



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
April 23, 2023
Third 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

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

“Blessings”

Story

GREETINGS/PRAYER REQUESTS

*HYMN 311 “Now the Green Blade Rises”

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

All: And also with you.

One: We come with hearts filled with thanksgiving for all that God has done.

All: Clear away our distractions O God, and help us to see you with fresh eyes.

One: Gather us O Christ as we pray:

All: *“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.”*

CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

One: I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

All: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

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

**All: Lord, when we fail to hear your voice in the conversation of the day, have mercy;
When we close ourselves off from seeing your presence before us, have mercy;
When we walk stubbornly in our own pathways instead of faithfully seeking to walk with you, have mercy.
Lord, we confess that we sin against you in thought word and deed; by what we do, and by what we fail to do. Have mercy on us and help us**

to turn back toward your justice and compassion. Amen.

One: There is no sin so great, no brokenness so complete, that God does not offer to love us and heal us completely. God offers us wholeness for our souls, gentleness for our pain, food and light for the journey. God's gifts of love and grace are without end. Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ will come again. Amen.

***HYMN 5** "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Peace be with you
And also with you

PSALM 116:1-4, 12-19 (Page 465)

The Children's Time - As the children come forward,
please sing Hymn 226 "Jesus Loves Me" vs. 1

(9:30 service) THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

This morning we receive into the Christian family:

Bristol Faye Durian, daughter of Bryanna & Nicholas Durian

***All:** We receive this child in Christ's name as we have been received, promising to support Bristol 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"

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 24:13-35 (Page 808)

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC "Standing on the Promises" Line

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Through these gifts, O loving God, we can go where we cannot travel. We can witness where our voices cannot be heard. We can speak in languages which we have

never learned. We can love those whom we have never seen. So, bless your realm through our love, represented by our gifts now dedicated to you. 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!**

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia and 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, Lia Piittmann; Chancel Choir Director: Bill Stangl; Litanist: Joan Adler; Video: David Dorn; Ushers/Greeters: Robert & JoAnn Manthei, Robbie & Cheri Manthei



Altar Flowers – please consider donating towards the flowers that are on the altar on Sundays. You may request that your donation be in memory or in honor of someone. Contact the church office via email or phone to make your request. Thank you!

Lectionary for April 30: Acts 2:42-47 • Psalm 23 • 1 Peter 2:19-25 • John 10:1-10

High School Movie Night – Tonight – All high school students are welcome to join us for a movie night from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Pizza will be served!

NEWS & NOTES

Happy Birthday April 23-29

Apr 23 Shelly Humphrey

Apr 25 Jordan Bocher, Jim Reigle (97), John Wood (86)

Apr 26 Rose Gaskell, Cheri Hron (91)

Apr 29 Heidi Rodenkirch, Ken Singer

Happy Anniversary April 23-29

Apr 23 Tim & Kathy Danielson (46)

Calendar for the Week of April 23, 2023*

4/25 Lectionary 10 am

4/26 XYZ Cards

4/27 Grief Group – 1 p.m.

*Please note that from 4/24-5/2, Pastor Eric will be out of the office. Please contact Vikar Jakob in case of emergency. Robin Mock will be out of the office from 4/26-5/3. The church office will be staffed by Chris Rode during that time.

Peace Church Photo Directory

Peace Church will be putting together a church member photo directory. Pictures will be taken on Thursday, April 27th from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, April 29th from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Time slots will be 10 minutes. The photographers will be taking a variety of shots for you to choose from if you would like to purchase any of the images. The backdrop will be brown tones. Please email or call the church office to schedule your appointment. (office@peace-ucc.org or 262-626-4011)

Food with Friends (formerly Dinner for Eight) – Oops! We have misplaced our sign-up sheet and need to know who is hosting and who is coming for dinner! If you signed up to either host or participate for Food with Friends, please contact Sandi Radeztsky (262-744-9496) or the church office (262-626-4011) so we can update our list! Thank you!

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. The cost will be \$75 for members or \$100 for non-members. If you have questions please contact Karen Kletti, Clark Pearson, or Pastor Eric.

Canoe Trip Meeting – There will be a Canada Canoe Trip planning meeting for all those on the sign-up sheet and anyone else who is interested in this upcoming Church trip. The meeting will be held at church on Thursday evening, May 25th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Fraud Awareness Seminar sponsored by Westbury Bank, will take place on April 27th from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Kewaskum High School Theater (1510 Bilgo Lane) Westbury Bank is committed to helping you learn about fraud and scams that are happening in your community. Our fraud squad has partnered with local law enforcement agencies to offer Fraud Awareness Seminars in your neighborhood! Join us to learn about the most recent scams, get tips, ask questions, have a snack, get out of the house, chat with your neighbors, get a free pen!

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 for Healing:

Nancy Hovland who has been transferred to a step-down critical care hospital in Madison.

Kathy Mertz, as she prepares for heart surgery on Thursday, April 27th.

Marian Herriges, as she prepares for heart surgery on Tuesday, May 2nd.

Mugs McFadden, as she heals from skin cancer surgery.

Prayers of Celebration: Congratulations to Dan & Kathy Rundquist on the birth of their second granddaughter, Eden Kathleen Rundquist (parents – Steve & Carly Rundquist), who was born on 4/18/2023 at home. Eden was in such a hurry to be part of the Rundquist family that she was delivered in Steve & Carly's living room by a female police officer at 3:40 a.m. Both mom and baby are doing great!