



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
December 4, 2022
The Second Sunday of Advent

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](#)

* Stand if you are able

Prelude 8:00 a.m. “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Vandall
Piano duet: Sherry McElhatton & Karla Spaits

Prelude 9:30 a.m. “Wachet Auf” Bach
Organ solo: Michael Surratt

Greetings – Prayer Requests

*Hymn 161 [“People, Look East”](#)

Preparing Our Hearts for God – inspired by Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 – worship ways

One: God of the waiting wanderers in the wilderness, we enter this moment of worship expecting that when we leave this hour of prayer, we will be full of the courage needed to stand as a sign of God's peace.

Many: **We come to the mountain to feel closer to your presence, O God. May the mountains yield prosperity for your people. May righteousness flourish and peace abound. You, alone, are the God who does wondrous things. May your glory fill this place as we worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.**

Confessing and Receiving Forgiveness – from Worship Ways

One: We gather together in this season of Advent anticipating hope, praying for peace, attempting to cultivate joy and share love. With humble spirits we offer our confession to you, O God:

Many: **God, we admit that we do not always stand as a examples of your righteousness. In the hustle and bustle of our lives, we have left little room to witness— to be your hands and feet in a world that needs us now more than ever. In the warm belly of comfort, many of us have relaxed in the layers of our privilege, Not attending to the needs of the least of these. Forgive us, O God. Give us the courage to stand tall, to follow in the footsteps of the one who came to secure justice for the poor, bring equity to the meek, and condemn the wicked with his lips. And on that day, we shall stand as a signal to the people.**

Humbly we pray with hope for the peace you taught: **“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.”**

Words of Assurance

One: Beloved, know that God's grace and mercy abound, and in God and Christ, we are forgiven. Let us live into this gift.
Amen.

***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

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Special Music "Come Emmanuel" Price/Besig
Church Choir

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation – *all God's children are welcome to receive communion with us regardless of denomination or creed. This is Christ's table where all are invited to come and share God's love.*

Prayer of Consecration

Response 737 "Santo, Santo, Santo"

**Holy, Holy, Holy, 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 Señor!**

Preparation of the Table

as Communion is distributed, please sing [hymn 697 "Eat This Bread"](#)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

OT Lesson [Isaiah 11:1-10](#) (Page 529)

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

Lighting the Advent Candle –

**We come claiming the hope with which God created us.
We come seeking a vision of peace that isn't merely
about victory, or quiet. We come to imagine the peace
that God encourages: a peace where all of creation is in**

harmony, where all of God's people are cherished. We come seeking a peace that is wrapped in love-that-knows-no-boundaries. We light this candle for peace.

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|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Hymn 165 | "When God is a Child" | vs 1 & 2 |
| Lesson | Romans 15:4-13 | (Page 867) |
| Gospel | Matthew 3:1-12 | (Page 738) |
| Sermon | "Preparing to Welcome Jesus" | |
| Special Music | What a Feast of Love | arr Dufner |
| Prayer of Dedication | | |

Gracious God, we bring these gifts as a sign of our love for you and one another. Bless us with your presence as we give ourselves to you and to your people. Amen.

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.**

Benediction

One: Let us go forth knowing that we are led by God, that we are held by God, that we are loved by God. Let us know that God empowers us as God holds and leads and loves us; And knowing all that, Let us stand as a sign that the glory of God dwells with us now and forever more. Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: **We go to love and to serve, for we are the church.
Alleluia and Amen!**

***Hymn 176** ["Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates"](#)

Postlude "Bright and Joyful is the Morn" Lorie Line

Lectionary for December 11: Isaiah 35:1-10 • Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55 • James 5:7-10 • Matthew 11:2-11

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Mia Dornacker, Lia Piittmann, Litanist: Jerry O'Connor
Guest Organist: Michael Surratt Audio: Josh Spaits Video: David Dorn

Guest Organist - **Michael Surratt** began his career as a church organist at the age of twelve in his native state of North Carolina. He graduated from High School at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance from Oberlin College, where he studied organ and harpsichord. He moved to Evanston, IL 1971 and has remained in the Chicago area since then. He received a Master of Music degree in

organ performance from Northwestern University, where he studied organ and improvisation. He has served as Director of Music and Organist at First Congregational Church of Wilmette (1971-73), Village Presbyterian Church of Northbrook (1974-79), Union Church of Hinsdale (1979-2011) and Organist at First United Church of Oak Park (2012-2022). Michael has been organ soloist with the Elmhurst, Evanston, DuPage and West Suburban Symphonies and with the Hinsdale Chamber Orchestra, all in the Chicago metropolitan area. He has taught at Elmhurst University and has played organ recitals in the Southeastern and Midwestern United States and in Europe. He has been active in many musical organizations including the American Guild of Organists, United Church of Christ Musicians Association and Handbell Musicians of America.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday December

- Dec 4 Ralph Faisst (94), Steve Falk, Kathy Schreffler
Dec 5 Betty Hallen (96), Kyle Henk
Dec 6 Carol Clark (93), Jeanne Wood (86)
Dec 7 Jeanne Becker
Dec 8 Matt Kivell, Lauren Krebs, Dennis Novotny
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NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of December 4

- 12/4 Choir Practice approx. 10:30 a.m.; 9th Grade Confirmation 4-5:30 pm
12/6 Lectionary 10 am
12/7 Book Club 9 am, XYZ Cards, Peace Pantry Community Meal 5-6:30 p.m., Adult Faith Formation 7-8:30 pm
12/8 Grief Group 1 pm
12/11 Scholarship Cookie/Coffee Sale, Children's Concert and EcuMen – 9:30 am service

Peace Church Choir for Christmas - the choir will be having rehearsals after church on Sundays for those in the congregation who would like to sing with us.

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. So far, the crafters have raised \$662!

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.

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 Ada, infant daughter of friends of Robin Mock, who is at Children's Hospital with RVS.

Prayers of Comfort:

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

Free Community Meal at Peace Church – The Peace Pantry Committee will be starting up a free Community Meal on the first Wednesday of each month. The first one will be this **Wednesday, December 7, 2022, from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.** Our goal is to build our community within the church as well as the greater community. If you would like to volunteer to help with the meal and /or serving, please contact Robin at the church office – 262-626-4011 or office@peace-ucc.org

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**Peace UCC
Community Meal
FREE for ALL!**



**Wednesday December 7, 2022
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Grilled Cheese Sandwiches
Tomato Soup • Chicken Noodle Soup
Dessert and Beverage**

**Peace UCC
320 Main Street, Kewaskum, WI**

The Giving Tree

Helping Those
in Need



Gingerbread House - Giving Tree

Every year Peace Church participates in the Gingerbread House Giving Tree. Once again, Peace Church will be giving gift cards instead of purchasing presents

for families. 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 in the offering plate or deliver 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, 2022.** Last Christmas Peace Church donated a total of \$1,315 in gift cards that were given to the Giving Tree! Thank you all for participating in this very worthy program!