring,

All: we remember them.

One: At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of

summer,

All: we remember them.

One: When we are lost and sick at heart,

All: we remember them.

One: When we have decisions that are difficult to make,

All: we remember them.

One: When we have achievements that are based on theirs,

All: we remember them.

All: As long as we live, they too will live, for they are now

a part of us, as we remember them.

One: In the silence we lift our joys, our hopes, and our

longings....Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayers. Amen

Concluding Blessing

Leader: May Christ, who makes saints of sinners, who has transformed those we remember today, raise and

strengthen you, that you may transform the world

All: Alleluia and Amen.

*Hymn "Go In Peace and Serve the Lord"

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

God is calling you today.

Go and tell Gospel news everywhere.

Go in peace and serve the Lord,

God is calling you today to bring truth and love to every nation.

Go in nation.

Postlude

Lectionary for November 6: Haggai 1:15b-2:9 and Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98 • Job 19:23-27a and Psalm 17:1-9

• 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 • Luke 20:27-38

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Lia Piittmann, Mia Dornacker Litanist: Jackie McCurdy Audio:

Josh Spaits Video: Kaitlyn Scannell

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday October 30 – November 5

Oct 30 Vance Reif

Oct 31 Wayne Kirst

Nov 1 Debra Stern, Nova Smith

Nov 2 Rachel Schemelin

Nov 4 Marlene Domasky (88)

Nov 5 Kathy Franke, Emma Klahn, Donna Ogi (94)

A very special Happy Birthday to Paul Reinders, who turns 100 on November 6th!!

NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of October 30

- 10/30 9th Grade Confirmation 4-5:30 pm
- 11/1 Lectionary 10 am, Men's choir practice 6 pm, Chancel 6:30 pm
- 11/2 XYZ Cards, Book Club 9:30 a.m.
- 11/3 Prayer Shawl 1 pm, Leadership Forward Area Meeting

<u>Art/Craft Sale:</u> 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.

Peace UCC on Local Cable – We are blessed to now be able to share our worship with the West Bend area through their community 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.

Food with Friends – Food with Friends – Remember the Dinner for Six (or Eight) that our congregation enjoyed before COVID? It is coming back a bit revamped as "Food with Friends". The premise will be basically the same – you can sign up to be a host or a guest. Everyone will bring a dish – appetizer, dessert, or veggie side dish. The host will provide the main entrée. We hope to have the first event this Fall. Watch for sign-up sheets to be coming soon!

Book Club - The Peace Church Book Group will be meeting Wednesday, November 3, at 9:30 a.m. The group will be discussing "The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Change the World" by Melinda Fench. For more information about the November 3 meeting, please contact Lynn Rusch at lynnrusch@yahoo.com or by calling 262-306-4025.

<u>Pancake Breakfast</u> – The Kitchen Remodel Committee will hold a Pancake Breakfast to celebrate the grand opening of the newly remodeled kitchen on Sunday, November 13th from 9:00 am – Noon. This will be a free-will offering.

Adult Faith Formation Group Please note the change of day. We will continue meeting on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays of the month from 7:00-8:30 pm. We will finish up the program that we had begun last year with Joan Chittister, OSB and a discussion of "The Ten Commandments: Laws of The Heart" We will continue exploring questions like:

- •Are the Ten Commandments antiquated and obsolete?
- •Do they have anything useful for us in the 21st century?
- •How did they come to be, and what was their original purpose?
- Have the 10 commandments evolved?

We will be picking up with the 8th Commandment. Anyone is welcome to join us to finish this series and then to be a part of what we choose to study next. Please contact Pastor Eric with any questions.

Welcome to our New Members!

A warm welcome to our new Peace Church members!

- ♥ Bill and Lori Hartmann
- ♥ Heidi Kedroske and her children, Molly, Miles, Marshall, and Malcolm
- ♥ Rose Gaskell
- ♥ Rocky Bubb
- ♥ Beverly Martel
- ♥ Chuck & Sandy Atwater

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 for Healing:

We pray for Dante Kummer, great nephew to Jamie and Jason Piittmann, who has been suffering from epileptic seizures.

Prayers of Comfort:

We continue to pray for Jinny Michaels as she continues her long journey with Hospice.

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@peaceucc.org

On the web @ <u>www.peace-ucc.org</u>, Peace on <u>Facebook</u>, YouTube at: Peace UCC <u>Kewaskum</u>

Job Opening at Peace Church - Peace Church is seeking to hire a person for part time weekly custodial and general cleaning duties immediately. This position will begin at up to 8 hours per week (interim period from now through approximately March 30, 2023) assisting the current church part-time custodian. Following this interim period, if the candidate selected for this position has a positive performance review with the Peace Church Personnel Committee, the position could grow to approx. 16-20 hours per week as this person would take over all the church custodial duties upon the springtime (approx.) retirement of the current custodian.

During this interim period of up to 8 hours per week, the specific duties of this new position will include all cleaning of the two church restrooms, kitchen (general cleaning only – specific kitchen cleaning will occur after each use by the responsible church members who are using the facility), Fellowship Hall and small vestibule area and steps between the women's restroom, kitchen, and Fellowship Hall.

This position requires a person who is self-motivated, can work on their own, maintain a work schedule and be flexible to various church needs. This person will also need to work in harmony with the existing part-time church custodian who will be maintaining the remainder of the church building outside of this position's responsibilities. This position at a minimum requires the part-time custodian to bend, reach, kneel, scrub (rest room floors, partitions, sinks/countertops – minimum of twice monthly), vacuum, mop, sweep, wipe down walls, cabinets, tables, etc. and to move tables & chairs (in Fellowship Hall) as needed to support cleaning duties. This position will require that the part time custodian use existing church cleaning agent that are being used by the current custodian.

The hours worked would be split between two cleaning days of Mondays and either Thursday or Friday. This would ensure that the areas of this position's responsibility get cleaned on Monday after the Sunday church services and again later in the week in preparation for the following Sunday services.

Additional hours may be required in the event of special church events (funeral, wedding, church dinner, etc.).

The employee will need to communicate with the Church Office Manager / Pastor / Personnel Committee regarding specific needs, concerns, issues, etc. as needed.

Part Time Custodian Hourly wage:

Remainder of 2022 - \$13.97

Beginning Jan 1, 2023 - \$14.67

Please submit application to the church office in person or by emailing office@peace-ucc.org

We are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses... The special people who have touched our lives form a chain of witnesses that stretches through the ages. The blessings and the burdens continue year after year, often blurring together in the movement of time... a moment, a year, a decade, a lifetime...

We take the time to hold all of those saints close to our hearts in the affirmation of a love that never ends.

And we offer special prayers for those who have joined the heavenly chorus in this last year:

Joy Brott Carol Sedgwick Marcus Frank Nancy Brodzeller Lucas Luther Sandy John Ginne Kettling Donna Schmidt Mike Schmidt Betty Skaug Ruth Whyte Michael Gerlach Anna Thill Jean Kochanski Louis Halderson Duane Fenrick Marian Krieser Howard Wetzel Jim Roe Brenda Hansen Mia Morrisette Barbara Rode Karl Rode Jessica Wray Jason Wray Rev. David Schwingle Denny Adelmann Christine Limperes Gerald "Jerry" Blackburn Jim Gardner Gary Short Jane Annette Barrett Bunny Scannell Aaron Baker Patty Reigle

and all those un-named whom we hold in our hearts...