

Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard 25 April 2021 Fourth Sunday of Easter 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

WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude

"Abide With Me"

by Monk

PLEASE hum or sing quietly to yourself: "How Can I Keep from Singing?"



The Call to Worship

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

Jesus Christ.

Many: And also with you.

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

Many: 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:

Many: 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.

Many: You would 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.

Many: 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.

Many: 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.

Many: Even when I am least Christian to those around me, still you

fill my cup to overflowing. You would have your love move through me so that other's lives might also overflow. And yet, Brother Christ, 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 hunger 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.

Many: 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."

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

life.

One:

Many: Thanks be to God!

PLEASE hum or sing quietly to yourself: 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."

The Passing of the Peace

Peace be with you

And also with you

Lesson <u>1 John 3:16-24</u> (right click for link)

The Children's Time

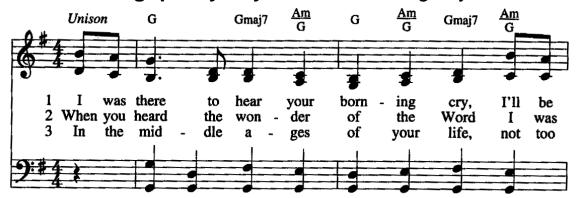
PLEASE hum or sing quietly to yourself: "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know"

The Sacrament of Baptism

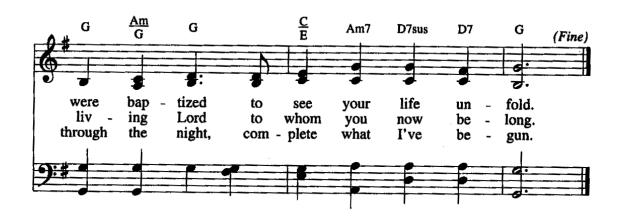
At noon today we will receive into the Christian family, and our church family: Watson Dax, son of Jacob and Jessica Manague.

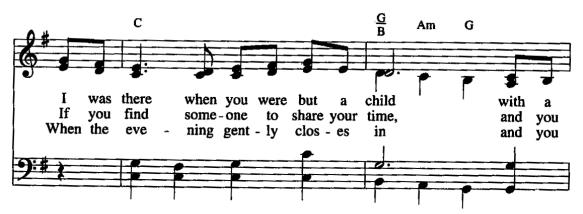
All: We receive Watson in Christ's name as we have been received, promising to support him with constant love, wholesome example, Christian teaching and faithful prayer. We promise to his parents our friendship in Christ, gladly sharing in the burdens and joys of Christian nurture.

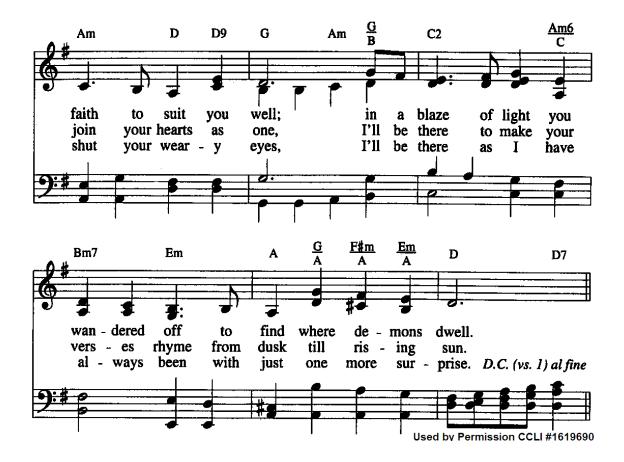
PLEASE hum or sing quietly to yourself: "Borning Cry"











Lesson

Acts 4:5-12 (right click for link)

Gospel Lesson

John 10:11-18 (right click for link)

Sermon

"there will be one flock..."

Special Music

"Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us"

arr. by Line

Prayer of Dedication

One:

Merciful God,

Many:

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of the One who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer

Benediction

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

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

PLEASE sing quietly to yourself, or hum: "Shout to the Lord"





SERVING TODAY

Our Worship Team:

Karla Spaits Sound: Josh Spaits Sherry McElhatton Video: Jake Lemke

Elsa Kirkegaard Sexton: Roger Lindgren

Ministers: ALL OF YOU!

Lectionary for Sunday, May 2 8 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. at **Peace Church**: Fifth Sunday of Easter- Acts 8:26-40 • Psalm 22:25-31 • I John 4:7-21 • John 15:1-8

CALENDAR – WEEK OF April 25, 2021

<u>Lectionary group at Peace Church</u> – Contact the church if you are interested. Each week we will study the scripture for the upcoming Sunday. The group will meet on April 27th at 10:00 a.m.

<u>Adult Faith Formation</u> – We recently completed our study of the book of Ruth and determined that we will spend the rest of the spring and summer with our hearts and minds open to what we can learn from creation... not in class. We will resume our study in the fall with a new study of the 10 Commandments. The study will explore their historical/cultural context and then look to how they impact our lives today. Watch for more info.

Worship at Peace Church

We have regathered at church with capacity limits of 25% of capacity (50 worshippers in the sanctuary, worship leaders are in addition to that number). We have discontinued sign-ups at this time.

