



**Peace United Church of Christ**  
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard  
February 26, 2023  
First Sunday of 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

*\*Stand if you are able.*

## PRELUDE

*Moments Unrehearsed*

Line

*Greetings – Prayer Requests – Announcement*

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

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Come, Creator, be with us today, in this place, at this time. Be with us as we take time to slow down our lives enough to wait and listen. Give us wisdom and courage to hear your Word.

**\*HYMN 252** [Lord Throughout These Forty Days](#)

**TURNING OUR HEARTS TO GOD** - from Psalm 32 (The Message)

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

**All: And also with you.**

One: Count yourself lucky – God holds nothing against you and you’re holding nothing back from him.

**All: When I kept it all inside, my bones turned to powder, my words became daylong groans.**

One: The pressure never let up; all the juices of my life dried up.

**All: Then I let it all out; I said, “I’ll make a clean breast of my failures to God.”**

One: Suddenly the pressure was gone – my guilt dissolved, my sin disappeared. These things add up. Every one of us needs to pray . . .

**All: God-defiers are always in trouble; God affirmers find themselves loved every time they turn around.**

**Celebrate GOD! Sing together – everyone!**

**All you honest hearts, raise the roof!**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, Silence beyond silence and Word beyond words, calm our fluttering and flustered hearts as we open them to your power and presence. We have much to confess as we speak the truth of our lives, we need your wisdom and patience. We have sinned against you and against humanity when we have refused to accept the fullness of life in one another. We have made the differences between us monumental barriers to understanding instead of celebrations of your wondrous and diverse creation. We have followed our fears rather than our faith. We shrink behind prejudice and narrow perceptions. We say we want peace but then we have done things that encourage violence. You, O God, call us to faithfulness in each and every moment, yet our hearts are often closed to your presence upon our lives. Receive now our earnest prayers of confession, which spring from our deepest being into your merciful care: *(time for silent confession)* Hear us as we pray the prayer your Son taught us: *“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.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: As dawn comes after the long night, so, too does forgiveness shine when we acknowledge before God and one another those things that separate us from love.

**All: This is the good news that we believe – that we have once again been made new!**

One: Let us take this newness and know that God's love frees us to love one another even as we love ourselves.

**All: Thanks be to God, whose steadfastness is for all generations!**

## The Passing of the Peace

One: Peace be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## Sunday School Youth

*The Lost Son*

Fryar & Marie

**LESSON**

[Luke 11:14-19](#)

(Page 794)

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

**HYMN 422**

[Amazing Grace](#)

**LESSON**

[Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7](#)

(Page 2)

**GOSPEL**

[Matthew 4:1-11](#)

(Page 739)

**SERMON**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken* Root  
Piano Solo by Lia Piittmann

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (in unison)

**You have encouraged us, O God, to listen to your message of hope and peace. We respond with gratitude. As you have given us gifts, and as we have come to know that we are your beloved daughters and sons, we seek to live our lives that others may receive. May your peace and justice fill the earth. Amen.**

# PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

## BENEDICTION

One: We have come before you, God, with open hearts and minds, known and loved by you, to pray, sing, to worship you. In this time, you have filled us with your spirit, so that at benediction's end, we will go in peace and serve you, Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God, to Christ and to the Holy Spirit. Amen!**

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

### \*HYMN

### *Dona Nobis Pacem*

Canon 1



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

2



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

3



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

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**Serving Today:** Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Lia Piittmann; Litanist: Joan Adler; Audio: John Bliese; Video: David Dorn; Ushers/Greeters: John & Debbie Guillaume, Sarah Guillaume, Janel Gassner

**Lectionary for March 5:** Genesis 12:1-4a • Psalm 121 • Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 • John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

## **Happy Birthday February 26 – March 4**

- Feb 26 Marshall Kedroske, Malcolm Kedroske  
Feb 27 Hanna Bruenn (82)  
Feb 28 Scott Stern  
Mar 1 Nancy Hovland, Jessica Klahn, Randy Thull  
Mar 2 Madilynn Jacobs, Gloria Liepert (92),  
Judy Nonhof (86)  
Mar 3 Christ Gudex

## **Happy Anniversary February 26 – March 4**

- Feb 28 Jeff & Julann Retzlaff (36)  
Mar 3 John & Shelley Oswald (50)

## **NEWS & NOTES**

### **Calendar for the Week of February 19, 2023**

- 2/26 Sunday School 9:30 am, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation 4-5:30 pm  
2/28 Lectionary 10 am, Adult Faith Formation 7-8:30 pm  
3/1 XYZ Cards, Ecumenical Lenten Service at 12:00 pm. at Cedar Ridge – Pastor Eric preaching.  
7:00 pm at Peace UCC - Holden Prayer service with our confirmands sharing reflections.

**Peace Church Banned Book Group** – will meet on Wednesday, March 15th at 1:30 p.m. in the church music room. The group will discuss “1984” by George Orwell. Books are on reserve at the Kewaskum Library and can be picked up starting February 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!



**Birthday Envelope** – Now that you have your new giving envelopes for 2023, have you noticed a birthday envelope in your packet? Contributions you enclose in this birthday envelope go towards the Scholarship Fund. There is a special designation for scholarships on the regular giving envelopes as well! This year the Scholarship Committee will be awarding in excess of 10 scholarships to Peace Church members worth \$800 each.

**Almost Train Time!** - On Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, the adults of Peace Church are invited to share in a model railroading experience. The train will leave the station about 10:00 a.m. in Germantown. For more information, for directions, and for reservations, contact Russ Knoth (262) 832-4083. All aboard!

## **PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK**

*Current prayers will be listed for one week unless otherwise indicated. Requests may be emailed to [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto: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 Comfort:**

For Donald Sedgwick. Don is struggling with heart issues and has entered at-home hospice. Donald moved to Montana to live with his son and daughter-in-law after his wife, Carol, passed away in October of 2021.

### **Prayers of Healing:**

For Shirley Schlice, who is in rehab at Samaritan, West Bend after falling and breaking her hip.