



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
August 20, 2023
Twelfth 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
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

GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

HYMN 20 "Like a Mighty River Flowing"

BEING GATHERED IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD-

Excerpts from Psalm 104

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

Many: And also with you.

One: Let my whole being bless the LORD! LORD my God, how fantastic you are! You are clothed in glory and grandeur!

All: You wear light like a robe; you open the skies like a curtain. You put gushing springs into dry riverbeds. They flow between the mountains, providing water for every wild animal—

One: Overhead, the birds in the sky make their home, chirping loudly in the trees. The earth is filled full by the fruit of what you've done.

All: LORD, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely! The earth is full of your creations! All your creations wait for you to give them their food in due season.

One: When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things! When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

All: I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being. Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

INVOCATION AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

God of wonder, open our eyes to see your presence all around us. Startle us with new revelations through word and song and witness.

Challenge us to not only see Your diversity and beauty in creation, but also in the faces and hearts of all Your children. Nurture in us the love that breaks down barriers, the faith that demands justice, the insight that calls us to walk humbly with you.

Gather us again as your beloved who long for your Kingdom ways. 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.”*

CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just forgives our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness.

Merciful God, we confess that, because of the sin that clouds our lives, we are unable to hear your call or obey your command to faithful service. Other calls obscure our ability to see you at work in all that surrounds us and all that is within us. Forgive us for all that we do and for all that we fail to do, for neither loving neighbor or self as you command, for failing to see our neighbor in all of the faces of the world, even our enemies. For the sake of your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

a time of silence

Beloved God, forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that walking in your ways we may

**come to delight in your will and see as
through your eyes. Amen.**

Our God is good, his love and mercy are without bounds. Open your hearts and receive the good news, God has walked with us, suffered with us, died for us, and risen to offer new life to each of us. We are forgiven that we might claim a future more faithful than our past. **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

Genesis 45:1-15

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

HYMN 428 “When Peace Like a River”

SCRIPTURE READING

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CANOE TRIP

SPECIAL MUSIC

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

Gracious Christ, we open our lives to Your spirit. We offer ourselves, our labors, our love, all that we are, to You and to Your world. Take our hands as you receive our gifts and grant us new life as your servants. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

RESPONSE #489 “Lord Listen to Your Children Praying”

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;*

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All: **We go to love and serve for we are the Church!
Alleluia and Amen.**

HYMN 710 "The Trees of the Field"

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Karla Spaits, The Canoe Trip
Participants: Alex Fischer, Cindy Fischer, John Kletti,
Lauren Krebbs, Jakob Kroner, Elsa Kirkegaard, Eric
Kirkegaard, Kandy Lindgren, Lily Lindgren, Grace Loser,
Aidan Polzin, Bill Stangl, April Stern, Debbie Stern; Video:
David Dorn

Today's Altar Flowers are from Vance Reif, in honor of
Donnie & DiAnna Mueller family.

Lectionary for August 27 - Exodus 1:8-2:10 and Psalm
124 • Isaiah 51:1-6 and Psalm 138 • Romans 12:1-8 •
Matthew 16:13-20



NEWS & NOTES



Happy Birthday Aug 20 - 26

Aug 20 Lily Lindgren

Aug 21 Karen Grundahl, Wyatt Herman, Dean Roe (89)

Aug 23 Jamie Herman, Janette Loomis (89)

Bev Winninghoff (84)

Aug 25 Karen Fellenz, Benjamin Herbst

Calendar for the Week of Aug 20, 2023

8/22 Youth Breakfast, Lectionary 10 am,

8/23 XYZ Cards

8/24 Youth Breakfast, Grief Group 1pm

8/26 Peace Church Brat Fry @ Piggly Wiggly 10a-2p



Peace Church Brat Fry at Piggly Wiggly –

Peace Church will be hosting a brat fry at the Kewaskum Piggly Wiggly on Saturday, August 26th. Brats, hamburgers, and hot dogs will be served from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. **We need volunteers to help with this event. 2 workers are needed for the noon – 3 shift.** Proceeds will go to the Canoe Trip expenses. Sign up by calling the church office at 262-626-4011.

Thank you to my wonderful Peace Church family for singing Happy Birthday to me on Sunday, August 13th and for the birthday cards sent to me. I am blessed to be part of YOU! Betty Graff

Family Promise is being hosted by Peace Church the week of August 21st. Meals will be made on Monday, August 21st at 11:00 a.m. in the Peace Church kitchen. We are looking for volunteers to help prepare the meals. Please contact Kathy Charland (262-483-7811 or charland22056@gmail.com) or the church office (262-626-4011 – office@peace-ucc.org) if you are available to help. Cash donations are needed and appreciated!

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:

To Maribeth Kasper, sister to Susan Reif. Maribeth is recovering from recent surgery.