

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord

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

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 29, adapted)

One: You, divine beings! Give to God glory and power!

Many: Bow down to God in holy splendor!

One: God's voice is over the waters; the glorious God thunders over the mighty waters.

Many: God's voice is strong and majestic!

One: But in God's house everyone shouts, "Glory!"

Many: God sits enthroned over the floodwaters, Sovereign forever!

One: May God give strength to the people!

Many: May God bless the people with peace! Amen.

*HYMN "Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates" 117

Lift up your heads, O mighty gates; behold the glorious Ruler waits!

The Sovereign One is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart

From earthly use for heaven's employ,

adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to you; here, Christ, abide!

Let me your inner presence feel; your grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;

Your Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

*UNISON PRAYER (unison)

Holy God, Eternal Spirit, we thank you for baptizing us into one body in Jesus the Christ. Wash over us with your Spirit, that, like Jesus, we may serve you in serving humanity. Baptize us with the fire of your truth, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 43:1-7

SCRIPTURE Luke 3:15-22

SERMON

*HYMN “Crashing Waters at Creation” 326

**Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit’s breath,
first to witness day’s beginning from the brightness of night’s death.**

**Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through,
washing off the chains of bondage, channel to a life made new.**

**Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the one foretold,
opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.**

**Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Wellspring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.**

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 “Holy, God, We Praise Your Name” 276 (v 1)

**Holy, God, we praise your name; Sovereign God, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim, all the heavenly hosts adore you.
Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**In our worship and in our offerings, O God, may we remember our baptisms
and our identity as your beloved children. Bless our offerings and any act of
love done in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

*HYMN “I Sing the Praise of Love Almighty” 50

**I sing the praise of Love almighty, which shines revealed in Jesus’ face.
I offer up all that delights me, all mean desires, each fond embrace.
Turn from myself, in pure devotion, and eager plunge in love’s vast ocean.**

**How loving kind you are, how gentle, how your heart reaches after mine!
My heart responds in elemental sympathy, beating perfect time.
This mutual love, this strong attraction, I know no other satisfaction.**

**Secure my heart and all my being, in you, my Savior, crucified.
You gave your life to work my healing, bleeding for me, you groaned and
died. Beloved Jesus, my salvation, you have through love, restored creation.**

**May my heart bear the deep impression of love that Jesus shares with me,
My life become a pure expression of all that Christian love can be:
Each word, each act, a bright reflection of joy in Love’s own resurrection.**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

☞ Thank You for Worshipping Here Today ☞

Music used in this service with permission under One License #A-716613. All rights reserved.

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

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.

For the Children: Children are welcome to utilize the Playground at the front of the sanctuary. After the time for the Young at Heart, the children will be dismissed to attend Sunday School.

"These Days" devotional booklets and the January Newsletter are available in the atrium and the church office.

Please pray . . . With Justus Joseph Dieckhaus, Clayton, Matt Ashley, Greg Berry, Jon Sanfilippo, Charlie Sincox, Todd Ford, Laurie Pinnell, Blake Georgie, For the family and friends of Pam & Dave Mutert on the loss of her father, Maurice Mittler; For the family and friends of David Philabaum. He was Pastor Kurt's cousin.

St. Peter's UCC will be taking in new members in the near future. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact the church office or Pastor Kurt.

Important Notice: to ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2024 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. Please contact the church if you need your information before Jan. 31.

The 2025 All-Boards and Committees Meeting will be Sun. **Jan. 19** after worship. If you are serving on Church Council, a board or a committee please plan to attend.

In 2025 **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** will celebrate 150 years in existence. A Bit of History- The first mention of a plan to establish a cemetery occurs on March 29, 1875 in the Congregational Meeting Minutes. Mr. Daniel Siebel was elected to serve on the cemetery committee and was urged to seek a property as soon as possible and report back at the next meeting. On April 25 the committee proposed buying three acres from Peter Ludwig Carl (Louis) Hausmann (Ruth Wood's great-grandfather who was a Civil War veteran). The price was \$150 per acre.

All 2024 Boards and Committees: Year-end reports are due to the MESSENGER for printing in March 2024 for the Annual Report. Please forward the reports to Newsletter Annual Report (newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org) on or before Mon., Feb. 17, 2025. Thank you

Worship Attendance – January 4 & 5, 2024

Saturday In-Person: 38 Sunday In-Person: 0 YouTube Views: 42



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!

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

Sunday, January 12, 2025

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

Monday, January 13, 2025

12:00-3:00 pm. – Quilting
 6:30 p.m. – AA
 6:30 p.m. – Girl Scouts

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

2:30-3:00 pm. – Coffee with the Pastor
 5:30 p.m. – Justice Witness Committee
 6:30 p.m. – Mission Committee

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Quilting
 10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting
 11:30 a.m. – Bible Study
 6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir
 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 16, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Eastern Association Committee on Ministry
 Noon – Game Day
 6:30 p.m. – AA

Friday, January 17, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Women's Breakfast at Bob Evans

Saturday, January 18, 2025

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

Sunday, January 19, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship
 10:15 a.m. – Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. – Confirmation
 11:15 a.m. – All Boards & Committees Meeting