



**Peace United Church of Christ**  
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard  
November 12, 2023  
Twenty-Fourth 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)*

*Church Office: Robin Mock, 262-626-4011 - [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org)*

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

*On the web @ [www.peace-ucc.org](http://www.peace-ucc.org), YouTube: Peace UCC Kewaskum*

***\*Please stand***

# WORSHIP SERVICE

## PRELUDE

## GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

**\*HYMN 342**      “Rejoice the Lord is King”

## BEING GATHERED TO GOD- Psalm 78:1-7

**One:** O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth

**All:** I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old – what we have heard and know, what our fathers have told us.

**One:** We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.

**All:** He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them.

**One:** Even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.

**All:** Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

## CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

**One:** Let us join in confessing our sins.

**All:** Gracious God, we confess how we don't honor and fully use the talents you give us. Some of the blessings you have bestowed upon us, we choose to ignore, intentionally deny, or hide. Instead of being a blessing to others, we bring glory only to ourselves. Fear of scarcity leads us to focus on our own survival while weariness and discouragement sap our energy and our faith. Forgive our unfaithfulness, our doubt, our fear, our timidity, and our self-serving ways.

**Forgive our broken promises, and the sin which separates us from you.**

One: God, our heavenly Creator, hears the prayers of all. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the way of Jesus Christ. Praise God for the gift of extravagant grace.

One: Together we pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: “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”**

\*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**

**LESSON** Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 (page 176)

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

**(9:30 service) The Sacrament of Baptism**

This morning we receive into the Christian family:

*Walter Matthew Sprinkman,  
son of Katelyn & Coltyn Sprinkman*

**\*All: We receive this child in Christ’s name as we have been received, promising to support him with constant love, wholesome example, Christian teaching and faithful prayer. We promise to his parents our friendship in Christ, gladly sharing in the burdens and joys of Christian nurture.**

**HYMN 680 “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”**

**GOSPEL** Matthew 25:1-13 (page 759)

**SERMON**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

## **BRINGING FORTH OUR OFFERINGS AND PLEDGES**

*You are invited to bring your offering and your pledge cards forward and place them in the bowl. If you need assistance, the ushers will be happy to help you. There are envelopes and extra pledge cards in the pews.*

### **\*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: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia and Amen.**

\***HYMN 574** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

### **POSTLUDE**

**Serving Today:** Musician: Karla Spaits; Video: David Dorn

**Today’s Altar Flowers** from Karen Grundahl, in memory of her sister, Kathy Quandt.

**Lectionary for November 19** - Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123 • Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12 • 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 • Matthew 25:14-30

### **Happy Birthday Nov 12 - 18**

Nov 12 Lia Piittmann, Kevin Stautz

Nov 13 Nancy Krahn

Nov 14 Becky Manthei

Nov 15 Haylie Herther

Nov 18 Sawyer Herther

## **Happy Anniversary Nov 12 – 18**

Nov 16 Brad & Jennifer Preder (27)

## **Calendar for the Week of November 12**

11/12 Commitment Sunday

9<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Class: 5:30 – 7 pm

Baptisms: Walter Matthew Sprinkman (9:30);

Roman & Victoria Reigle (11am)

11/14 Lectionary 10 am, Church Council 6 pm

11/15 XYZ Cards, Banned Book Club 1:30 pm

**Thank You!** Commitment Sunday, November 12, gives us the chance to thank God for all the incredible gifts God's given to us. Commitment Sunday worship gives us the chance to:

- respond gratefully to God's love by bringing our financial commitments to church and offering them to God;
- rejoice in the ways we've seen God at work in and through the life of Peace Church, its members and friends;
- enjoy a time of fellowship, cake and other treats in Fellowship Hall following worship.

**Young Adult Habitat trip** - is scheduled for January 1, 2024, to January 7, 2024. Any young adult is welcome to come along. They do not have to be members of our church. Pastor Eric and Sheri Rehn will be the chaperones. They will be going to Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The cost is \$200.00 per person for the week, and this includes staying at the Volunteer Lodge, breakfast, lunch, and dinners. Meals on the way there and back, and on our off day, are not included in the cost. If you or someone you know is interested in joining, please let Robin in the church office at 262-262-4011. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Eric at 262-707-0758 or Karen Kletti at 262-224-2212.

## **Prayers of Strength & Healing**

For Jill Rhoads, who is entering the next stage of her cancer journey, with radiation and chemotherapy at Froedtert Milwaukee for the next 5 weeks - every day except weekends.

To Sharon Seltrecht, mother to Beverly Martel, who has been hospitalized with ulcers.

## **Prayers of Celebration**

For the Sprinkman family on the baptism of Walter Matthew, son of Katelyn & Coltyn Sprinkman, grandson of Matthew and Heidi Leithold.

For the Reigle Family on the baptism of Roman & Victoria, children of Scott & Ashley Reigle, and grandchildren of Jeff & Jean Reigle.

## **Peace Church Food Pantry**

During this time that we are giving thanks and counting our blessings, the Peace Pantry is looking for your continued support in keeping our pantry stocked. Below are some suggestions of what you can bring to church to help those in need. All donations can be dropped off at church during the week when the office is open or on Sundays. Thank you!

### **Food Pantry Suggestions**

Boxed milk	Chef Boyardee (any kind)
Cooking oil	Butter
Coffee	Eggs
Canned tuna or chicken	Bread
Cake mixes and canned frosting	English muffins
Dish soap	Bagels
Toilet paper	Taco kits
Feminine hygiene products	Packaged lunchmeat
Diapers	Peanut butter and jelly
Shampoo	Soup
Body soap	Instant potatoes
Stove Top stuffing	Pancake mix
Cereal	Pancake syrup
Pop tarts	Fruit juice
Pickles	Granola bars
Mayonnaise	Applesauce
Stew in a can	Summer sausage
SpaghettiOs	



**Changes to the Tidings:** In order to save on postage and printing costs, starting with the December/January issue of the Tidings, it will be sent via email to everyone who has an email address on file with the church. If you do not have an email address, the Tidings will be mailed to you. There will be a few paper copies of the Tidings available at the front and back entrances of the church.



**Ecumenical  
Christmas  
Concert**

*Music of the Season*

Free-Will Offerings will be donated to  
The Kewaskum Food Pantry &  
West Bend Full Shelf Food Pantry.  
Or bring non-perishable food items for  
the Peace Pantry

**DECEMBER 10  
2:00 P.M.**

**PEACE UCC-KEWASKUM**