



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

September 12, 2021

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

“Peace Church exists to feed souls,
grow in God's extravagant love and
together serve all of God's children and creation.”

WORSHIP SERVICE

- Prelude "Heart and Soul" arr. Lorie Line
- ↑Hymn "Canticle of the Sun" vss. 1-3 (see hymn at back of bulletin)
- A Prayer of Self Dedication
- One: Come let us center our hearts again in worship. We share a prayer of self-dedication:
This is our church,
- All: We make it what it is.**
- One: Others will feel welcomed,
- All: If I am welcoming.**
- One: It will do a great work,
- All: If I work.**
- One: It will make generous gifts to many causes,
- All: If I am a generous giver of my time, talents, and treasure.**
- One: It will be a sanctuary for social justice and peace,
- All: If I advocate for marginalized communities and practice peace in every setting of my life.**
- One: It will be a church that embraces all, builds community, grows faith, and transforms lives,
- All: If I, who make it what it is, practice these things.**
- One: Therefore, with the grace of God, we shall be a safe and inclusive church, living God's message of radical hospitality and unbounded mercy.
- All: And I shall dedicate myself to being all the things I want my church to be. Amen.**

Confession of Adoration and Confession

- One: We offer our confession before our God.
- Many: We hear the power of your transforming words, and we know how often our own utterances fall short. Our speech grows lazy, lacking sensitivity. We remain silent when your words of grace and justice should be spoken. We forget that you have called us to be**

prophetic witnesses. Our loose tongues disparage others and hurt those we love the most. Our stubbornness keeps us from hearing the witness of others. You invite us into a radically different way of being, and still we cling to our fears, our doubts, and our self-serving certainties. Help us to deal with the consequences of our wrong choices.

Speaker of grace, forgive us. Guard our mouths from any offenses. Put your words on our tongues, that we might speak your truth and share your love. Help us to empty ourselves so that we may again be filled by you.

God's grace is abundant and offered to all. In Christ we find the guide and strength to know and speak eternal truth. Know that you are Christ's beloved; you are forgiven that you may find your way with God. Humbly 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.”

↑ **Act of Praise** (sung to the tune of Lasst Uns Erfreuen hymn #23)

***“From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator’s praise arise; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung;
let God the Spirit free each tongue.***

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”

↑ **The Passing of the Peace**

Peace be with you
And also with you

Lesson

[James 3:1-12](#)

The Children’s Time

Please hum or sing: “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know”

Blessing of the Backpacks – please bring your backpacks forward to receive a blessing.

Let us Pray: God of all knowledge and wisdom, these backpacks, students, and teachers remind us that another school year has begun. We pray your blessing on these backpacks:

May the burdens in them be light. May your Holy Spirit watch over those who carry them, students young and old. And may that Spirit be at work with all those who seek to fill backpacks and students with knowledge and inspiration - teachers, staff, parents and community. Help all of us to discover and develop the gifts you have given us. As we grow in knowledge, help us to also grow in kindness and compassion, learning respect for ourselves and others.

Bless these backpacks as symbols of your blessings surrounding us with encouragement, support, and love. In the name of the great Teacher at whose knee we are all students, Amen.

9:30 only – Dedication of our Sunday School Teachers

***Congregation: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

Hymn #593

“Lord, Speak to Me”

Lesson

[Proverbs 1:20-33](#)

Gospel

[Mark 8:27-38](#)

Sermon

“Let Them Deny Themselves... And Follow Me.”

Special Music

“Forest Lake Song”

arr. Lorie Line

↑Prayer of Dedication

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

Benediction

Leader: Go in Peace, serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia and Amen.

