

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

www.youtube.com/stpetersuccwashmo

** - Please rise in body or spirit.*

CENTERING OURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

“Be Still, My Soul”

Chapel Bells

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT

Back Bay Mission

CHORAL INTROIT

“Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing” Gordon Young

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on John 14)

Pat Swinger, Liturgist

One: Jesus said: ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.’

Many: We believe in Jesus Christ, whose resurrection promises all creation and all people new life.

One: Jesus said with assurance: ‘In God’s house, there are many rooms.’

Many: Jesus spoke of dwelling places prepared for us, children of God.

One: Jesus promised: ‘If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you there myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.’

Many: We give thanks for the promise that when it is time for us to leave our earthly lives, Jesus carries us to a place where God dwells.

One: Jesus said, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life.’

Many: We gather today to celebrate life and to bear witness to the resurrection. Thanks be to God.

*HYMN

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

230

Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;

God has brought all Israel into joy from sadness;

Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters;

Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

Spring has dawned on earth today; Christ has burst from prison,

And from three days’ sleep in death as the sun has risen;

All the winter of our sins, long and gray, is flying

From the Light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the joyous season, bright with the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts, comes its joys to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dim portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal hold you as a mortal;
But today amid the twelve you still stand, bestowing
Peace and joy which evermore passes human knowing.

*UNISON PRAYER

God of resurrection life, we thank you for the promise of your eternal presence, from which we are never separated. Today we remember the saints who have gone before us. We entrust all those buried in our cemetery to your gracious care. May our commemoration of our cemetery remind us that together we are the communion of saints. Together we are to increase faith as we remember those who have gone before us. Amen.

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

THE FIRST LESSON Revelation 21:1-6

CHOIR ANTHEM “Since Jesus Came Into My Heart” Shackley Chancel Choir
(*lyrics p 8*)

THE SECOND LESSON John 19:38-42

SERMON

*HYMN “I Come to the Garden Alone” 237

I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.
And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing; And the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing. And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

I'd stay in the garden with him, though the night around me be falling:
 But he bids me go; through the voice of woe, his voice to me is calling.
 And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,
 And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
 temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the
 power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE GIVE WHAT GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US
 INVITATION TO GIVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (Hymn Tune: Hyfrydol)

243 (v 4)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to the God of joy;
Alleluia to the Savior who came death's bonds to destroy;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia! To the Triune Majesty.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

God of abundant life and abundant living, all that we have is yours. Bless our offerings this morning. May they share in our time and place, the good news of Christ's resurrection and your gift of new life in you through faith. Amen.

*HYMN

"For All the Saints"

299

**For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**You were their rock, their refuge, and their might:
you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;
'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold,
live as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and share with them a glorious crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet in your love our faithful lives entwine. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
then hearts are brave again, and faith grows strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

☞ **Thank You for Worshipping Here Today** ☞

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St. Peter's United Church of Christ welcomes you to today's worship. If you are visiting us today for the first time, please fill out the "Welcome Card" in the pews and place it in the offering plate. We also welcome those who are attending worship online.

The altar flowers are placed by Steve & Pat Forget in celebration of their 46th wedding anniversary.

"These Days" devotional booklets and the May Newsletter are available in the atrium and the church office. A special thank you to Patty Wood, editor, and the faithful proof-readers who produce our monthly newsletter. The deadline to submit articles is the 21st.

Please pray . . . With Jody B., Jason, Delores Borcharding, Cheryl, Samantha Cerutti-Wacker, Patrick & Christina Flanagan, Pete, Marge Jones, Bryce Meyer, Ken, Grace, Amber E., Greg Berry, Jon Sanfilippo, Laurie Pinnell, Anonymous

In 2025 **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** is celebrating 150 years—A Bit of History
January 4, 1901 Upon roll call 25 members were present. The church council reported that a new entrance and fence had been built on the cemetery under the supervision of the council. Entrance was provided with an inscription. The Ladies' Aid and the Young Ladies' Society paid the cost out of their treasury. It was moved and carried that the congregation sanction this transaction and thank both societies for the nice present.

Edward Maschmann 10/24/1859-8/5/1924 Edward began his working career as Washington Street Commissioner, a position he held for 12 years. In 1904 he was elected City Marshall and held that job for the next 20 years. Edward had 13 children. He died at his home on Elm Street.

COME ONE, COME ALL to the Cemetery Anniversary Picnic today from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Barbeque and sides provided by the American Legion. Fun games and activities for all ages. Bounce House. Learn how to use Dowsing Rods--magic, myth, or the mind???? Katie Dieckhaus (Washington Historical Society) will entertain us with stories and history of some of our "occupants" who helped shape St. Peter's and Washington.

