

*Good*   
**FRIDAY**

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**Peace United Church of Christ**  
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard - Pastor  
Vikar Jakob Kröner – Associate Pastor  
March 29, 2024 – 1 p.m.  
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.

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**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. Line

**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**

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. Mark 14:53-65

**Hymn 272** "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 2

II. Mark 14:66-72

**Hymn 272** "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 3

III. Mark 15:1-5

**Hymn 284** "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" verse 1

IV. Mark 15:6-15a

**Hymn 284** "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" verse 2

V. Mark 15:15b-32

**Hymn 284** "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" verse 3

VI. Mark 15:33-47

Reflection Pastor Jakob

**Special Music** "It was for Me" by Rogers

**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 those who are suffering from disease or accident, and those 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 suffers 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 their 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.**

**Postlude**                    “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”                    arr. Medema



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, Anna Piittmann, Lia Piittmann, Roger Mertz, Greg Ogi; Video: David Dorn; Sexton: Roger Lindgren