



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
March 19, 2023
Fourth 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 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us Line

Greetings – Prayer Requests – Announcement

*HYMN 73 [The Lord My Shepherd Guards Me Well](#)

TURNING OUR HEARTS TO GOD

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

All: And also with you.

One: Christ has come among us, opening the eyes of the blind, bringing light to those who have walked in darkness.

All: We walk in the light. Let the brightness of God's love shine through us.

CONFESSING

Together we offer our prayers:

Our hearts are heavy with concerns for those we know and love. Our hearts also weep for those who are far distant from us and greatly in need of Your presence. Our hearts are joyous with Your love and concern for us, and joyous with the good we have done this week, when we have lived in accord with your will. We come to you, O God, in many conditions. We come to worship You and to offer You our confession:

One: O God, for the enormity of what we have done,

All: for the enormity of what you have asked us to do that we have not done,

One: for the seriousness of our sins,

All: for the consequences to others of our disobedience,

One: for all that breaks our relationships with one another and with you, all that weighs heavily on our hearts.

All: We ask for your forgiveness; we long for your grace and mercy.

One: We seek a turning of heart,

All: a turning to you and a cleansing of our hearts and spirits.

All: In the silence, we humbly and earnestly offer our confession and seek new life in you...

Kyrie Eleison “Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

Lord have mercy upon us,

Christ have mercy upon us,

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.)

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

Our God is a God of justice and high expectations, yes; and yet also a God of compassion and understanding. God longs to have us embrace the love of Christ which forgives us to depths of our beings and leads us beyond our brokenness. Let us reach out to the world with compassion and understanding and choose to share the news of God's grace and love with all.

The Passing of the Peace

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

LESSON

[Psalm 23](#)

(page 415)

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

(8:00 service) The Sacrament of Baptism

This morning we receive into the Christian family:

*Mary Lynn Wunsch, daughter of
Heather McElhatton and Ryan Wunsch*

***All: We receive this child in Christ's name as we have been received, promising to support Mary with constant love, wholesome example, Christian teaching and faithful prayer. We promise to her**

parents our friendship in Christ, gladly sharing in the burdens and joys of Christian nurture.

Hymn 680

[Borning Cry](#)

LESSON

[John 9:1-41](#)

(page 818)

SERMON

Vikar Jakob Kröner

SPECIAL MUSIC

Near the Cross

Line

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER-LORD’S PRAYER

“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.”

BENEDICTION

One: ...From our oneness in Christ, we are called to many places to serve the rich diversity of God’s creation. Go in faith that when you share of yourself you are united with a global family that holds you in love.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

*HYMN

Dona Nobis Pacem

Canon 1

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 pá-chēm (Give us peace)

Text: Traditional
Music: Traditional

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DONA NOBIS PACEM
irregular

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Litanist: Jerry O'Connor; Video: David Dorn; Ushers/Greeters: Wanda Dorn

Lectionary for March 26: Ezekiel 37:1-14 • Psalm 130 • Romans 8:6-11 • John 11:1-45

Happy Birthday March 19 - 25

Mar 19 Nicole Brei

Mar 21 Rocky Bubb

Mar 22 Barbara Panzer, Julann Retzlaff

Mar 23 Delores Terlinden (99)

Mar 25 Emil Radeztsky (80), Heidi Leithold, Steve Volm

NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of March 19, 2023

3/21 Lectionary 10 am, Adult Faith Formation 7 pm

3/22 XYZ Cards

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 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 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 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. 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!

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.

Habitat for Humanity Trip – July 9th-14th This year we are planning an inter-generational Habitat Trip to Red Wing Minnesota. Anyone who has completed their Freshman year in high school or beyond (even well beyond) is welcome to come and lend a hand in seeking to provide decent housing for all of God's children. The affiliate is asking for a minimum of 7 people, but we are hoping for many more than that. Cost will be \$75 for members or \$100 for non-members. If you have questions please contact Karen Kletti, Clark Pearson, or Pastor Eric.

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 Comfort:

For the family and friends of Jennie Templeton (Sharon Templeton's mother) who died on March 4th.

Prayers of Healing:

Alan Mock (Robin's husband) who is recovering from a stroke.

Doug (Nancy Panzer's brother) who has had a new occurrence of cancer which is not responding to treatment.