Announcements

↑Hymn #719

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

Postlude

Lectionary for September 19: Proverbs 31:10-31 and Psalm 1 • Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22 or Jeremiah 11:18-20 and Psalm 54 • James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a • Mark 9:30-37

SERVING TODAY

Litanists: Jackie McCurdy
Ushers: (8) Clark Pearson (9:30)
Organist: Karla Spaits
Video: Jake Lemke
Audio: Joshua Spaits
Coffee Hour: (8) (9:30)

NEWS & NOTES

Worship at Peace Church

Updates from the Regathering Committee:

As a committee we agreed that we will continue following the guidelines of the CDC, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, while using the local data generated by the County Health Department. Following these guidelines and our current County Covid cases our capacity is going backwards! At this time we should be limiting our attendance again to 25% of capacity! (about 50 worshippers in the sanctuary, the worship leaders are in addition to that number). During the summer we have been sitting close to this number. This is a bold reminder for all of us to do our part and consider how we not only keep ourselves safe, but also our neighbors and especially the most vulnerable among us. If each of us do our small part then we will more quickly and safely return to normal!

For people who are unvaccinated, per CDC guidelines, masks are required over the mouth and nose at all times, and social distancing of 6 feet remains.

If you are vaccinated, per CDC guidelines, in order to maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, the CDC recommends wearing a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission. Currently, Washington County falls into that category. Masks are available at all entrances.

Peace Church Worship on YouTube: We will continue streaming all worship services to our YouTube Channel at “Peace UCC Kewaskum” or you can find a link from our website: www.peace-ucc.org or through our Facebook page. We are also now streaming all funeral services and posting those online.

Lectionary group at Peace Church Each week we gather together to study the scripture for the upcoming Sunday. The group meets Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are a vital part of Peace Church to keep things running smoothly. Church volunteerism is the lifeblood of any church. People often think that volunteering in church is a huge time commitment. That is not necessarily true. Your service does not have to be ongoing. You can serve on a rotational basis and still make an impact. If you want to see Peace Church grow and prosper, we encourage you to volunteer and give your time.

Here are some of the volunteer opportunities at Peace Church:

- Ushering
- Coffee Fellowship
- Church Decorating
- Serving on the Consistory
- Greeter
- Litanist
- Singing in the Choirs
- Teaching Sunday School

Please contact the church office at office@peace-ucc.org or 262-626-4011 to volunteer or to find out more information on an area that interests you. To all volunteers, thank you for the ways you serve Christ and our church.

Chancel Choir - Chancel Choir practice will begin **Tuesday, September 14th from 6:30-7:30 p.m.** New members and all vocal ranges are welcome. All you need to bring is a love of music and the willingness to enjoy spending time with a really special group of people. See you on the 14th! Bill Stangl

Cedar Valley Part-time Employment: Cedar Valley, UCCI is looking to add a few extra hands to its incredible team. Whether you are interested in housekeeping, adding your talents to the kitchen, or you'd like to help in our office part time... We'd like to get to know you. This is a perfect opportunity for High School students or anyone looking for part time employment. At Cedar Valley, hours are flexible and may include weekends. Volunteer Opportunities are also available. Contact Michelle Spettel, Email – mspettel@ucci.org, Phone – 262.629.1852

PRAYER LIST

Please let us know of any updates to the Prayer Lists

Those in Need of Healing: all shut-ins and those experiencing pain or loss

Members:

Brianna Augustin
Rev. Bob Blackburn
Harvey Brodzeller
Nancy Brodzeller
Fran Charland
Judy Christensen
Dave Domasky
Markus Frank
Betty Graff
John Herbst
Jim Meinberg
Joyce Meinberg
Marilyn McIntosh
Jinny Michaels
Dennis Novotny
Sharon Ostermann
Clark Pearson
Michael Schmidt
Greg Vorpahl

Bev Winninghoff
Connie Zemlicka

Friends & Family:

Ezekiel
Gene
Joy Brott
Lorrie (H. Bruenn)
Dan Devine
Howard Floeter (Lemke)
Klaine (Lemke)
Patricia Hohl
Debbie (Hallen)
Jeremy (Rodenkirch)
Alan Kuehl (J. Manthei)
Gerald Piittmann
Babette Rhoads
Colin Volm

Those Dealing with Cancer:

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

Friends & Family:

David (Grundahl)
Betty (J. Michaels)
Kathy (Augustin)
Jean Cornell (Herriges)
Nephew of Beck Ehmer
Bonnie Erickson (Winninghoff)
Kerri Estep (Atwater)
Alan Floeter (Lemke)
Nancy Gruebling (Kletti)

Paula Hader (Adler)
Brenda Jacklin (Piittmann)
Kathy Jarolimek (Henk)
Kathy (S. Augustin family)
Zannah & Kendra (Lindgren)
Sheri Theep (Van Beek)
Sue Mitchell (Rhoads)
Dennis Liepert (J. Michaels)
Sandra Senn (P. Behr)

Prayers of Comfort: to the family and friends of John Coulter, who passed away on Tuesday, August 31st. A funeral for John will be held on Monday,

September 13th at Peace Church. Visitation is from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. with the service at 4:00 p.m.

