



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent

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

“Peace Church exists to feed souls,
grow in God's extravagant love and
together serve all of God's children and creation.”

WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude

Greeting

Lighting the Advent Candle –

One: Holy One, we light this candle, a flicker of starlight
cradled in a forever circle of green,
a sign of belonging, of growth,
of possibility, of awe and wonder.

**Many: May it be a reminder of your divine spark,
kindling new beginnings within us.
May hope be born among us.**

One: We wait in hope with all your people
through the ages and into tomorrow. **Amen**

Hymn # 165 “When God is a Child” – verse 1

Preparing Our Hearts For God

One: May the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

One: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

**All: May the promise of your coming in glory fill us with hope and
courage for our living.**

One: Advent begins anew - our journey to the Christ Child, His Mother and the
manger.

All: May we kindle God’s light together as we journey on.

One: We journey because we are drawn to God’s light - it is God’s promise,
borne into our lives.

All: May we kindle God’s light together as we journey on. Amen.

Prayer of Confession - adapted from Psalm 25:1-7

One: With humble spirits we offer our confession to you, O God:

All: To you, O Lord, we pray. Don't fail us Lord, for we are trusting you. Don't let us be drawn away from your ways. You encourage us to have faith and follow you, yet our limited vision causes us to be drawn down into doubt instead of lifted up into new ways of seeing. You call us to justice and compassion for all of creation, yet we stumble. We fail to look at everyone as our neighbor and to treat them as you would treat us. We fail to treat our world as a gift for which we are responsible. We have sinned against you in thought word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Show me the path where I should go, O Lord; point out the right road for me to walk. Lead me; teach me; for you are the God who gives me salvation. I have no hope except in you. Overlook my sins, O Lord! Look at me instead through eyes of mercy and forgiveness, through eyes of everlasting love and kindness.

Words Of Assurance - adapted from Psalm 25:8-10

One: The Lord is good, and glad to teach the proper path to all who go astray; he will teach the ways that are right and best to those who humbly turn to him. And when we obey him, every path he guides us on is fragrant with his loving-kindness and his truth. Through the love of God we are forgiven. Amen.

↑Act of Praise #177 "Jesus, Name Above All Names

↑The Passing of the Peace

Peace be with you

And also with you

OT Lesson [Jeremiah 33:14-16](#) (Page 609)

The Children's Time - Please hum or sing: "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" as the children come down to the front before being sent to Sunday School

↑Hymn #154 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Gospel [Luke 21:25-36](#) (Page 801)

Sermon "Longing for Hope"

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we bring these gifts as a sign of our love for you and one another. Prepare us to receive your spirit anew. Bless us with

**your presence as we give ourselves to you and to your people.
Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Our 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.”

Benediction

One: May the Lord make us increase and abound in love for one another and for all.

Many: **And may the Lord so strengthen our hearts in holiness that we may be blameless before our God at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. (1 Thessalonians 3:11-13)**

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Many: **We go to love and to serve for we are the Church. Alleluia and Amen!**

Announcements

↑Hymn # 153

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Postlude

Lectionary for December 5 – Second Sunday of Advent: Baruch 5:1-9 or Malachi 3:1-4 • Luke 1:68-79 • Philippians 1:3-11 • Luke 3:1-6

Today's Altar Flowers are in honor of Karen and John Grundahl's 50th Wedding Anniversary!

SERVING TODAY

Choir Director: Bill Stangl
Organist: Karla Spaits

Video: Jake Lemke
Audio: Joshua Spaits

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday – November 28 – December 4

Nov. 28 Ashlyn Thull
Nov. 29 Mason Vey
Dec. 1 Croix Kivell
Dec. 2 Jinny Michaels (93), Dan Rundquist
Dec. 3 Art Schmidt (84), Ralph Faisst (93)
Dec. 4 Steve Falk, Kathy Schreffler, Brian Weinreich

Happy Anniversary – November 28 – December 4

Dec. 1 Rosemarie & Clifford Maeder (69)

NEWS & NOTES

Kewaskum Cookie Hunt Peace Church will be participating in the Kewaskum Cookie Hunt on December 5th. We are looking for volunteers to frost and decorate cutout cookies for this event on **Sunday, November 28th (TODAY!)** following the 9:30 service. Adults and teens are invited! Lunch will be provided!

