



**Peace United Church of Christ**

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard - Pastor

Jakob Kröner - Vikar

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

*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](mailto:pastor@peace-ucc.org)*

*Vikar Jakob cell: 262-353-8840*

*Church Office: Robin Mock, 262-626-4011 - [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto:office@peace-ucc.org)*

*On the web @ [www.peace-ucc.org](http://www.peace-ucc.org), Peace on Facebook, YouTube at: Peace UCC Kewaskum*



**Easy Online Giving!** Just point your phone’s camera at the QR Code and follow the link to electronically give to a number of Peace Church funds.

# WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE

“Spirit Song”

Wimber

## GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

HYMN 405 “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Come; gather in the embrace of a loving God.

**All: Now is the time to worship. We come with hungry souls. Gather us in prayer and song.**

One: Come and share in God's witness offered to all.

### CONFESSING WITH THE PSALMIST — based on Psalm 23

One: Yearning for mercy, we confess before our God:

**All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and magnify your holy name. Humbly we offer our confession with the words of the Psalmist:**

One: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**All: You offer me life Lord, and offer it abundantly, yet I am so focused on my own desires that I fail to be satisfied with the blessings you bestow.**

One: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

**All: God, my God, why is it so difficult to allow your mercy to restore my soul? Help me to follow, to trust in your ways and to feel the touch of your grace and healing.**

One: Even though I walk through the darkest valley; I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.

**All: Beloved Lord, some journeys seem too long and too dark to endure. I yearn for your aid. I cry out with longing that you would make me whole. Your**

**shelter has always surrounded me; help me to release my fear. I believe! And yet still I feel broken. I sin against you and your creation in thought word and deed. And yet you claim me and comfort me...**

**One:** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**All:** **When I am exhausted, broken, and feel least charitable to those around me, you invite me to sit at your table. You invite me to be fed with your presence with just what I need. In that sacred pause with mother, father, friend, you pour your blessings upon me and remind me that I am your beloved. You fill my cup with love that spills over, saturates me, and flows through me so that other's lives might also overflow. And yet still in the presence of such blessings, beloved God, I too often fail to love my neighbor as myself. I fail to share the abundance that you offer not just to some, but to all. Strengthen me when I lose my will and courage to walk in your paths.**

**Humbly I confess my sin and seek your forgiveness. *(a moment of silence)***

**One:** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**All:** **Your promise assures me of a vision that often seems beyond my imagining. We turn to your pathways 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."***

**One:** Hear the good news of God's abundant love. Through God's grace we are offered forgiveness. Christ shepherds us into new life.

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

## THE GLORIA PATRI

*“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.”*

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you**

**LESSON** 1 John 3:16-24 (page 928)

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

**HYMN 440** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

**LESSON** Acts 4:5-12 (page 833)

**GOSPEL** John 10:11-18 (page 819)

**SERMON** “Other Sheep”

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “Shepherd Me, O God” Haugen

## 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

**One:** Merciful God,

**All:** We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive our gifts and bless them in your service. Amen.

## PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

## BENEDICTION

**One:** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**All:** We go with God's steadfast love before our eyes, God's faithfulness beneath our feet, God's justice burning in our souls. Amen!

**HYMN** “Go Make Disciples”

**Go, make disciples, baptizing them, teaching them.**

**Go, make disciples, for I am with you 'til the end of time.  
Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light of the world.  
Go, be a city on a hill so all can see that you're serving me.  
Go, make disciples.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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

**Today's Altar Flowers** are from Carol Roe, in memory of her husband, Jim, for their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary. ❤️  
Flowers next to the altar are in memory of David Dorn, father of David Dorn and husband of Wanda Dorn.

**Lectionary for April 28** - Acts 8:26-40 • Psalm 22:25-31 •  
1 John 4:7-21 • John 15:1-8

## **Happy Birthday April 21-27**

Apr 23 Shelly Humphrey

Apr 25 Jordan Bocher, Jim Reigle (98), John Wood (87)

Apr 26 Rose Gaskell, Cheri Hron (92)

Apr 27 LouAnn Gudex (87)

## **Calendar for the Week of April 21**

4/22 Miller Monument Mtg 10 am

4/23 Lectionary 10 am

4/24 XYZ Cards

4/25 Living the Question 10am

4/27 Donna Ogi Funeral



**Pancake Breakfast** – Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. 8-11:30 am. The cost per adult is \$8.00, children 5 and under are free. Menu of pancakes, breakfast sausages, fruit, bakery, coffee, juice & milk. Proceeds to fund the canoe and habitat trips.

**Summer Services**- Peace Church will start summer church service hours on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be only one service at 9:00 a.m. This schedule will run through Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. Two services will start again on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **Peace Church – Catholic Financial Life Matching Grant**

– Catholic Financial Life Chapter 113 is donating a \$500 matching grant towards Peace Church's Peace Pantry/Community Meal Fund. In order to receive this grant, we will need to match the \$500. Donations toward this matching fund can be made to Peace Church through May 12<sup>th</sup>. Please make a note that your donation is for the matching grant. Thank you to Megan Sargent from Catholic Financial Life #113 and Peace Church members!

**Pastoral Relations Survey** – It is time for the annual Pastoral Relations Survey. We ask that all members please take the time to fill out this valuable resource. This survey will be in two parts – part 1 will be the congregation evaluating Pastor Eric and his ministry at Peace Church; part 2 will be the congregation's evaluation of ourselves with regards to our support of Pastor Eric and his ministries. You will be able to access the survey in a couple of ways: A link will be emailed to all members who have an email address on file with the church. Those that do not have an email on file will receive a paper copy of the survey via postal mail. There will also be paper copies of the survey available at the church at both entrances. Please return your survey no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact John Kletti or the church office.

