

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 5, 2025

17th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

www.youtube.com/stpetersuccwashmo

** - Please rise in body or spirit.*

CENTERING OURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

WELCOME

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey ...

Many: You are welcome here.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (I Pet. 2:4, 5, 9, RSV, adapt.)

One: Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by mortals but in God's sight
chosen and precious; and like living stones let yourselves be built into a
spiritual house; for you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy
nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of the
one who called you out of darkness into God's marvelous light!

All: Once we were no people, but now we are God's people!

*HYMN

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

400

**Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of our God and precious, binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, today!
With your constant, loving kindness hear your people as they pray.
Give your fullest benediction: grace to follow Christ the Way.**

**Here renew your servants' vision, that by faith they may attain
peace and hope, renewed compassion, strength to comfort those in pain,
Tears and grief transformed to gladness in your everlasting reign.**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

As we gather at your table, O Christ, we pray that all your followers might be one in your Spirit. Create in us a new humanity as we gather with one another and your disciples around the globe. Forgive us when those who worship and believe differently are held suspect in our minds. Unite us in service and mission as we reach out to heal the world's pain. For that is your desire for all who follow you. Amen.

*WORDS OF GRACE

*OUR RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Glory to God" 755

Glory to God the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE FIRST LESSON Psalm 37:1-9

CHOIR ANTHEM "Living for Jesus" Chancel Choir
(lyrics p. 8)

THE SECOND LESSON Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

SERMON

*HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West" 394

**In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
But one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find,
God's service is the golden cord close binding humankind.**

**In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free,
For men and women live in God, and all are kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;
One joyous, true community throughout the whole wide earth.**

WE GIVE WHAT GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US
INVITATION TO GIVE

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

397 (vs 1)

**Thank our God for sisters, brothers, one by grace, in harmony,
 Joining heart to heart with others, making strong community.
 With the cross of Christ our standard, let us sing as with one voice,
 Glory, glory, yours the promise: we who are the church rejoice.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

**God of all creation, we pray that our offerings may abound in love for all
 people throughout the world. May they be signs of our commitment to all
 our Neighbors in Need. May our offerings be a sign of our hope that you
 indeed rule the earth and that you ask us to give ourselves to all whom you
 love. We do this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION***Invitation**

One: Beloved, this is the joyful feast of the people of God. Come from the
 east and from the west and from the north and from the south, and
 gather around the Lord's table.

Many: Behold how good and pleasant it is when sisters and brothers dwell
 in unity!

***HYMN**

"I Come with Joy"

349

**I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
 The life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
 The new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
 in Christ's communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends,
 The love that made us, makes us one,
 And strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.**

**And thus we meet, and better know the Presence, ever near, And join our
 hearts and sing with joy that Christ is risen here, That Christ is risen here.**

**Together met, together bound, in friendship we will stay,
 And go with joy to love the world and live the way we pray,
 And live the way we pray.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: We give thanks, O God, for calling us to this table and joining us here with your people of all ages, tongues, and races throughout the whole wide earth. We remember your saving love, calling all people from bondage to freedom and reconciling the whole world to yourself through Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the presence of your Holy Spirit, filling the earth with the power that unites and brings peace.

Many: Bless us at this table and those at every table in every place. Feed us with the one bread, and make us drink of one cup, that we may be united with Christ and sent forth to offer ourselves as instruments of reconciliation and peace. Amen

Remembrance

Prayer of Consecration and the Prayer of Our Savior (debts, debtors)

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.

Sharing the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Living Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you. As you eternally feed your sheep in this Holy Sacrament, strengthen us to serve others with your life-giving love. Give us the will to be a servant people as you were the servant of all. Amen.

*HYMN “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” 347

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain (2x): **Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the tone, teaching people to
live to bless, love in word and in deed express.** *Refrain*

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to
tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!** *Refrain*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Portions of today’s printed liturgy is used with permission from “Immersed in the Splendor of God”, by Russell Mitman, Pilgrim Press, 2005. Rev. Mitman was a conference minister and mentor to Pastor Kurt when he served in southeast Pennsylvania.

☞ **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 worship bulletins are placed in memory of the Miller Family by Bill & Kathy Miller.

The altar flowers are placed in loving memory of Duane Stoyer by his family.

“These Days” devotional booklets and the Newsletter are available in the atrium and the church office. The deadline to submit articles for possible newsletter inclusion is the 21st.

Please pray . . . With A.V., Mike J., Christine Sanfilippo, Katie Buckles, Emily, Jason, Delores Borcharding, Cheryl, Samantha Cerutti-Wacker, Pete, Bryce Meyer, Ken, Grace, Amber E., Jon Sanfilippo, Bill & Laurie Pinnell, Matt Ashley

Women's Fellowship will meet at 10 a.m. on Thurs., Oct. 9. We ask that you bring a picture of the "younger you." (Baby pictures or any picture of yourself taken in your youth.) We will also be discussing "bucket lists." We continue to get to know one another better. We will be in the atrium meeting room and will go out for lunch following the meeting.