Connecting with Elderly and Shut-In Members of Peace Church

Thursday, December 2, 2021 Time 1:00 PM

Peace Church offers a lay visitation ministry program for members who are willing to visit one or more shut-in members on a once-monthly basis (in agreement with COVID protocol), and a vital phone call ministry for those who prefer to make phone calls. Groups meet quarterly (December 2 of 2021, and March 3 and June 2 of 2022) to discuss caring relationships and receive education on topics of interest.

If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities of service or would like to start contacting shut-in members, please attend on Thursday, December 2nd at 1:00 PM in Fellowship Hall at church, or notify the church office (262-626-4011) if you would like the Zoom or phone link. Please join us!!!

Thank you to John Kletti, Karen Kletti, Sandy Radeztsky, and Mary Billmann for all the work they did to get new signage in front of the church on 1st Street.

“Finding Hope” - Grief and Loss Support Group - 2nd Thursday of the Month –
next meeting is Dec. 9th - 1:00 – 2:00 pm in the Youth Room

We will be using a new book as our guide, entitled “Getting Through Grief: Eight Biblical Gifts for Living with Loss” printed in 2021, and written by Michael W. Newman, who draws on more than 30 years of pastoral ministry, assuring readers of God’s presence, love, and compassion.

Everyone is invited to attend, whether your loss is recent or happened years ago; whether you struggle with grief every day, are triggered by certain days, experiences, or “just because.” Together, we can encourage one another, call on God’s abundant compassion and grace, and assist one another in finding hope. Please call the church office (626-4011) to register.

Scholarship Committee Christmas Cookie, Coffee and Tea Sale

During fellowship time on December 12, there will be a Christmas Cookie Sale sponsored by the Scholarship Committee. Coffee and tea will also be available. Occasionally over the next few weeks during fellowship time between services, coffee and tea will be available for purchase. Thank you, Peace Church, for supporting this wonderful program!



Middle School Youth Group

Karla and Josh Spaits are leading the Middle School Youth Group with lots of fun activities and events! Spread the word, bring a friend, come!

- **November 28 (Sunday)** - Cookie Decorating at Church for Kewaskum Cookie Scavenger Hunt - After the second service
- **December 5 (Sunday)** - Kewaskum Christmas Parade and Cookie Scavenger Hunt Scavenger Hunt 1-4 pm; Christmas Parade: 5:00 p.m.
- **December 11th** - 5-8 pm Movie and Games
- **No Youth Group December 18th, 25th, or January 1st.**
- **January 8th** - 5-8pm Movie and Games
- **January 15th** - Tubing at Sunburst
- **January 22nd TBD and January 29th TBD**

Gingerbread House - Giving Tree

Every year Peace Church participates in the Gingerbread House Giving Tree. Last year, because of circumstances, Peace Church gave gift cards instead of purchasing presents for families. We will be doing that again this year. It is suggested to purchase a gift card (Target, Walmart, Amazon, Piggly Wiggly, Kohls, etc...) and either mail it to Peace Church at PO Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040 or

drop it in the offering plate or deliver it to the church office. We will collect the gift cards and deliver them to the Gingerbread House, which is part of The Youth and Family Project of Washington County. If you cannot get out to purchase a gift card, you may send a check to Peace Church and we will purchase the gift card for you. Please make sure you note that the donation is for the Gingerbread House program. The deadline is December 15, 2021. Last Christmas Peace Church donated a total of \$1,075 in gift cards that were given to the Giving Tree! Thank you all for participating in this very worthy program!

