

Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard Vikar Jakob Kröner February 18, 2024 First Sunday in Lent 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
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WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE "Fountain in the Rain" Gillock

GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

HYMN 252 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

GATHERING OUR HEARTS BEFORE GOD-Psalm 25:1-10

One: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

All: O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me.

One: Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.

All: Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day.

One: Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your loving kindnesses, for they are from of old.

All: Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

One: Good and upright is the LORD; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

All: The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way.

All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon
We reach deep within our hearts and offer our
confession to you, O God:

Mothering God, you birthed all of creation and blessed it with your grace only to have

humanity disregard your ways. Fathering God, you have repeatedly sought to guide us and recreate our covenant with you, and yet we stubbornly seek only our own ways. Beloved God, you invite us sow seeds of your love and grace into all of creation, to turn our lives around and embrace your kingdom ways, and yet we close our ears and our hearts and pursue only our own ways.

Most merciful God, we confess that we sin against you in thought, word, and deed by what we do and by what we leave undone. We do not love you with our whole heart. We do not love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us and strengthen us that we may turn back to you. Humbly we pray...

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Together 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."

*Kyrie Eleison "Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us"

(During Lent we sing Kyrie Eleison as a reminder of our need for God's mercy and the promise of God's gift of love and forgiveness.)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

God is with us. God's love reaches out to us. God's promise is forgiveness for all who turn their hearts and seek God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHANCEL CHOIR

"Lord, My God, a Wonder Fills My Heart and Soul" Mozart

LESSON Genesis 9:8-17 (page 6)

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

HYMN 254 "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

GOSPEL Mark 1:9-15 (page 764)

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC "Deep River" Felton

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 DEDICATON

Beloved Lord, our gifts are simple and only through you sufficient. Let our offerings remind us of your invitation to be a part of God's will in the world. Guide us in offering our whole selves to You. In Christ's light we pray, Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: We go with God's steadfast love before our eyes, God's faithfulness beneath our feet, God's justice burning in our souls. Amen!

HYMN "Dona Nobis Pacem"







Latin pronunciation: Dō-na nō-bēs pa-chēm (Give us peace)

Text: Traditional Music: Traditional

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DONA NOBIS PACEM irregular

POSTLUDE

<u>Serving Today:</u> Musicians: Sherry McElhatton; Video: David Dorn

<u>Today's Altar Flowers</u> are from Cheryl Ammel in memory of Kathy Thomas and her years of dedication to the Peace Church Choir.

Lectionary for February 25 - Genesis 9:8-17 • Psalm 25:1-10 • 1 Peter 3:18-22 • Mark 1:9-15

Happy Birthday Feb 18 - 24

Feb 18 Brianna Taylor

Feb 20 Kathy Charland, Cole Loser, Mike McElhatton, Lily Van Beek

Feb 24 Barbara Westra (83)

Calendar for the Week of February 18

2/18 Confirmation 5:30 pm

2/20 Lectionary 10 am, Adult Faith Formation 7pm

2/21 XYZ Cards, Banned Book Club 1:30 pm Holden Prayer 7 pm

2/22 Living the Question 10 am, Grief Group – 1pm

<u>All-Congregation Meeting</u> – Sunday, March 3, 2024, immediately following the 9:30 service. This meeting is to approve the calling of Vikar Jakob to fulfill the half time Associate Pastor position.

Upcoming Peace Church Habitat for Humanity trips:



Each year we are given many different opportunities to share in God's ministry with our hands and hearts. For many of us working with Habitat is one of the highlights of our year. It always feels so good to live our faith, to help someone, to

accomplish something lasting and meaningful, and to share in great fellowship, worship, and study with some real terrific people.

- Intergenerational Habitat Trip June 9-14-Red Wing, MN
 Cost per person: \$75.00 Sign up on the sheet on the
 bulletin board near the parking lot entrance.
- Young Adult Habitat Trip: January 3-11, Winston-Salem, NC

Prayers of the Family of God

Prayers of comfort to the family and friends of Jill Rhoads. Jill was welcomed into God's arms in the early morning hours of February 13th. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, February 29th. Visitation from 2 – 5 pm, service at 5 pm, followed by dinner in Fellowship Hall.

Prayers of continued healing to Joe Billmann, who suffered a brain bleed after falling last week. Joe has been transferred to Sacred Heart Rehab Center in Mequon.

Prayers of healing to Harvey Brodzeller, who is now resting at home following a hospital stay at Froedtert West Bend after complications from an infection in his colon.

Prayers of healing to Jackie McCurdy who is recovering from breaking her kneecap.

Prayers of healing to Lorna Schwingle-Glass, who was hospitalized last week, but is now recovering at home.

Prayers of healing to Kathy Mertz, who had hip replacement surgery on Friday, February 16th.

Prayers of comfort to Don Neitzel's brother-in-law, Del Beaver. Del, who lives in Grand Junction, Colorado, has severe heart blockage and is in failing health.

Prayers of comfort to Nancy Panzer and her family on the death of Nancy's brother, Douglas Junghans. Douglas passed away on Sunday, February 11th in California.

Prayers of healing to Dean Roe, who was recently hospitalized with pneumonia.



The 4 Old Broads are Back with some wacky new friends, in an all-new comedy presented by Spotlight Productions. February 29, March 1-3, 2024. Thurs, Fri & Sat 7:30 pm - Sunday 1:30 pm.

UWM-Washington County, Theatre on the Hill – 400 University Drive, West Bend. Tickets available at wbspotlight.com \$20 all seats|\$12.00 seniors & students. Also sold at Westbury Bank-downtown location & at the door.

Easy Online Giving! Just click on the QR Code and follow the couple of steps to electronically give to a number of Peace Church funds.