Call to Congregational Meeting: The Fall Congregational Meeting will be held following worship Sun., Oct. 19. Please plan to attend and add your voice in being church together.

The Church Council is pleased to announce that scheduling has begun for our new **pictorial Church directory**. Starting today, and on each Saturday and Sunday until Oct. 19, you can reserve a portrait session for your family—either online or in person before and after church services. Photography sessions are set for Nov. 6 and 7 from 2:00 to 8:30 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Each session will last approximately 45 minutes to an hour. We're aiming for everyone's participation—let's see if we can reach 100%! We're partnering with Universal Church Directories for this project. Every family that participates will receive a complimentary directory and a free 8x10 portrait. You're also welcome to invite extended family to join for a group or separate family photo at no extra charge. Finished portraits and directories will be ready in time for Christmas, and there will be an option to order Christmas cards as well.

Another highlight marking **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** celebrating 150 years in 2025. A Bit of History- October 5, 1913 August Brinkmeyer reported that Geo. Hausmann's mules jumped the fences and were trespassing on the cemetery. The secretary was instructed to send Geo. Hausmann written notice to keep his mules off the cemetery. May 28, 1916 Resolved that by the burial of non-members the church bells should only ring during the burial service and that non-members should pay \$13 for use of the church. Divided as follows: \$10 to church fund, \$2 to janitor and \$1 for organist.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!! The Back Bay Mission Group would like to express our sincere gratitude to the St. Peter's congregation for your support. We collected 233 pairs of underwear and \$471 which was given to the clothing closet at BBM's Micah Day Center. Ms. Raysha and Ms. Joyce were thrilled! And we helped sort the undies into bins according to sizes!

Also, thank you to the Women's Fellowship for their donation of \$500, to Judy Verdine and Carol Muench for their donations and to the Council for their financial allocation. These gifts helped defray our individual expenses and were so much appreciated.

We are already looking forward to another Back Bay Mission trip next year Oct. 11-17, 2026! We will be reporting about this year's trip to the congregation in the near future, AND we hope to have more of our members join us in 2026! For the Mission Group, Rhonda Stockgausner

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

Sunday, October 5, 2025 Aluminum Drive

10:00 a.m. – Worship w/Holy Communion Family Sunday

11:00 a.m. - Confirmation

3:00-5:00 p.m. – Eastern Association Fall Meeting

Monday, October 6, 2025

12:00 p.m. – Quilting

5:00 p.m. – Harvest Table Board

6:30 p.m. – Girl Scouts

6:30 p.m. – AA

7:00 p.m. – Civic Chorus Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

1:30-3:00 pm. – Coffee with the Pastor

7:00 p.m. – Building & Grounds Board

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Quilting

10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting

11:30 a.m. – Bible Study

1:30 p.m. – Mission Team

6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 9, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Women's Fellowship

12:30 p.m. – Cemetery Board

6:30 p.m. – AA

Saturday, October 11, 2025

2:30-4:30 pm. – Salam Clinic

5:00 p.m. – Worship

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

Sunday, October 12, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

10:15 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. - Confirmation

Worship Attendance – September 27 & 28, 2025

Saturday In-Person: 26 Sunday In-Person: 79 YouTube Views: 32

The annual **Neighbors in Need** offering of the United Church of Christ will be collected this weekend. Gifts to NIN support the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). The other two-thirds of the offering support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, direct service projects, and grants. NIN grants are annually awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the Neighbors in Need Annual campaign! You may contribute through your weekly offering envelope. Please designate NIN on your envelope.

Immanuel's UCC Holstein, Annual Chicken Dinner Oct. 5, Noon-6, Country Store, Quilt Raffle and their famous Holstein Apple Butter

The **Eastern Association** of the Missouri Mid-South Conference will hold its **Fall Meeting** at our church today from 3:00-5:00

CROP Walk – Franklin County Crop Walk for Hunger will be on Sun., Oct. 12. It begins with registration at Zion UCC in Union at 12:30. The one mile walk begins at 1:00. Walkers are encouraged to bring some nonperishable food to give to a local pantry.

Trivia Night is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 18, 2025. To reserve a table, pre-register in person in the church office. Deadline is Noon, Oct. 13. For more information contact Susan Harms 636-359-1452 or s.harms@charter.net. Raffle tickets will be sold before and after the church services on Saturday and Sunday, this weekend and next. Drawing is on trivia night. You do not have to be present to win!! Bring cash or checks. (Note: return address labels work great on raffle tickets!!)

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 "Living for Jesus" Living for Jesus, a life that is true, Striving to please Him in all that I do; Yielding allegiance, glad-hearted and free, This is the pathway of blessing for me. Refrain: O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to you, For you, in your atonement, did give yourself for me; I own no other master, my heart shall be your throne; My life I give, henceforth to live, O Christ, for you alone. Living for Jesus Who died in my place, Bearing on Calvary my sin and disgrace; Such love constrains me to answer His call, Follow His leading and give Him my all. Refrain