



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

Vikar Jakob Kröner

March 3, 2024

Third 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 695 "As We Gather at Your Table"

Gathering Our Hearts Before God – Psalm 19

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

All: And also with you.

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

All: They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

One: In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

All: It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

One: The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous.

All: They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

One: But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults. Keep your servant also from willful

sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

All: May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

INVOCATION

Wonderful God, we gather today to celebrate your presence in the lives of all people and all of creation. Send your Spirit to meet us here and guide us into your depths that we may begin to glimpse your grace: what eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived all you have prepared for those who love you.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, your Glory, your Wisdom, your Love. **AMEN**

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Holy one, you have made human beings in your image: complex, whole and holy. When we forget that your grace is at work shaping all the lives you have created:

Holy Wisdom, have mercy.

When we fail to greet one another with compassion, curiosity, and care:

Beloved Christ, have mercy.

When we succumb to the skewed vision of gossip, stereotypes, or half-truths:

Truth-loving Spirit, have mercy.

When we fall short of Your ways in thought, word, and deed, by what we do and by what we fail to do; when we fail to love you or to love our neighbors as ourselves:

God of creation's glory, have mercy upon us.

We pray as Jesus 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.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE AND PEACE

Friends, the love of God revealed in Jesus reconciles us, heals us, and sets us free to see one another clearly, to challenge one another honestly, to work with one another for God’s vision of justice, love and peace.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you

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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(All are welcome to receive communion with us, this is the table of God's love! All cups contain grape juice. If you wish a gluten free wafer, please let the servers/ushers know)

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

#737 Santo, Santo, Santo

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.

My heart is glad to say the words:

you are Holy, Lord!

Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora.

Mi corazon te sabe decir: santo eres Senor.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

CHANCEL CHOIR “Come, Share the Lord”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (IN UNISON)

O God, in this simple meal you come to us again. You share yourself and your sustaining Spirit with our hungry souls. In the broken

bread and the shared cup, the good news is proclaimed. Christ was born, Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. Amen

HYMN 260 "The Old Rugged Cross"

LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (page 895)

SERMON

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 DEDICATION

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! Amen, and again we say Amen!

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

Serving Today: Musicians: Karla Spaits, Mia Dornacker;
Video: David Dorn; Audio: Joshua Spaits

Today's Altar Flowers from Jean Reigle in honor of Ashley Reigle's birthday.

Lectionary for March 10 - Numbers 21:4-9 • Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 • Ephesians 2:1-10 • John 3:14-21

Happy Birthday Mar 3 - 9

Mar 3 Christ Gudex, Matt Leithold

Mar 5 Jennifer Krebs, Sheri Rehn

Mar 6 Todd Stern

Mar 7 Cheri Manthei

Happy Anniversary Mar 3-9

Mar 3 John & Shelly Oswald (51)

Calendar for the Week of March 3

3/3 All Congregation Meeting/Call Sunday
Confirmation 5:30-8:00 pm

3/5 Lectionary 10 am, Faith Formation 7-8:30pm

3/6 XYZ Cards, Book Club 9:30 am,
Community Meal 4:30-6 pm, Holden Prayers 7pm

3/7 Prayer Shawl 1pm

All-Congregation Meeting/Call Sunday – Sunday, March 3, 2024, immediately following the 9:30. One year ago the congregation welcomed Vikar Jakob among us to serve as an exchange pastor for the year. During that time, Vikar Jakob has discerned God calling him to remain in the United States and to pursue ordination within the United Church of Christ. Our congregation has recommended him to the Wider Church to continue in that process. At the same time, the church council has celebrated the opportunity to hire Vikar Jakob half-time to fill our budgeted Associate Pastor position.

This is a Called ministry position. Within the UCC the congregation participates in the call process with a Call Sunday. Vikar Jakob will be preaching that Sunday, followed by the opportunity for the congregation to affirm his call to ministry as our half-time associate pastor for the next year. Please come and be a part of this journey of discernment and affirmation.

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

Family Promise Grand Opening – Family Promise of Washington County invites you to their grand opening on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. of their newly expanded 450 E. Water Street location. Tours start after the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Canada Wilderness Canoe Trip Adventure

Hi everyone, while the weather here in Kewaskum is still very unpredictable, we have firmed up plans to travel to Atikokan Ontario again this summer for a 6-day/5-night wilderness canoe trip into the White Otter Wilderness. Here are the trip details so that you can plan accordingly if you would like to join in the adventure.

July 19, 5AM Leave Kewaskum for Canada

July 20-25 Canoeing in the beautiful White Otter Wilderness area

July 26 Return to Kewaskum

APPROX. Cost per person - \$650

Note that we can reduce this per person cost with potential fund raisers.

This trip is a great way to connect with God in all of his glorious creation and to forge closer relationships with all of the trip participants. Hope you are able to join us.

For more information, please contact Pastor Eric or John Kletti

Prayers of the Family of God

Prayers of healing and guidance to David Simon as he undergoes surgery on Thursday, March 7th to remove a melanoma.