



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

March 27, 2022

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."

Visiting Minister: Rev. Andrew Warner serves as Director of Development for the Wisconsin Conference of the UCC. Before joining the conference staff in 2019, Andrew served for 22 years as pastor of Plymouth UCC of Milwaukee. Andrew also serves as a Generosity Outreach Officer of the national setting of the UCC. (3/27)

WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude 8 a.m. "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" arr. L. Line

Prelude 9:30 a.m. "What Wondrous Love is This?" arr. L. Smith
Jackie McCurdy - Piano

Greetings – Announcements – Prayer Requests

↑ ♪ Hymn #355 "This is a Day of New Beginnings"

Call to Worship

One: People of God, come and worship!

Many: We come with joy in our hearts and with gratitude for the life we have been given.

One: We come with the heavy burdens and honest wrestling of our hearts.

Many: We come with a song, an offering, a dream, a prayer. We come to meet God in the faces of our sisters and brothers.

One: We come to share in this hour, to receive the abundance of our Creator that we might transform our world and our hearts.

All: We come to worship God!

Opening Prayer

Giver of all life, you have cheerfully poured your Spirit out in our midst and sown it generously in our community. Let us feel your Spirit anew today. Let us dance with it - rejoicing in the rush of your powerful presence. Let us step with you in jubilation - moved in our hearts and minds, in our bodies and spirits. Let us live out our thanksgiving for the life you have so joyfully shared with us - moving closely in the rhythm of your life, sharing your Spirit with your children everywhere. **Amen.**

The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Together we pray:

God, it's so much easier to grumble about others than to be honest about our own shortcomings. Jealousy can cloud our ability to see the abundance of God's grace.

Help us, God, to know that in sharing grace with the openness with which you share, we are praying for a healed world, and working to help birth it.

We confess that we fail to nurture the world you are calling into being; a new creation emerging in the very midst of the world as we know it. We confess that we break our relationship with you through what we do and what we fail to do. We fall short of fully loving you or our neighbor as ourselves. We confess knowing that you never give up on us.

Reshape our perspective as 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.”

†Act of Praise # Hymn # 378 “Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”

**Create in me a clean heart, O God;
Create in me a clean heart, O God;
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me. (twice)**

†Hearing God's Assurance and Sharing God's Peace

The abundance of God is astonishing and extravagant. Hear and know that our God longs for joy in our hearts and hands, so that others may also know God's bountiful gifts. Be free in Christ! **Amen.**

†The Passing of the Peace

Peace be with you

And also with you

Special Music 8:00 a.m. “I Come to the Cross” by Batstone & Somma

Special Music 9:30 a.m. “Sanctus” arr. Martha Setchell
Chancel Choir

OT Lesson [Joshua 5:-9-12](#) (Page 161)

Children's Time - Please sing: “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know”

Gospel [Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32](#) (Page 798)

Sermon “Prodigal Generosity”

Invitation To Share God's Gifts

As we take part in this One Great Hour of Sharing offering, we join Christians around the nation in multiplying our gifts for the common good. Our sharing embodies the compassion to which Jesus calls us. Together our gifts nurture stronger futures and self-sufficiency through health care, education, job training, and tools for livelihoods.

Together, our gifts bring safety, shelter, and food to refugees after circumstances have made their hometowns uninhabitable. Together, our gifts

build homes, schools, medical clinics, clean water, and sewage facilities in villages devastated by earthquakes, floods, and poverty. We may give to this ministry for one week, one day, or one hour, but the good work done by our gifts lasts much longer. Thank you for your joy-filled sharing!

↑ ♪ Hymn # 424

“How Can I Keep From Singing”

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, you have given us so much, and you have rejoiced in sharing it with us. May the gifts we offer today be dedicated to your ministries: the work of justice, peace, mercy, healing, comfort, and compassion. We know that all we have to give has its source in you. We are stewards seeking to serve your purposes. Thank you for the chance to be part of your mission. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer

Benediction

God loves you. Go to spend God’s love abundantly!
God trusts you. Go to sow God’s goodness bountifully!
God rejoices in you. Go to share God’s joy with a grateful heart!
Go forth in peace.

