



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
March 12, 2023
Third 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, Oneship, 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

**Stand if you are able.*

PRELUDE

Draw Me Nearer

Vandall

Greetings – Prayer Requests – Announcement

***HYMN 501** [*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*](#)

Turning Our Hearts to God – Psalm 95

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

All: **And also with you.**

One: O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

All: **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

One: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

All: **In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

One: The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

All: **O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

One: O that today you would listen to his voice! Do not harden your hearts, as at Meriba, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, “They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways.” Therefore in my anger I swore, “They shall not enter my rest.”

All: We come humbled, we come longing, we come together again to worship our Lord!

Confessing and Receiving Forgiveness

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 we have been unfaithful to you. We too easily fail to trust in your abundance, 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.**

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.

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.**

The Passing of the Peace

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

WOMEN'S CHOIR

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace Temple/Fettek

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

HYMN 259 [Amazing Love](#)

LESSON [Exodus 17:1-7](#) (page 55)

GOSPEL [John 4:5-42](#) (page 812)

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Old Rugged Cross* Bennard

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

We offer these gifts as a sign of our yearnings to reflect your love in the world. Humbly guide us in offering our whole selves to you and to your witness. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

BENEDICTION

One: Deep peace of the running wave to you.

Deep peace of the flowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

Deep peace of the shining light to you.

Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.

... 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

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: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Mia Dornacker; Litanist: Mugs McFadden; Video: David Dorn; Ushers/Greeters: Bill & Lori Hartman, Jerry & Kathy Shoemaker

Lectionary for March 19: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 • Psalm 23
• Ephesians 5:8-14 • John 9:1-41

Happy Birthday March 12 - 18

- Mar 12 Jeff Reigle
- Mar 13 Lisa Atwater, Mark Steinhardt
- Mar 14 Mia Dornacker
- Mar 15 Kathy Hughes, Melinda Sargent
- Mar 16 Cheryl Novotny, Diane Stangl, Donna Steinhardt
- Mar 18 Logan O'Brien-Flasch, Robert Schreffler

Happy Anniversary March 12 - 18

- Mar 12 Sarah & Brian Van Beek (18)
- Mar 13 Ruth & Ken Henk (29)
- Jared & Melissa Polzin (19)

NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of March 12, 2023

- 3/14 Lectionary 10 am, Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm
3/15 XYZ Cards, Banned Book Club 1:30 pm,
West Bend Ecumenical Lenten Service at Noon.
Holden Evening Prayer at Peace UCC at 7:00 pm
with this year's Confirmands offering reflections.

Ecumenical Lenten Services – Each week during Lent we will gather with other churches from West Bend to share in a short midday Lenten service, at Noon. The upcoming services will be:

March 15th – Holy Angels Catholic Church

March 22nd – Trinity Lutheran Church

March 29th – Fifth Avenue Methodist Church



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

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 April 5, and the first Wednesday of each month. **The next meal will be pulled pork sandwiches with coleslaw and baked beans.** 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.



2023 Canada Wilderness Canoe Trip - This coming August, Peace Church will be heading north to the Canadian wilderness to the White Otter Wilderness area in Ontario. Our trip will take place August 12 (leave Kewaskum early that morning), be on the water Aug. 13-17, and drive back to Kewaskum on Friday Aug. 18.

The trip is open to youth who have finished their freshman year in high school (and above) and all young adults and adults. Approx. cost for the trip will be between \$450 - \$550 depending on our final trip itinerary, number of participants and any fundraisers we might do between now and the trip. This cost covers all the trip outfitting (including canoes, tents, equipment, food, etc.). It also includes all traveling costs. All you need to bring with you are your clothes, personal items, and a willingness to participate in a new adventure!!

There is a Canoe Trip sign-up sheet in the parking lot entry area. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Eric, Karla Spaits or John Kletti.

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 Paul Reinders, who has returned home after being hospitalized last weekend.

For Darwin Gudex, brother of Christ Gudex, who has been hospitalized with heart issues.