We continue to require masks that cover the mouth and nose at all times, for people to practice social distancing, hand washing/sanitizing, and all those other mitigation measures to which we have all become accustomed.

We are inviting people to sing quietly or hum along with hymns.

We will continue streaming all worship services to YouTube – We intend to maintain this practice as a part of our new normal.

We know that the pandemic is not over, nor is it controlled as well as we would have hoped. We encourage everyone to please continue to act with care and caution. We have been trying to take all practical steps toward mitigation of the pandemic as a Congregation, and now is certainly not the time to stop trying to be a part of the solution. Get vaccinated when you are able, do your part in thinking about how your choices impact all of our community and the world. Our commitment is to continue seeking to love our neighbors as ourselves! Please watch the Tidings for other updates regarding our regathering plans.

If you have questions, please call Pastor Eric or the church office or e-mail pastor@peace-ucc.org or office@peace-ucc.org

Thank you Peace Church Congregation!

The Peace Church congregation has always been committed to our mission and has demonstrated that commitment over and over. We thank all of you who have continued to send in your offerings – it is very much appreciated!

We hope, that if you are able, you will continue to give to the church during this difficult time.

Here are ways to give to Peace:

- Mail your gift to church: The church address is: Peace UCC, PO Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040
- Give online by going to <u>GIVE</u> on our website. Scroll down to online giving and click the link and follow the directions.
- You can also set up automatic contributions with your bank. To do this
 just go to your bank's website or to call your local branch and they will
 assist you.

Thank you all...and God Bless.

<u>Altar Flowers</u> – Peace Church will resume taking altar flower orders. If you would like to honor a person or special event by purchasing the altar flowers for a particular Sunday, please send a check for \$20.00 to Peace Church along with the date and reason (e.g.: in memory of Jane Doe or in honor of John and Jane Doe 30th anniversary).

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday April 25 – May 1

April 25 Jordan Bocher, Derek May, James Reigle (95), John Wood (84)

April 26 Cheri Hron (89) April 28 Carol Butzlaff

April 29 Luke Pendowski, Heidi Rodenkirch, Ken Singer

May 1 Scott Herman, Zak Pendowski, David Simons

Happy Anniversary April 25 – May 1

April 25 Pam & Alan May (23)

April 28 Joshua & Arielle Guillaume (3)

April 29 Ashley & Randy Thull (15)

April 30 Susan & Daniel Chesak (33)

PRAYER LIST

Please let us know of any updates to the Prayer Lists

<u>Those in Need of Healing</u>: all shut-ins and those experiencing pain or loss **Members**:

Harvey Brodzeller Dennis Novotny
Judy Christensen Jerry O'Connor

Markus Frank Chris Rode

John Herbst Kathy Rundquist Marilyn McIntosh Michael Schmidt

Friends & Family:

Ezekiel Babette Rhoads

Patricia Hohl Bill Schuster (D. Stangl)
Debbie (Hallen) Betty Sook (J. Christensen)

Alan Kuehl (J. Manthei)

Please keep us updated. Concerns will be listed for 6 weeks.

Those Dealing with Cancer:

Members: Laurie Struck, Carol Butzlaff, Dean Roe, Jim Roe, Joan Schleif, Heidi Rodenkirch

Friends & Family:

Betty (J. Michaels)

Sheri Theep (Van Beek)

Gary & Evelyn Beaupre Jan (D. Stangl)

Jean Cornell (Herriges) Sue Mitchell (Rhoads)
Nephew of Beck Ehmer Paige More (Pearson)

Bonnie Erickson (Winninghoff)
Kerri Estep (Atwater)
Nancy Gruebling (Kletti)
Paula Hader (Adler)
Sharon Rosbeck (Herriges)
Dennis Liepert (J. Michaels)
Karl Schleunes (K. Grundahl)
Sandra Senn (P. Behring)

Zannah & Kendra (Lindgren) Russell Will (Will)

In Celebration

To Jake and Jessica Manogue on the baptism of their son, Watson Dax Manogue. Watson was born on July 27, 2020 and will be baptized at Peace Church on April 25, 2021. We will be streaming Watson's baptism at noon today and then it will be available on our YouTube channel. Congratulations to the Manogue Family!

<u>In Comfort</u> For the family of Al and Sue Hembel, on the death of Al's mother and Peace Church member, Ellen Hembel. Ellen is also the grandmother of Ashley Thull and great grandmother to Angelena, Ashlyn, Ryan and Reeve Thull..

Visitation will be held at Peace Church on Monday, April 26, 2021 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, with a memorial service at 1:30 pm and burial to follow.

Limited capacity will be in effect, and the service will be streamed to the Peace Church YouTube channel. As we grieve Ellen's passing, we celebrate her life in Christ.

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)

Kyle Henk (Army)

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)

Dallas Stolowski (Marine Corp. – Knoth grandson)

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

Samuel Zemlicka-Retzlaff (Air Force)

Thank you to our Covenanted Partner in Ministry: Rev. Gretchen Martin who serves the wider church through her work with the North Carolina Organ Donor Network.

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

Pastor Eric cell: 262-707-0758 - pastor@peace-ucc.org

Pastor Bob Blackburn, Visitation Minister 920-279-0816

Gayle Van Ess, Faith Formation Coordinator 262-339-0304

faithformation@peace-ucc.org

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