



**Peace United Church of Christ**  
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard  
July 30, 2023  
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

*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)

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

## WORSHIP SERVICE

### PRELUDE

“The Prayer”

### GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

### HYMN 653

“I Will Call Upon the Lord”

### BEING GATHERED IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD-

Psalm 119:129-136

One: Your laws are wonderful. No wonder I obey them!

**All: The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.**

One: I pant with expectation, longing for your commands.

**All: Come and show me your mercy, as you do for all who love your name.**

One: Guide my steps by your word, so I will not be overcome by evil.

**All: Ransom me from the oppression of evil people; then I can obey your commandments.**

One: Look upon me with love; teach me your decrees. Rivers of tears gush from my eyes because people disobey your instructions.

### CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

One: Sin is turning our backs on God. We follow our desires and disregard the promises that we make with God. When we live in sin, we ignore who we are, and who we are called to be. We forget the image in which we are made. We no longer live in love, or live with the spirit of forgiveness and acceptance guiding our lives.

**All: God of abundant grace, we can be so clouded by our own pursuits that we fail to notice the riches hidden in our midst. We have not valued people by your standards. We have sought treasures that turn to rust and make us unfeeling toward the needs of the vulnerable and marginalized among us. Let your spirit work in our hearts and souls. Empower and embolden**

**us to be your servants in this world, living out the radical vision of your Kingdom.**

**Amen.**

One: In everything, God works for good with those who respond with love and obedience. We bear the image of God and it is he who loves us and claims us and will glorify us. Know that if we seek his forgiveness, he is sure to grant us peace and his forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen

A Response Of Halleluja "Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le,lu-ja"

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you**

Lesson Romans 8:26-39 (Page 862)

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

**HYMN 427** "You Are My All in All"

**GOSPEL** Matthew 13:44-52 (Page 748)

**OT LESSON** 1 Kings 3:5-12 (Page 249)

**SERMON**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Gabriel's Oboe"

**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 DEDICATON**

**We bring no fine pearls or costly treasure to share with the world. But what we bring we dedicate to the search for eternal values. Help us to be a community which not only gives of our material wealth to serve the world, but also a community which opens our doors wide and extends our hands to all who need the love of**

**God no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey. Amen.**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER -LORD'S PRAYER**

**“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.”**

## **BENEDICTION**

**One:** Go forth in joy, giving thanks for the ministries we offer one another and our world, and attuning our hearts to how God might be inviting us to share our own gifts.

**All:** **Our worship doesn't end with the sounding of church bells. Our ministry doesn't stop at the church's doors. We go forth to love and to serve, for we are the church! Alleluia and Amen.**

**HYMN 393** “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

## **POSTLUDE**

**Serving Today:** Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Karla Spaits, Ellie Baldus, Elsa Kirkegaard, Mia Dornacker; Litanist: Mugs McFadden; Video: Katelyn Scannell

**Today's Altar Flowers** are from Joan Adler, in memory of her parents and sister.

**Lectionary for August 6** - Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15 • Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 • Romans 9:1-5 • Matthew 14:13-21



## **NEWS & NOTES**



### **Happy Birthday July 30 – Aug 5**

July 30 Chris Rode

July 31 Kenzell Bocher, Dale Scannell

Aug 1 Tim Zolp

Aug 2 Connie Zemlicka (81)

Aug 3 Randy Backhaus

Aug 4 Kay Blackburn

Aug 5 Blaine Atwater

### **Happy Anniversary – July 30 – Aug 5**

Aug 3 Vance & Susan Reif (32)

Aug 4 Ron & Lynn Rusch (61)

Steve & Whitney Volm (5)

### **Calendar for the Week of July 30, 2023**

7/31 – 8/4 Vacation Bible School

8/1 Youth Breakfast, Lectionary 10 am

8/2 **NO** XYZ Cards, Sacred Space Worship 7pm

8/3 Youth Breakfast

8/4-8/5 – Youth Group Camp-out at Spaits Farm

### **VBS 2023 BLASTING OFF**

July 31 – August 4, 2023 - Peace Church

8:30 – 11:30 a.m. - Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

Registration forms are available in the front and back entrances to the church or at peace church's website.

**Midweek worship!** Sacred Space is held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Services are less formal, more interactive, some different music. Come and be a part of experiencing/imagining how we create a new worship experience at Peace UCC.

**Feed Our Kids** – Peace Church will be hosting a Youth Breakfast every Tuesday and Thursday morning (9 am – 11 am) through August. Children will have a hardy breakfast two days a week and will go home with packed lunches. The Kewaskum Kiwanis Club and area community businesses will fund this program.

### **Peace Church Picnic Raffles**

After worship service, raffle tickets will be available for purchase and raffle items bags will be in Fellowship Hall for you to start selecting items you hope to win!

### **Peace UCC Youth Group Activities**

Friday August 4 to Saturday August 5.

Peace UCC Youth Group (Middle & High School)

Camp out at the Spaits Farm. Drop off at Josh and Karla's farm at 6pm on the 4th. Pick up is at 11am on the 5th. Bring sleeping bags, flashlights, toiletries, a jacket or sweatshirt, pillow, change of clothes, etc.

We will play yard games, cook over a bonfire, visit the farm animals, and hike Faith Haven.

RSVP with Josh @ 303-565-6549 for the address and so we have enough food.

**EcuMen Summer Tour** – On August 13th, the EcuMen will be visiting Peace Church. Come early to the 9:00 a.m. service to hear them perform a couple of songs starting at 8:50 a.m.

## **PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK**

*Current prayers will be listed for one week unless otherwise indicated. Requests may be emailed to [office@peace-ucc.org](mailto: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:** to Jadon Rhodes, who was in a motorcycle accident and is in the hospital. Jadon is the son of Justin Rhodes and grandson of Jill Rhodes.

To Christ Gudex, who was hospitalized this past week with heart issues, is currently recovering at home.





# Peace Church Picnic

**AUGUST 6TH - 9:00 A.M.  
RIVER HILL PARK**

**WORSHIP - LUNCH (HAMBURGERS, CHICKEN  
SANDWICHES, GERMAN POTATO SALAD,  
WATERMELON, CORN-ON-THE-COB, BEVERAGE) -  
LIVE MUSIC - DESSERTS  
RAFFLES - KID ACTIVITIES**

**[WWW.PEACE-UCC.ORG](http://WWW.PEACE-UCC.ORG)**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!  
ADULT \$15, AGE 6-11 \$10,  
CHILDREN 5 & UNDER FREE  
NEW THIS YEAR: FAMILY TICKET -  
2 ADULT AND UP TO 5 KIDS \$50**