



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard - Pastor

Jakob Kröner - Vikar

April 28, 2024

Fifth 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

Vikar Jakob cell: 262-353-8840

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



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

GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

HYMN 40 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

GATHERING OUR HEARTS BEFORE GOD – Psalm 22:25-31

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

All: And also with you.

One: We will praise you among all the people; we will fulfill our vows in the presence of those who worship you.

All: The poor will eat and be satisfied. All who seek the LORD will praise him. Their hearts will rejoice with everlasting joy.

One: The whole earth will acknowledge the LORD and return to him. People from every nation will bow down before him.

All: For the LORD is king! He rules all the nations. Let the rich of the earth feast and worship. Let all mortals—those born to die—bow down in his presence.

One: Future generations will also serve him. Our children will hear about the wonders of the Lord.

All: His righteous acts will be told to those yet unborn. They will hear about everything he has done.

CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

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

All: Nurturing God, father and mother of our souls, you have steadily shown us love and sacrifice beyond measure. Each time we have stumbled, you have picked us up, dusted us off, and sent us skipping back into life’s game. In the presence of that grace, we humbly gather as your children and confess our brokenness. You

have asked us again and again to love one another, to love ourselves, and to love you. Forgive us God, for the times we are ungrateful for the gifts of life, for the times we have failed to trust your wisdom and your ways, for the times we have failed to live out your radical love. Forgive us God, for the times we have strained and broken our relationship with you in thought, word and deed by what we do and by what we fail to do. In the presence of all that you do for us we are humbled...

(We continue our confession in silence.)

One: Gather us to yourself O God. 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.”*

One: Christ has claimed us as one family, as friends bound together in a new covenant. Hear the good news: we are not forgiven because we have loved God, but because God has always loved us so much first. In the ultimate gift of that love Jesus Christ proclaimed to us new life, forgiveness, and salvation evermore. Amen!

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

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

(9:30 service) The Sacrament of Baptism

This morning, we receive into the Christian family:

Eliza June Vis

Daughter of Chloe and Eric Vis

***All: We receive this child in Christ's name as we have been received, promising to support her 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 "I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"

GOSPEL John 15:1-5 (page 824)

LESSON Acts 8:26-40 (page 833)

SERMON "Grafted Into God's Love"

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

All: All good gifts around us come from you, O God. You have given us life, and new life in Christ. As you have blessed us, now we offer our gifts that we may be a blessing to one another. 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. Alleluia and Amen.

HYMN 714 "Shalom My Friends"

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Karla Spaits; Video: Katelyn Scannell; Audio: Joshua Spaits

Today's Altar Flowers are from Lisa & Blaine Atwater in memory of Lisa's mother, Carol Gohacki.

Lectionary for May 5 - Acts 10:44-48 • Psalm 98 • 1 John 5:1-6 • John 15:9-17

Happy Birthday April 28-May 4

Apr 29 Heidi Rodenkirch, Ken Singer

May 1 David Simon

May 2 Gil DeLaurier

May 3 Katelyn Scannell

May 4 Bob Blackburn, Elsa Kirkegaard, Mary Tessar (90)

Happy Anniversary April 28 – May 4

May 2 Bill & Karen Grahl (60)

John & Debbie Guillaume (32)

Calendar for the Week of April 28

4/30 Lectionary 10 am, Stewardship Mtg 5:30pm

5/1 XYZ Cards, Book Club 9:30am,
Community Meal 4:30

5/2 Prayer Shawl 1pm

5/4 Church Clean-up 9 am

Pastor Eric will be away from 5/1-5/3.

Prayer Shawl – May 2nd at 1 pm will be the last prayer shawl gathering until September 5th. If you need to keep busy during those off months, please let Nancy Panzer know. (262-626-2817)



Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, May 5th. 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.

Peace Church – Catholic Financial Life Matching Grant

–We celebrate that we received a match of \$500 for the Catholic Financial Life Chapter 113 Grant! Thank you to Megan Sargent from Catholic Financial Life #113 and Peace Church members for your continued support for the Peace Pantry/Community Meal Fund.

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 31st. If you have any questions, please contact John Kletti or the church office.

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



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 for those who grieve the death of Rev. Ralph Faisst April 23, 2024. Prayers of celebration for all the ways that he embodied God's love and spirit

Prayers for David Domasky who has entered Hospice Care.

Prayers for Sharon Stier's brother-in-law, Ron O'Farrell, who continues to suffer from and battle cancer.

Prayers of joy for Kyle & Caitlin Blackburn, who were joined in marriage on April 4, 2024. Caitlin is Sharon Stier's niece.

Prayers of celebration for St. John United Church of Christ, Freeport, IL. April 28, 2024 marks the congregation's 175 years of serving Christ and neighbors.

PEACE CHURCH COMMUNITY MEAL



**MEATLOAF, MASHED POTATOES,
GREEN BEANS, TEXAS ROADHOUSE
ROLLS, BEVERAGE & DESSERT**

**MAY 1ST
4:30 - 6 PM**

FREE TO ALL!