**Missing Book!** Peace Church member, Jim Meinberg, is looking for a book that he wrote about his life. The book was on the table in Peace Church's parking lot lobby. Jim's picture is on the front of the book. IF YOU HAVE SEEN THIS BOOK, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH (262-626-4011) OR RETURN IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Thank you!



## **Church Spring Cleanup - Saturday, May 4th from 9-noon**

- Anyone interested in helping is welcome. The work will consist of mulch in planting areas as needed, some tree branch trimming as needed, misc. clean-up around church, moving plants - adding plants as needed, window washing as needed (exterior side of windows), etc.

## Prayers of the Family of God

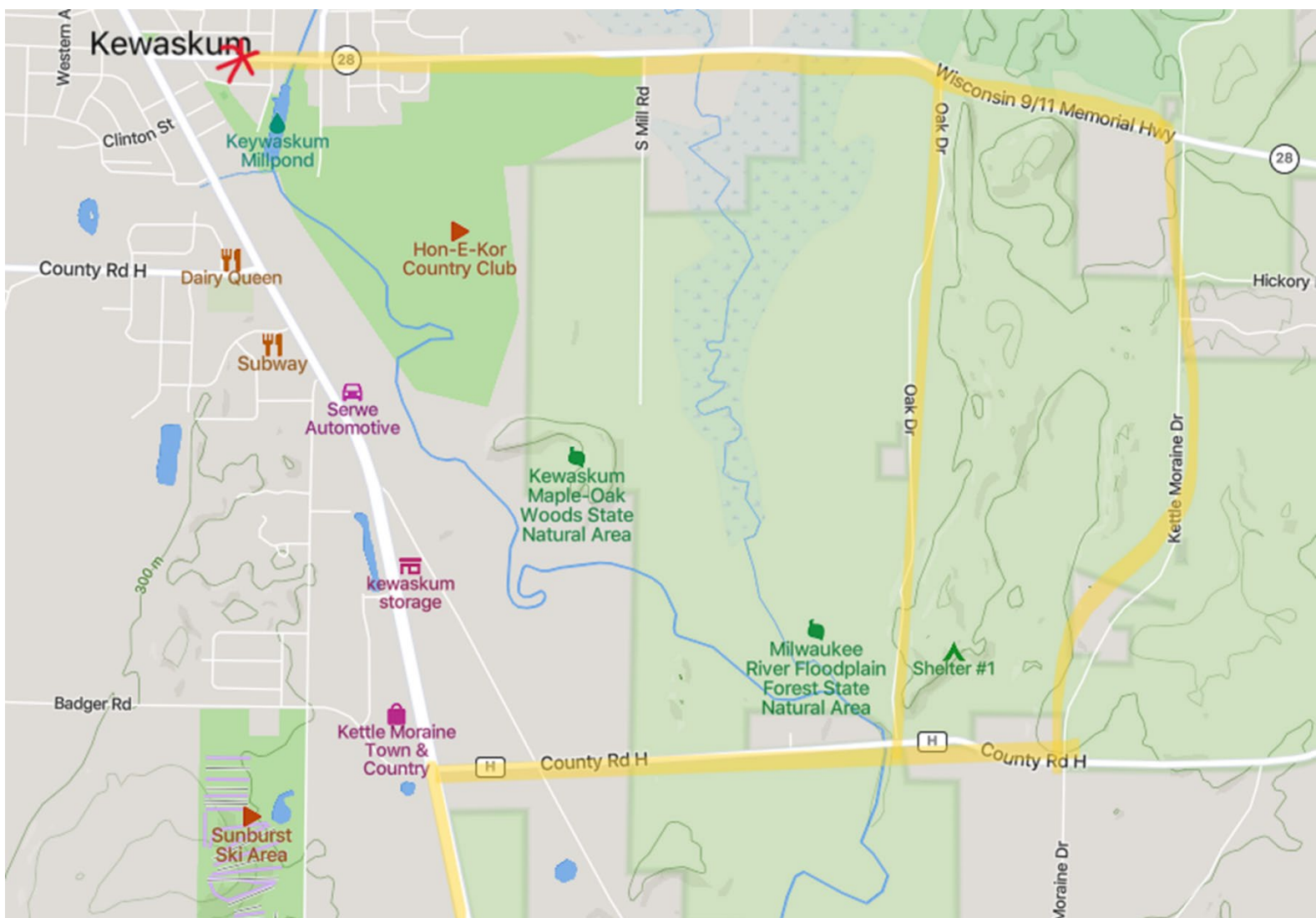
Prayers of Comfort to the family and friends of Donna Ogi, who passed away on Wednesday, April 17, at the age of 95. Funeral services pending.

Prayers of Healing to Duncan Kivell, who started hip replacement therapy on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Prayers to Duncan's wife, Karen, who is in the hospital.

Prayers of Healing to Darrel Nonhof, who is in rehab at Samaritan after a hospital stay.

Prayers of Healing to Cole Loser, who is recovering from knee surgery on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please continue your prayers of healing to Kathy Pahl, Karen Kletti's sister, whose latest MRI showed tumors on her brain and a hip fracture.



**How to get to Peace Church from West Bend** – With the ongoing construction of Fond du Lac Ave in Kewaskum, the best route to get to Peace Church is by taking Hwy H east to either Old Oak Rd or Kettle Moraine Drive, then turn left on to Hwy 28 into Kewaskum. This will be the most consistent route to take until construction is complete