



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

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](#)

Rev. Gregory Whelton is our visiting minister today. Rev. Whelton grew up in Michigan where he also served four churches before coming to St. John's UCC, Sheboygan. He helped raise his four children and shared his faith with the church and community for 31 years. He plays in the Delta-X band and rides his Harley and serves as an officer of Sheboygan Elk's Lodge #299. Thank you Rev. Whelton!

WORSHIP SERVICE

**Stand if you are able.*

PRELUDE *Peace Like a River, Kum Ba Yah* Shafferman

Greetings – Prayer Requests – Announcement

9:30 a.m. service - Stewardship/Mission Moment

***HYMN 561** [*Christ for the World! We Sing*](#)

TURNING OUR HEARTS TO GOD - from Psalm 119:1-8

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

All: **And also with you.**

One: Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

All: **Happy are those who keep God's decrees, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.**

One: You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

All: **O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!**

One: Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

All: **I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.**

All: **I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.**

CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

One: We reach deep within our hearts and offer our confession to you, O God. We pray:

All: **God of gentle mercy, we confess before you and each other that we have been unfaithful to you. We are easily tempted by the values and ways of our world. We quickly fill our souls**

with the stuff and noise that we think will sustain us. We are continually slow to say no to the world; to empty ourselves that we might say Yes to you and be truly filled. Beloved Lord, we sin against you in thought, word and deed, by what we do and by what we leave undone. Forgive us, renew us, and strengthen us, that each day we may more fully become Your holy people. 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."

One: God hears our plea. God's love reaches out to us. God's promise is forgiveness for all who turn their hearts toward God and ask. Through the love of our Lord Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Christ has offered us life and new life. Feel his touch and walk in his light anew. Amen.

***HYMN 338**

King of Kings

King of kings and Lord of lords, glory, hallelujah! (2x)

Jesus, Prince of Peace, glory, hallelujah! (2x)

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

LESSON

[1 Corinthians 3:1-9](#)

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THE CHILDREN'S TIME - As the children come forward, sing Hymn 437 "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" vs.1

HYMN 587 [*Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*](#)

LESSON

[Deuteronomy 30:15-20](#)

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GOSPEL

[Matthew 5:21-37](#)

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SERMON

Rev. Greg Whelton

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Gift of Love

Hopson

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Beloved Lord, you have blessed us in so many ways. Our gifts to you are simple efforts to reflect your love. Our offerings remind us of the invitation to share your glory with all the world. Guide us in offering our whole selves to you. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

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

8:00 a.m. service - Stewardship/Mission Moment

*HYMN

Go Make Disciples

**Go, make disciples, baptizing them, teaching them.
Go, make disciples, for I am with you 'til the end of time.
Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light of the world.
Go, be a city on a hill so all can see that you're serving me.
Go, make disciples.**

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Lia Piittmann, Mia Dornacker, **Litanist:** Chris Rode, **Audio:** John Bliese, **Video:** David Dorn, **Ushers/Greeters:** Jerry & Kathy Shoemaker, Sheri Rehn, Becky Manthei, Kathy Charland

Lectionary for February 19: Exodus 24:12-18 • Psalm 2 or Psalm 99 • 2 Peter 1:16-21 • Matthew 17:1-9

Happy Birthday February 12 - 18

Feb 14 Alexander Charland, Miles Kedroske
Feb 16 Owen Horning, Judy Lehmann
Feb 17 Joe Billmann (82), Aidan Polzin
Feb 18 Brianna Taylor

NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of February 12, 2023

- 2/7-2/16 Pastor Eric will be out of the office. Please contact the church office – 262-626-4011 or Sharon Stier 414-531-0837 in case of an emergency.
- 2/12 Sunday School 9:30 am, 9th Grade Confirmation 4-5:30 pm
- 2/14 Lectionary 10 am, Church Council 6 pm
- 2/15 XYZ Cards, Banned Book Club 1:30 pm, Deadline for The Tidings

Upcoming Events to put on your Calendar

- Ash Wednesday: 2/22/2023 Simple Soup Supper 5:30;
Holden Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.
- Confirmation Retreat: 2/24/-2/26/2023
- Holden Prayer Services: Wednesdays 2/22 thru 3/29–7:00 pm
- Peace Church Community Meal: 3/1/2023 4:30-6:30 pm

Peace Church Banned Book Group – will meet on Wednesday, February 15th at 1:30 p.m. in the church music room. The group will discuss Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye". Books are on reserve at the Kewaskum Library and can be picked up starting January 15th. If you need assistance with obtaining a book, please contact the church office.

Peace Church Community Meal –Our next Community Meal will take place on March 1st, and the first Wednesday of each month. **The next meal will be a Meatloaf and Mashed Potato Dinner. All are welcome!!** Please contact the church office if you have any questions or wish to help. We are always looking for volunteers and desserts!

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.

Peace Church Food Pantry located in the parking lot of Peace Church, has been very busy lately helping individuals and families in need in our community. Please consider purchasing food or personal hygiene items (toilet paper, kleenex, bars of soap, liquid hand soap) for the pantry. Frozen food items can be safely kept in the pantry during cold weather, which we monitor. We also will take cash donations and will purchase items for the pantry. Thank you!

Model Railroading is Fun! In November 2022, the Middle High Youth Group travelled to Germantown to run trains on my model railroad. I wonder if there might be a few adults that would like to do the same? On Saturday, March 4, starting about 10:00, I will host an operating session for those adults (male or female) that are interested in discovering the joy of model railroading. We will run trains until about noon, then take a lunch break and come back in the afternoon to run so more. For more information and directions to our home, contact **Russ Knoth** (262-832-4083). No experience is necessary, just a willingness to have fun.

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 of Healing:

For David Domasky, who has been hospitalized at Froedtert West Bend Health Center.