AMEN

↑ ♪ Hymn

“Dona Nobis Pacem”



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

Lectionary for April 3: Isaiah 43:16-21 • Psalm 126 • Philippians 3:4b-14 • John 12:1-8

The flowers on the altar today are in memory of Kevin Lehmann from Della Lehmann.

SERVING TODAY

Musician: Sherry McElhatton

Litanist: Chris Rode

Video: Jake Lemke

Audio: Joshua Spaits

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday March 27-April 2

March 27	Olivia Backhaus
March 28	Erin Backhaus
March 29	Arlene Lemke (80)
April 1	Alex Koepp, Shirley Reinders (85)
April 2	Joshua Weinreich

Happy Anniversary March 27 – April 2

March 29	Kathy & Fran Charland (42)
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NEWS & NOTES

Delivering Altar Flowers – Please consider delivering altar flowers to a loved-one or a Peace Church member shut-in. Flowers will be available after the 9:30 service. See Roger Lindgren and he will assist you with the flowers and/or getting a shut-in name and address. Thank you!

Easter Flowers We will not be having a huge Easter flower sale, but will order some spring flower plants for the sanctuary. If you would like to donate towards the cost of the plants, please send a check to Peace Church re: Easter Flowers. Thank you.

Calendar for the Week of March 27, 2022

3/29 Tuesday – Lectionary Group 10:00 a.m.

3/30 Wednesday – XYZ Cards, 9th Grade Confirmation Class – 4 p.m. Holden Prayer service – 7 p.m.

3/3 – Rev. Julie Mavity Maddelena, Visiting Minister

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Worship - 7:00 p.m. March 30th, April 6th.— Holden Evening Prayers with reflections by this year's 9th grade Confirmation Class. Music by Greg Ogi, Tom Ogi, Sherry McElhatton, Mia Dornacker, Lia Piittmann, and Ellie Baldus.

2022 High School Youth Habitat Trip – June 5th-10th

This year we are headed to Frankfort, Indiana.

Participants must be at least 14 years old and have completed 9th Grade.

The Cost: \$75 for members, \$100 for non-members

Please use the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board near the parking lot entrance to let us know you plan to participate or contact the office by email: office@peace-ucc.org

Peace Church Book Group

The Book Group will be meeting on Wednesday morning, April 6th, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. in the Music Room. The group will be discussing "Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents" by Isabell Wilkerson. Books for the remaining months of the 2021 - 2022 Book Group year are:

May 4: "Infinite Country" by Patricia Engel

June 1: "The Dearly Beloved" by Cara Wall

For more information on the Peace Church Book Group please contact Lynn Rusch (262-306-4025) or lynnrusch@yahoo.com.

Peace Church Scholarship: Peace Church will be awarding up to fifteen \$750 scholarships to eligible applicants this year. Did you know that the birthday envelope in your giving packet can be used to strengthen the Scholarship fund (you'll probably have to put some money in it!) Already thrown it away? You can use your regular giving envelope to contribute to the Scholarship fund too!

PRAYER LIST

Please let us know of any updates to the Prayer Lists

Those in Need of Healing: all shut-ins and those experiencing pain or loss

Members: Rev. Bob Blackburn, Janette Loomis, Mugs McFadden, Pat McFadden, Marilyn McIntosh, Don Neitzel, Darrell Nonhof, Judy Nonhof, Dennis Novotny, Sharon Ostermann, Greg Vorpahl, Bev Winninghoff, Connie Zemlicka

Family & Friends: Chris (Stier), Ellen (Swanson), Ezekiel, Gene, Pat Beal (N. Krahn), Harry Gall (L. Swanson), Lorrie (H. Bruenn), Jenna Butchlick, Julie (Breitbach), Eric Covington (Fleury), Howard Floeter (Lemke), Klaine (Lemke), Jason Lemke, Patricia Hohl, Jeremy (Rodenkirch), Alan Kuehl (J. Manthei), Gerald Piittmann, Babette Rhoads, Josie Schoneman