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)

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)

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

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday - September 12 – September 18

Sept 12 Nick Paul

Sept 13 Parker Koch, Katie Pendowski

Sept 14 Knox Gitter, Kaylee Wiskirchen

Sept 16 Tracy Boettcher, Barbara Busch, Loran Butzlaff (82), Karen Vernal

Sept 17 Erik Rundquist

Sept 18 Kandy Lindgren, Vernon Ludwig, Ellie O'Brien-Flasch, Corrie Strutz

Anniversaries – September 12 – September 18

Sept 13 Marilyn & David McIntosh (63)

Sunday School News

Children in the PreK-Kdg class and 3rd-4th Grade Class will receive their very own Bibles on the following Sunday, September 19th. *The Beginner's Bible* will be presented to all Pre-K and Kdg students who have not already received one, while *The NIV Adventure Bible* will be given to all 3rd and 4th Grade students who do not already have theirs.

Middle School Youth Group



Karla and Josh Spaits will lead the Middle School Youth Group with lots of fun activities and events! Here's what's going on in September!

Sept. 18: Movie and Games

Sept. 25: Service Activity (TBD)

All activities this month will meet in Fellowship Hall from 5-8 pm

Special Event!

The Church Basement Ladies is coming to the Schauer Arts Center in Hartford, WI on Saturday, March 5, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$40.00.

We hope to get enough people interested to carpool from Peace Church.

Tickets are being pre-purchased, as the show is expected to sellout very quickly!

Reserve your seat today by signing up on the bulletin board in the church parking lot lobby or by calling or emailing the church office at Office@peace-ucc.org or 262-626-4011.

Tickets will go fast.



Church Basement Ladies, a celebration of the church basement kitchen and the women who work there, features four distinct characters and their relationships as they organize the food and the problems of a rural Minnesota church. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young bride-to-be learning the proper order of things, the book and music give us a touching, funny look at their lives as we see them handle a record-breaking Christmas dinner, the funeral of a dear friend, a Hawaiian Easter Fundraiser, and a steaming hot July wedding. They stave off potential disasters, share and debate recipes, instruct the young, and keep the Pastor on due course while thoroughly enjoying, (and tolerating) each other. Funny and down to earth, audiences will recognize these ladies as they begin to see the church year unfold from below the House of God.

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

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](#)

Canticle of the Sun

Refrain



The heav - ens are tell - ing the glo - ry of God,



and all cre - a - tion is shout - ing for joy.



Come, dance in the for - est, come, play in the field,



and sing, sing to the glo - ry



of the Lord.

Verses



1. Sing to the sun, the bring - er of day, He
2. Praise to the wind that blows through the trees, The
3. Praise to the rain that wa - ters our fields, And
4. Praise to the fire who gives us his light, The
5. Sing to the earth who makes life to grow, The
6. Praise to our death that makes our life real, The



car - ries the light of the Lord in his rays; The
 seas might - y storms, the gen - tl - est breeze; They
bles - es our crops so all the earth yields; From
 warmth of the sun to bright - en our night; He
 crea - tures you made to let your life show; The
 knowl - edge of loss that helps us to feel; The



moon and the stars who light up the way Un -
 blow where they will, they blow where they please To
death un - to life her mys - t'ry re - vealed Springs
 danc - es with joy, his spir - it so bright, He
 flow - ers and trees that help us to know The
 gift of your - self, your pres - ence re - vealed To



to your throne.
 please the Lord.
forth in joy.
 sings of you.
 heart of love.
 lead us home.

⊕ Coda



Lord.

Sing,



sing to the glo - ry of the Lord.

