



**Peace United Church of Christ**

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard - Pastor

Jakob Kröner - Vikar

February 25, 2024

Second 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](mailto:pastor@peace-ucc.org)  
Church Office: Robin Mock, 262-626-4011 - [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org)  
On the web @ [www.peace-ucc.org](http://www.peace-ucc.org), Peace on Facebook, YouTube at: Peace UCC Kewaskum

# WORSHIP SERVICE

## PRELUDE

## GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

**HYMN 502** "Be Thou My Vision"

## TURNING OUR HEARTS TO GOD -Psalm 22:23-31

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

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Praise the Lord, all you who fear him! Honor him, all you descendants of Jacob! Show him reverence, all you descendants of Israel!

**Many: For he has not ignored or belittled the suffering of the needy. He has not turned his back on them, but has listened to their cries for help.**

One: I will praise you in the great assembly. I will fulfill my vows in the presence of those who worship you.

**Many: The poor will eat and be satisfied. All who seek the Lord will praise him. Their hearts will rejoice with everlasting joy. The whole earth will acknowledge the Lord and return to him. All the families of the nations will bow down before him.**

One: For royal power belongs to the Lord. He rules all the nations. Let the rich of the earth feast and worship. Bow before him, all who are mortal, all whose lives will end as dust.

**Many: Our children will also serve him. Future generations will hear about the wonders of the Lord. His righteous acts will be told to those not yet born. They will hear about everything he has done.**

## CONFESSING

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination:*

Together we pray: **O God who calls us constantly to follow, we confess before you and each other that we have been unfaithful to you. We have not listened with our hearts. We have not truly believed and trusted with our souls. Gracious God, we yearn to be continually reborn into your love and promise, and yet we falter, creating barriers between ourselves and you and all of creation. God 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.”**

**\*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.**

## **RECEIVING FORGIVENESS**

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.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you**

**LESSON**

Romans 4:13-25

(page 866)

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

**HYMN 344** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

**LESSON** Mark 8 :31-38 (page 771)

**SERMON** "Knock it off, you've got one job: follow God"

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**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**

**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 to love and to serve for we are the church. Amen and Amen.

**HYMN "Dona Nobis Pacem"**

*Canon*

Do-na no-bis pa - cem, pa-cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa-cem. Do-na no-bis pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa-cem. Do-na no-bis pa - cem.

*Latin pronunciation: Dō-nā nō-bēs pā-chēm (Give us peace)*

Text: Traditional  
Music: Traditional

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DONA NOBIS PACEM  
irregular

## **POSTLUDE**

**Serving Today:** Musicians: Karla Spaits; Video: Katelyn Scannell. Audio: Joshua Spaits

**Today's Altar Flowers** are from Wayne Kirst in memory of his wife, Karen. The flowers next to the altar are from Shirley Ogi, in memory of Mitchell Ogi.

**Lectionary for March 3** - Exodus 20:1-17 • Psalm 19 • 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 • John 2:13-22

### **Happy Birthday Feb 25 – March 2**

Feb 26 Marshall Kedroske, Malcolm Kedroske

Feb 28 Scott Stern

Mar 1 Jessica Klahn

Mar 2 Madilynn Jacobs, Gloria Liepert (93),  
Judy Nonhof (87)

### **Happy Anniversary Feb 25 – March 2**

Feb 28 Jeffrey & Julann Retzlaff (37)

### **Calendar for the Week of February 25**

2/25 Confirmation 5:30-8:00 pm

2/26 Stewardship Mtg 5:30pm

2/27 Lectionary 10 am

2/28 XYZ Cards, Holden Evening Prayer 7 pm

**All-Congregation Meeting/Call Sunday** – Sunday, March 3, 2024, immediately following the 9:30. One year ago the congregation welcomed Vikar Jakob among us to serve as an exchange pastor for the year. During that time, Vikar Jakob has discerned God calling him to remain in the United States and to pursue ordination within the United Church of Christ. Our congregation has recommended him to the Wider Church to continue in that process. At the same time, the church council has celebrated the opportunity to hire Vikar Jakob half-time to fill our budgeted Associate Pastor position.

This is a Called ministry position. Within the UCC the congregation participates in the call process with a Call Sunday. Vikar Jakob will be preaching that Sunday, followed by the opportunity for the congregation to affirm his call to ministry as our half-time associate pastor for the next year. Please come and be a part of this journey of discernment and affirmation.

**Easter Flowers** - We will not be having an Easter flower sale but will order some spring flower plants to decorate the sanctuary. Please consider donating towards the cost of the plants by sending a check to Peace Church re: Easter Flowers. Thank you!

**Thank you** to the anonymous donor who donated \$500 towards a Kitchen Aid mixer, attachments, and other miscellaneous items for the kitchen!

### **Wednesday Midweek Lenten Worship**

**7:00 p.m. February 28, March 6, 13, 20** We will gather each week with the musical vespers setting: Holden Evening Prayers with reflections led by this year's 9<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation Class

**At noon each week**, we will gather with other churches from the West Bend area to journey together in Lent. Each week a different congregation will host, and a different preacher will share the message.

*February 28, 2024 - Our Saviors Lutheran Church 1044 S. Silverbrook Dr, West Bend*

*March 6, 2023 - Holy Angels Catholic Church 126 N. 8th Ave, West Bend*

*March 13, 2023 - Trinity Lutheran Church 140 N. 7th Ave, West Bend*

*March 20, 2023 - Fifth Avenue Methodist Church 323 S. 5th Ave, West Bend*

**Thank you** to Joyce Meinberg, who recently retired from Peace Church as the costume maker. Over the years Joyce has made many costumes for Pastor Eric and for the Children's Christmas Program. If you would like to take over this role, please let Robin in the church office know.

### **Prayers of the Family of God**

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

Prayers of healing to Kathy Mertz, as she continues to recover at home from her recent hip replacement surgery.

Prayers of healing to Marilyn McIntosh who is dealing with cardiac issues.

**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. Our own Sherry McElhatton is one of the 4!

UWM-Washington County, Theatre on the Hill –  
400 University Drive, West Bend. Tickets available at [wbspotlight.com](http://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.

Peace UCC

**COMMUNITY**



**MEAL**



**Turkey with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Bean Casserole, Texas Roadhouse Dinner Rolls, Dessert & Beverage**

**Date: March 6th  
Time: 4:30 - 6 pm  
Free to All! Join Us!**

PEACE UCC  
*125 Years* 