



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

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 *Arrival of the Queen of Sheeba* Handel

GREETINGS Announcements – Prayer Requests

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Eric Walker)

One: We gather with followers from throughout the centuries; come to welcome Jesus!

All: We join crowds from many different places, shouting with joy for the king who enters Jerusalem.

One: If we were silent, the stones would shout out.

All: Let us raise our voices with all who joyfully praise God for the powerful deeds we have seen.

THE PROCESSION OF PALMS

“Hosanna in the Highest” *Sung responsively*

Refrain: Hosanna, **Hosanna**

Hosanna in the Highest, **Hosanna in the Highest,**
Hosanna, **Hosanna**

Sing praises to the Lord! **Sing praises to the Lord!** (twice)

Listen to the verse, then repeat the refrain

Verse: Blessed is the One, blessed is the One,
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Glory to our God, glory to our God,
rejoice in the name of the Lord!

Repeat refrain

Blessed is the One, who comes!
Hosanna!!

PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29 (Lia Piittmann)

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

All: Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”

One: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

All: This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

One: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

All: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he has given us light.

One: Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

All: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

CONFESSION (Lorelei Walker)

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

Forgive us for we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We are quick to lift you up in praise, happy to offer a kind word or gesture in your name. We are content to celebrate Jesus' kingship as long as it's on our terms. We find it so much more difficult to live on Your terms. We are uncomfortable when it comes to boldly speaking your peace, justice, and non-violence to a power-addicted world. We are timid when we consider the possible cost. Forgive us Lord. Guide us, strengthen us, bind us to yourself on faith's journey that we might be bearers of your light.

(Silence for personal reflection and repentance)

#266 Hosanna – verse 1

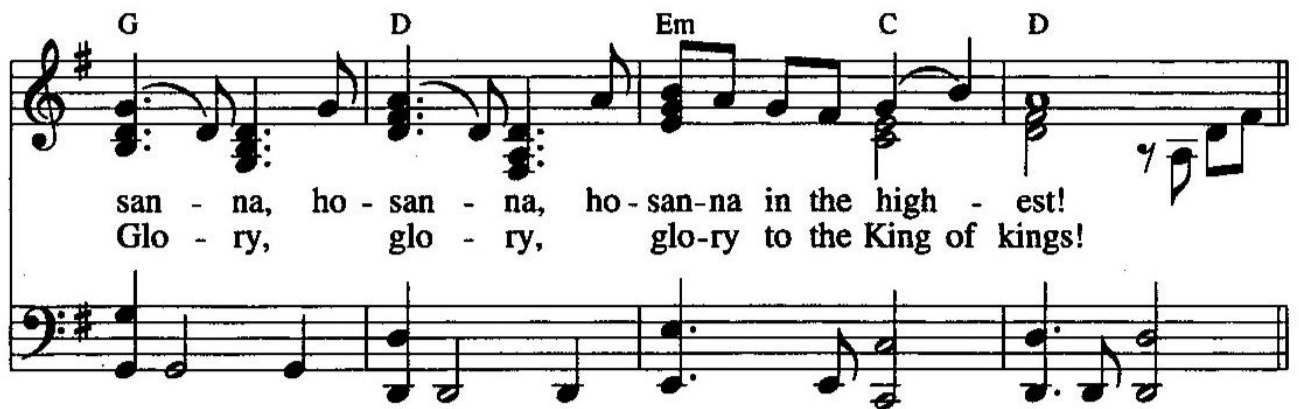
(We sing “Hosanna” as a prayer to God that God would “save us” from our brokenness)

Unison G D Em C D



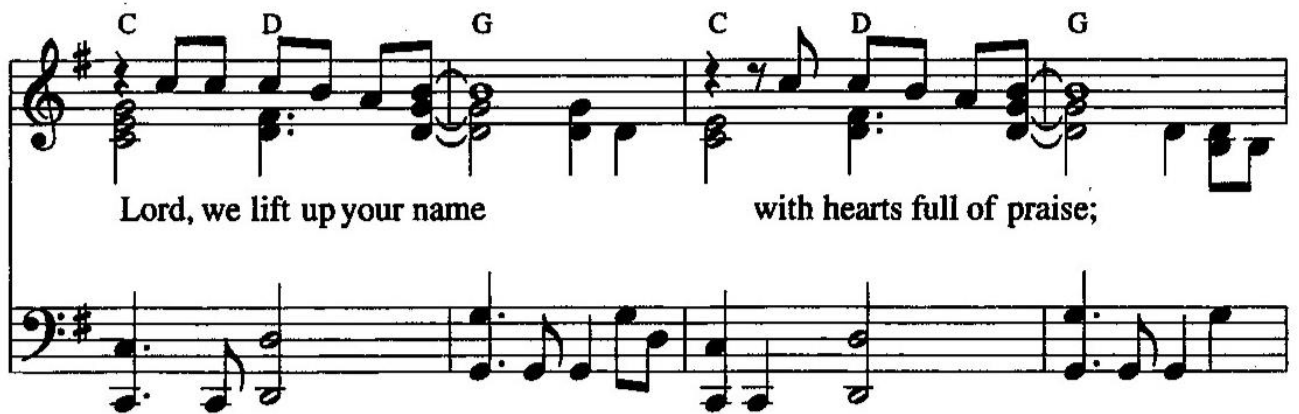
1 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est! Ho-
2 Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo-ry to the King of kings!