Cemetery Picnic Requests:

1. Please use the church restrooms BEFORE attending the picnic. There is only ONE bathroom at the cemetery.
 2. Please save the parking lot adjacent to the chapel for those who may have difficulty walking. Use entrance from Terry Ln.
 3. Others may park along Terry Ln. (east of the cemetery) or ENTER the WEST driveway (may park along here) and EXIT the EAST driveway (NO PARKING along here)
- Thank you – The Cemetery Board

Worship Attendance – May 10 & 11, 2025

Saturday In-Person: 25 Sunday In-Person: 70 YouTube Views: 30

This Week at St. Peter's United Church of Christ:

Sunday, May 18, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship
 10:15 a.m. – Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. – Confirmation
 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Cemetery Anniversary Picnic

Monday, May 19, 2025

12:00 p.m. – Quilting
 6:30 p.m. – Girl Scouts
 6:30 p.m. – AA

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

1:30-3:00 pm. – Coffee with the Pastor
 6:00 p.m. – Church Council

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 Newsletter Deadline

9:00 a.m. – Quilting
 10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting
 11:30 a.m. – Bible Study

Thursday, May 22, 2025

6:30 p.m. – AA

Saturday, May 24, 2025

5:00 p.m. – Worship
 5:00 p.m. – Harvest Table (Dining Room)

Sunday, May 25, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship
 10:15 a.m. – Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. – Confirmation

2025 Graduates: Please let us know about your graduation and plans for the future for inclusion in the June 2025 MESSENGER. Please email Patty Wood at newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org. We ask that you be in touch with her by May 21. Thank you!

A few notes from the Mission Team:

This morning we are happy to hear more about **Back Bay Mission** in Biloxi, MS from Joyce Bathke, member of Faith UCC in Wentzville and former President of the Back Bay Mission Board of Directors. She joins us to talk about this important United Church of Christ presence on the Gulf Coast. Help us welcome Joyce!

God is Great, God is Green: The Bible and Eco Justice, a lecture exploring Biblical expressions of God's care for creation and what that means for our lives. This learning opportunity is close to home at Zion UCC in Union, May 21 at 6:30 p.m. and is sponsored by the Eastern Association Social Justice Team. The speaker is Rev. Dr. Clinton McCann from Eden Seminary. This is a hybrid event. No reservations are required for in-person attendance. To join by Zoom register at 22.allinmsicproject.org. For more information, please contact Rhonda Stockglausner at 636-390-3425.

Memorial Day Work Weekend at Shannondale May 23-25, 2025. If you have never been to Shannondale or if you have been there many times, this is an opportunity to spend Memorial Day weekend in the beautiful Missouri Ozarks. Come spend a day or plan a long weekend. Bring the family. Work will be on Saturday from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on different projects on site or perhaps for homeowners in the area. For more information, call Theresa Enloe at 573-858-3284 or 573-247-0299 or email theresa@mmsucc.org



Never have cash or a check handy but want to financially support St. Peter's UCC? Use this QR code to open a link to give via PayPal. PayPal allows you to use your credit card or checking account to give once or a reoccurring gift. Don't forget that your bank also offers reoccurring checks and/or transactions. Thank you for helping to take care of your church!

The Rev. Kurt Schaller Blaufuss, Pastor & Teacher
 Ken Tucker, Director of Music
 Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist
 Carol H. Hackmann, Office Manager
 Gary Edler, Cemetery Sexton
 Nathaniel Pfitzinger, Building & Grounds Custodian
 The Rev. Dr. William H. Schwab, Pastor Emeritus

Choir Anthem: "Since Jesus Came into My Heart" Shackley "What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought since Jesus came into my heart! I have light in my soul for which long I have sought, since Jesus came into my heart! Since Jesus came into my heart, since Jesus came into my heart, floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll, since Jesus came into my heart. I shall go there to dwell in that city I know, since Jesus came into my heart! And I'm happy so happy as onward I go, since Jesus came into my heart! Since Jesus came into, came into my heart! Since Jesus came into my heart, since Jesus came into my heart, floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll, since Jesus came into my heart. There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus. No, not one! None else could heal all our soul's diseases. No, not one! No, not one! Jesus knows all about our struggles. He will guide till the day is done. There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus. No, not one! No, not one! There is a name I love to hear; I love to sing its worth; it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth. Oh, how I love Jesus! Oh, how I love Jesus! Oh, how I love Jesus, because He first loved me! Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll sea billows roll since Jesus came into my heart, into my heart!"