PRAYER LIST

Please let us know of any updates to the Prayer Lists

Those in Need of Healing: all shut-ins and those experiencing pain or loss

Members:

Rev. Bob Blackburn
Fran Charland
Dave Domasky
Jon Herbst
Mugs McFadden
Jackie McCurdy
Marilyn McIntosh
Dennis Novotny
Sharon Ostermann

Jason Piittmann
Lynn Rusch
John Schmahl
Michael Schmidt
Mary Tessar
Spencer Volm
Greg Vorpahl
Bev Winninghoff
Connie Zemlicka

Friends & Family:

Ezekiel
Gene
Lorrie (H. Bruenn)
Jenna Butchlick
Eric Covington (Fleury)
Howard Floeter (Lemke)
Klaine (Lemke)
Jason Lemke

Patricia Hohl
Debbie (Hallen)
Jeremy (Rodenkirch)
Alan Kuehl (J. Manthei)
Gerald Piittmann
Babette Rhoads
Josie Schoneman
Colin Volm

Those Dealing with Cancer:

Members: Betty Fleury, Laurie Struck, Carol Butzlaff, Dean Roe, Jim Roe, Joan Schleif, Heidi Rodenkirch, Sheri Rehn

Friends & Family:

David (Grundahl)

Betty (J. Michaels)

Kathy (Augustin)
Jean Cornell (Herriges)
Bonnie Erickson (Winninghoff)
Kerri Estep (Atwater)
Alan Floeter (Lemke)
Youdy Gaston (Thomas)
Nancy Gruebling (Kletti)
Paula Hader (Adler)
Brenda Jacklin (Piittmann)

Kathy Jarolimek (Henk)
Kathy (S. Augustin family)
Zannah & Kendra (Lindgren)
Sheri Theep (Van Beek)
Sue Mitchell (Rhoads)
Dennis Liepert (J. Michaels)
Sandra Senn (P. Behr)
Susan Tolonen

Those in Hospice care and their families: Ruth Whyte, Michael Schmidt

In Prayers of Comfort:

Ron John and the family and friends of Sandy John, who passed away on Thursday, November 18th.

Kandy and Roger Lindgren and family on the passing of Kandy's mother, Ginny Kettling, on Monday, November 22, 2021.

Those Serving our Country

Thank you to the following who are currently serving in the **Armed Forces**, for their courage, strength, and dedication to keeping us safe:

Julia (Leithold) Beasley (Air Force)
Sgt. Tyler Graff (Air Force – Betty Graff grandson)
Spencer Guenther (Air Force – Van Ess nephew)
Matthew Jankowski (Army National Guard – Jackie McCurdy grandson)
Luke Linden (Army National Guard – Joanne Amerling grandson)
Major Erik Rundquist (Army)
Maggie Singer (Army National Guard)
Dallas Stolowski (Marine Corp. – Knoth grandson)
Ryan Wunsch (Army National Guard – McElhatton son-in-law)
Samuel Zemlicka-Retzlaff (Air Force)

PEACE CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Us At: P. O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040

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

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

Pastor Bob Blackburn, Visitation Minister (920-279-0816)

Peace Church Prayer Chain - prayers@peace-ucc.org

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

Poinsettias

This year we again invite you to order a Christmas poinsettia through Peace Church. The plants will be identical in size and all of them red in color. They will be in 6 1/2 inch pots and come with foil wrap. Cost per plant will be \$17.00. These plants may be ordered in memory of loved ones, in honor of special moments or persons, or just love gifts. They will be placed in church on December 24th. After the service on December 25th you may take your plant home to enjoy.



Wouldn't you like to help beautify the church sanctuary with these traditional Christmas flowers? Please contact the church office 626-4011, email: office@peace-ucc.org, or mail: P. O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040 by November 29th. Plants must be paid for in advance. When ordering please indicate whether you will take your plant home or if you would like your plant taken to the sick, shut-in, or those unable to come to Church at Christmas. If you are willing to help deliver plants, please inform Robin in the church office. Thank you!

✂- - - - -

Christmas Poinsettia Order

Please order _____ Plant(s) for me:

Name _____

Amount of Check _____ (\$17.00 per plant – payable to Peace UCC)

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Other Designation _____

____ I will take my plant home

____ I would like my plant(s) delivered to those unable to come to Church on Christmas

____ I will help deliver plants