Those Dealing with Cancer:

Members: Betty Fleury, Laurie Struck, Carol Butzlaff, Dean Roe, Jim Roe, Heidi Rodenkirch, Sheri Rehn

Friends & Family: David (Grundahl), Betty (J. Michaels), Kathy (Augustin), Heidi (Manthei), Henry (Meinberg), Caitlyn Z (Stier), Jean Cornell (Herriges), Bonnie Erickson (Winninghoff), Kerri Estep (Atwater), Alan Floeter (Lemke), Nancy Gruebling (Kletti), Paula Hader (Adler), Brenda Jacklin (Piittmann), Kathy Jarolimek (Henk), Kathy (S. Augustin family), Sheri Theep (Van Beek), Sue Mitchell (Rhoads), Dennis Liepert (J. Michaels), Sandra Senn (P. Behr), Susan Tolonen, Caitlyn Ziegelbauer (Atwater)

Those Serving our Country

Thank you to the following who are currently serving in the **Armed Forces**, for their courage, strength, and dedication to keeping us safe:

Julia (Leithold) Beasley (Air Force)

Sgt. Tyler Graff (Air Force – Betty Graff grandson)

Spencer Guenther (Air Force – Van Ess nephew)

Matthew Jankowski (Army National Guard – Jackie McCurdy grandson)

Luke Linden (Army National Guard – Joanne Amerling grandson)

Major Erik Rundquist (Army)

Maggie Singer (Army National Guard)

Ryan Wunsch (Army National Guard – McElhatton son-in-law)

Samuel Zemlicka-Retzlaff (Air Force)

PEACE CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Us At: P. O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040

Church Office – Robin Mock, 262-626-4011 - office@peace-ucc.org

Sharon Stier, Interim Visitation Minister, 414-531-0837 - [sstier@outlook.com](mailto:ss-tier@outlook.com)

Peace Church Prayer Chain - prayers@peace-ucc.org

On the web @ www.peace-ucc.org Find Peace on [Facebook](#) On YouTube at: [Peace UCC Kewaskum](#)



*“For we are co-workers in God’s service;
you are God’s field, God’s building.”
1 Corinthians 3:9*

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Church’s Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God’s message of love and hope to people in crisis. This year’s theme is **“Love Remains”**. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief and rehabilitation, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the lives of people in distress in our own communities, and at other times impacting the lives of those we may never meet but who are in desperate need of our compassion and generosity. Gifts given through this special offering empower people in poverty to learn a trade, raise their own food, and grow in faith. United in Christ, we help to provide access to healthy food, good education, excellent health care, job training, schools, clean water, and shelter after devastating storms and disasters. Each time a gift is given, a connection is made that builds a bridge, letting people know we are here and we care. Each resource shared, answers God’s call to love our neighbor.

We are there providing well pumps for clean water, seeds and training for sustainable agriculture, and rice and oil to provide nourishment and cooking supplies. We are there through medical kits, school supplies, temporary shelters, and safe housing projects where needed most. We are there offering hope and helping to spread love, justice, and peace in the world.

In 1 Corinthians 3, Paul writes, “we are all co-workers in God’s service.” Some of us plant and some of us water, but God gives the growth. Through the ministries supported by One Great Hour of Sharing, we have the opportunity to be part of the hopeful future God is already bringing forth. Imagine what the future could be like when we join together across distance, culture and generations to invest in the growth God promises to bring.

We will be dedicating our One Great Hour of Sharing offerings on Sunday, March 27. Please use the “Other” line found on your weekly envelopes and write in One Great Hour of Sharing. Special One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes are located in the Narthex.

In our generosity, we recognize that we are all part of God’s family. In sharing our gifts, we join together as both donors and recipients of generous investment in the growth God will bring. We celebrate the profound joy of living “for the love of what we may never see.” **Let us invest in futures by giving generously to One Great Hour of Sharing!**