

Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard - Pastor Jakob Kröner – Associate Pastor March 10, 2024 Fourth 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
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

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE

GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

HYMN 631 "There is a Balm in Gilead"

Gathering Our Hearts Before God - Psalm 107:1-9, 17-22

One: May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be

with you all.

All: And also with you.

All: Praise the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love

is eternal!"

One: Thus, let the redeemed of the Lord say, those He redeemed from adversity, whom He gathered in from the lands, from east and west, from the north and

from the sea....

Some lost their way in the wilderness, in the wasteland; they found no settled place. Hungry and thirsty, their spirit failed. In their adversity they cried

to the Lord,

All: and He rescued them from their troubles. He showed them a direct way to reach a settled place. Let them praise the Lord for His steadfast love, His wondrous deeds for mankind; for He has satisfied the thirsty, filled the hungry with all

good things.

One: There were fools who suffered for their sinful way, and for their iniquities. All food was loathsome to them; they reached the gates of death. In their

adversity they cried to the Lord

All: and He saved them from their troubles. He gave

an order and healed them; He delivered them from the pits. Let them praise the Lord for His steadfast love, His wondrous deeds for mankind.

Let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell

His deeds in joyful song.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination:

We pray: God of gentle mercy, we confess before you and each other that too often we are unfaithful to you. We easily fail to trust in your abundance, we fail to trust in a spirit that would quench our souls always. We hold our brokenness tightly and don't allow your healing love to release us for new life. We too easily allow our prejudice, and quick assumptions, to divide us from the neighbors we have in you. We too easily cling so tightly to the darkness that we struggle to see your beckoning light.

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 trust in your ways and 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.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the Good News that is ours: by the redemptive, unconditional, and extraordinary love of Christ, we are forgiven.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you

LESSON

Ephesian 2:1-10

(page 890)

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

HYMN 257

"What Wondrous Love is This"

GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

(page 811)

SERMON

"Whosoever"

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 DEDICATON

O God, please take these gifts and multiply them; let them be a means to create the justice and peace you long for in this world. In Jesus' name 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!

Thanks be to God!

HYMN "Dona Nobis Pacem"







POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Karla Spaits; Video: David

Dorn; Audio: Joshua Spaits

<u>Today's Altar Flowers</u> are from Jean Reigle in honor of Ashley Reigle's birthday.

Lectionary for March 17 - Jeremiah 31:31-34 • Psalm

51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16 • Hebrews 5:5-10 • John

12:20-33

Happy Birthday March 10 - 16

Mar 10 Eric Walker

Mar 11 Mary Billmann (82)

Mar 13 Lisa Atwater, Mark Steinhardt

Mar 14 Mia Dornacker

Mar 15 Melinda Sargent

Mar 16 Cheryl Novotny, Diane Stangl, Donna Steinhardt

Happy Anniversary March 10 - 16

Mar 12 Sarah & Brian Van Beek (19)

Mar 13 Melissa & Jared Polzin (20)

Calendar for the Week of March 10

3/10 Confirmation 5:30-8:00 pm

3/11 Pastoral Relations Meeting 6:30 pm

3/12 Lectionary 10 am, Church Council 6 pm

3/13 XYZ Cards, Holden Evening Prayer 7 pm

3/14 Living the Question 10 am, Grief Group 1 pm

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Worship

7:00 p.m. March 13, March 20 We will gather each week with the musical vespers setting: Holden Evening Prayers with reflections led by this year's 9th 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.

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

Holy Week Schedule

- Thurs, March 28 Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 pm
- Friday, March 29 Good Friday service at 1:00 pm
- Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m, Easter Breakfast at 8:00 am, Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.

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

Pastoral Relations – will meet on Monday, March 11th at 6:30 p.m.

<u>Family Promise</u>-in West Bend is in need of the following items: new pillows, bathroom cleaning products, Walmart gift cards, shaving cream, new twin XL comforters alternative down. Peace Church will be providing for Family Promise March 18 – 24, 2024. Mark Bocher will be coordinating getting meals to Family Promise. Watch for sing-up sheet at church soon.

Prayers of the Family of God

Prayers of Healing

To David Simons, who had surgery on Thursday to remove melanoma.

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.



Volunteers Needed!

Join us in creating meaningful connections between families and volunteers!

Spend time with families by making meals, helping with homework, playing games with the children and much more!



Family Promise of Washington County

450 E. Water St. West Bend, WI 53095

Monday-Thursday 4-7p.m.

Weekends Upon Request

Inter-Faith Hospitality Network

Mission: Family Promise rebuilds lives with compassion by providing resources and services that prevent and end homelessness for individuals and families in Washington County.

For more information contact us at (262) 353-9304 or Contact@familypromisewc.org