G D Em C D



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est!
Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo-ry to the King of kings!

C D G C D G



Lord, we lift up your name with hearts full of praise;

C D G D F# Em C D G C G



be ex-alt-ed, oh Lord my God! Ho-san-na in the high - est!
Glo-ry to the King of kings!

8vb

Lord's Prayer (Lizzy Nichols)

We reach out to you as our beloved friend and pray as you taught us saying: 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.”

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Ava Polzin)

Christ comes, not to condemn, but to forgive. God frees us, not to condemn others, but to forgive them according to the grace we have received. Be at peace we are children of light.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE (Eric Walker)

Peace be with you
And also with you

9:30: CHANCEL CHOIR *This Bread, This Cup* Carr/Larson

LESSON (Dane Piittmann) Philippians 2:5-11 (page 894)

CHILDREN'S TIME - Please sing: “Jesus Loves Me”

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION – *all God's children are welcome to receive communion with us regardless of denomination or creed. This is Christ's table where all are invited to come and share God's love.*

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Response 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 Señor!**

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE – Remembering Our Story

Passing God's gifts – while we share communion, please join in singing #482 “Sanctuary”.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, in this simple meal you come to us again. You share yourself and your sustaining Spirit with our hungering 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 265 All Glory, Laud and Honor

GOSPEL LESSON (Lia Piittmann) Matthew 21:1-11 (page 754)

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” arr. Vandall

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Lorelei Walker)

Beautiful Lord, we offer these gifts in love and hope, trusting that you will transform this humble offering to bring light to darkness, hope to despair, wholeness to brokenness, and peace to all people. Amen

HYMN 656 – first two lines only - “Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see you, I want to see You. (twice)

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE “Open the Eyes of My Heart” (*see above*)

BENEDICTION (Eric Walker)

Go forth in peace and confidence, following our trustworthy Shepherd through the valley of the shadow of death, to springs of living water for all. Let us go forth praising God:

Blessing and Honor; Glory and Power; Forever and ever! Amen!

*HYMN

“Dona Nobis Pacem”



Latin pronunciation: Dō-nā nō-bēs pā-chēm (Give us peace)

Text: Traditional
Music: Traditional

Used by Permission CCLI #1619690
DONA NOBIS PACEM
irregular

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Lia Piittmann; Chancel Director: Bill Stangl
Litanists: Lia Piittmann, Dane Piittmann, Lorelei Walker, Lizzy Nichols, Eric Walker; Video: Joshua Spaits;
Ushers/Greeters: Lisa & Blaine Atwater

Lectionary for April 6: Exodus 12:1-6, 11-14 • Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 • John 13:1-17, 31b-35 • 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Lectionary for April 7: Isaiah 52:13-53:12 • Psalm 22 • Hebrews 10:16-25 • John 18:1-19:42

Lectionary for April 9: Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6 • Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 • Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43 • John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

Happy Birthday April 2 – 8

Apr 4 Jennifer Preder
Apr 5 Ronald Rusch (88)
Apr 6 Matthew Schemelin
Apr 7 Tim Danielson

Happy Anniversary April 2 – April 8

Apr 4 Brad & Heidi Rodenkirch (31)
Apr 7 Bill & Jessica Loser (22)
Jason & Jamie Piittmann (22)

NEWS & NOTES

Calendar for the Week of April 2, 2023

- 4/4 Lectionary 10 am
 Adult Faith Formation 7 pm
- 4/5 XYZ Cards, Book Club 9:30 am,
 Community Meal 4:30-6:30 pm
- 4/6 Maundy Thursday service 7:00 pm
- 4/7 Good Friday service 1:00 p.m.
- 4/9 Easter service 7:00 am, 9:30 am, Breakfast 8:00



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!

Easter Sunday Breakfast and Services – Peace Church will be hosting an Easter Breakfast on Easter morning - April 9th at 8:00 a.m. There will be two worship services with communion: 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service, 9:30 a.m. service with a community-sing of the Hallelujah Chorus. Please join us!

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 travel 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.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday, April 6th

7:00 p.m. Worship with communion remembering the Last Supper

Good Friday, April 7th

1:00 p.m. Service of the Word

Easter Sunday, April 9th

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with Communion

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion

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 friends and family of Donnie Miller, uncle to Vance Reif, who passed away on March 28, 2023.

Prayers of Healing

For Nancy Hovland, as she continues on the road to recovery after a serious illness. Nancy is being transferred to an ICU in Madison.

For Stan Wendland, brother-in-law of John & Karen Grundahl, who is hospitalized and undergoing tests for a diagnosis.

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

For our 9th grade confirmation students and their leadership in our midweek Lenten Services.

For our middle school confirmation students and their leadership in this morning's worship.

Prayer of Celebration:

For Heidi and Brad Rodenkirch, as they celebrate the birth of their twin grandchildren, Mark Ellis and Kendall Rose. The twins are the children of Heidi and Brad's daughter, Cora.