



Peace United Church of Christ

Rev. Eric Kirkegaard

April 7, 2023

Good Friday

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

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On the web @ www.peace-ucc.org, Peace on Facebook, YouTube at: Peace UCC Kewaskum

DELIVER US AND GIVE US PEACE – by John Davies

Lord Jesus,
by your cross and resurrection
deliver us
by your witness to the truth
deliver us
by your passion and death
deliver us
by your victory over the grave
deliver us
from the lust of power
deliver us
from the conspiracy of silence
deliver us
from the worship of weapons
deliver us
from the slaughter of innocents
deliver us
from the nightmare of hunger
deliver us
from the peace that is no peace
deliver us
from security that is no security
deliver us
from the politics of terror
deliver us
from the plundering of the earth's resources
deliver us
from the dispossession of the poor
deliver us
from the despair of this age
deliver us
by the light of the gospel
give us peace
by the good news for the poor
give us peace
by your healing of our wounds
give us peace
by faith in your word
give us peace
by hunger and thirst for justice
give us peace
by the coming of your kingdom
give us peace
Amen.

WORSHIP

Prelude “Nothing But the Blood of Jesus” arr Lane

Greetings – A Time of Centering

The Call to Gather

One: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and we loved darkness rather than light.

All: God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

One: For God sent a Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

All: If I say, “Let the darkness cover me, and light around me turn to night,” darkness is not dark to you, O God.

One: The night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

All: Come, let us worship in spirit and in truth.

Hymn 283 "Were You There?" vs. 1

The Song of the Suffering Servant - Isaiah 53:4-9
(responsively)

Surely he has borne our grief and carried our sorrows;
**Yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God,
and afflicted.**

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised
for our iniquities;

**Upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and
by his bruises we are healed.**

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every
one to our own way;

And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not
open his mouth;

**Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep
that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open
his mouth.**

By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich,

Although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Hymn 283 "Were You There?" vs. 2

The Passion of Our Lord

Reflection: Pastor Eric

Hymn 272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 1

I. Matthew 26:36-46

Hymn 272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 2

II. Matthew 26:47-56

Hymn 272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 3

III. Matthew 26:57-75

Reflection Vikar Jakob

Hymn 254 "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley" verse 1

IV. Matthew 27:1-26

Hymn 254 "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley" verse 2

V. Matthew 27:27-44

Hymn 254 "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley" verse 3

VI. Matthew 27:45-50

Special Music *He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word*
Soloist - Roger Mertz

Prayers of the People (adapted from Bruce Prewer)

One: How have we forsaken you, O God?

Where there is suffering, we turn our eyes.
Where there is exclusion, we turn our backs.
Where there is need, we turn our hearts.
Where there is injustice, we remain silent.
And yet, we know that you are among the injured,
and the lonely, and the hungry, and the poor.

People: How have we forsaken you, O God?

Silence

We seek your saving grace, God of Christ Jesus, for all those who on this Good Friday are lost among their doubts, sins, griefs or fears.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For those who suffer gravely from the cruel abuse of their fellows, and all who suffer because of the apathy and neglect of respectable people.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For some who are suffering from disease or accident, and the many who suffer because of terrorism and war.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For those who suffer abuse at home or at work, and the many children who suffer from the bullying or rejection of their peers.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For any who suffer a painful, terminal illness, and those loved ones whose spirits are this day torn by raw grief.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For those who in their suffering have no faith to support them, and any whose once-vibrant faith seems to be ebbing away under stress.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For all who in suffering still trust and praise their God, and those who while suffering themselves still give comfort to their distressed friends and loved one.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

Silence

Loving God, we recommit our lives to you that we may humbly carry whatever cross you give us. Now is the acceptable time!

Help us to be your hands, Holy One,
reaching out to heal the hurting of this world.

Help us to be your ears, Holy One,
hearing and understanding the cries for justice and mercy.

Help us to be your arms, Holy One,
embracing the sorrow and offering comfort.

Help us to be your feet, Holy One,
**walking with those who suffer and guiding the
journey toward peace.**

Let us not forsake you any longer, O God.
Now is the acceptable time!

The Lord's Prayer

We remember how you taught us to pray for a
different way in our world, a different way in our lives.

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.”**

Hymn 283 "Were You There?" vs. 3

Dismissal

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come to you.

Holy God, have mercy on us.



There is no benediction offered today,
our worship continues until
we resume Easter Morning

*We conclude in Silence. You are invited to remain as
long as you wish in prayer and meditation. Please
depart quietly and go with God.*

SERVING TODAY

Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Roger Mertz; Video: Katelyn
Scannell; Sexton: Roger Lindgren