

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 17, 2025

10th 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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Ezekiel 37: 1-14, John 11: 1-45)

Sue WehmueLLer, Liturgist

One: The prophet asks: Can our soul-weary bones live again?

Many: O God, you know!

One: We ask: Can we dance again after mourning, loss and grief?

Many: O God, you know!

One: The gift is sure and unmistakable:

Many: God's breath poured out as new life for weary souls!

One: Let us celebrate the gift of God's new life,

Many: And come to worship God in laughter and dancing!

*HYMN

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

282

Refrain Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

Upon the mountain my God spoke, out of God's mouth came fire and
smoke. Looked all around me; looked so fine;

I asked my God if all were mine. *Refrain*

Oh, Jordan river, chilly and cold, it chills the body, not the soul. There's only
one train on this track; it runs to heaven, then right back. *Refrain*

*OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Compassionate God, the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life for all
who long for you. One breath from you and we are rescued from the arid
valley of dry bones, given muscles and sinews and joy with which to praise
you, and filled with the holy hope you grant to all your faithful children. Let
our whole lives be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit, that what has lain

dormant may burst into bloom, and what looks to us to be death may be revealed as but sleep before the emergence of new life. Amen.

*OUR RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Spirit of the Living God" 283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me,
fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

THE FIRST LESSON Ezekiel 1:1, 4-5a, 15-21

SPECIAL MUSIC Angela & Rusty Smith

THE SECOND LESSON Ezekiel 37:1-14

SERMON

*HYMN "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" 286

Refrain: **Spirit, spirit of gentleness,**

**Blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,
Wind, wind on the sea.**

**You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
And over the eons you called to each thing,**

"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." (*Refrain*)

**You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,
And you goaded your people with a law and a land;
When they were confounded by their idols and lies,
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. (*Refrain*)**

**You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
And down in the city you called once again,
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. (*Refrain*)**

**You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise. (*Refrain*)**

*UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH

885

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

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Spirit of Life, we breathe our lives upon these gifts that they may become a fertile plain of green life and strengthened hope for all who live in the valley of dry bones. May the wind of your love carry these gifts far beyond us to the places most in need of your compassionate grace. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*HYMN

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

292

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love, and do what you would do.
Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.
Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one desire,
That every earthly part of me may glow with holy fire.
Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life of your eternity.**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Today's printed liturgy is from *Come Out! On the Breath of God, Service Prayers*, written by the Rev. Elizabeth Dille. Posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website.

☞ 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.

"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 Katie Buckles, Emily, Jason, Delores Borcharding, Cheryl, Samantha Cerutti-Wacker, Patrick & Christina Flanagan, Pete, Bryce Meyer, Ken, Grace, Amber E., Greg Berry, Jon Sanfilippo, Bill & Laurie Pinnell, Shirley Osthoff, Dale Hackmann

Another highlight marking **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** celebrating 150 years in 2025.

A Bit of History- April 3, 1910 The cemetery committee reported no work on the fence surrounding the cemetery had as yet been done. They also reported that the cross fence at the entrance was in a very bad condition and on motion it was decided to build a new fence. It was also decided to have the bells in the tower more securely fastened, and members Hy. Diekmann and F. Butt were appointed to do this work.

The Mission Team is collecting adult underwear thru Aug. 17. These items will be taken along when we go to Back Bay Mission in September. They can be any size for men or women and **MUST NOT** be white. Look for the display in the atrium where we will hang up our underwear to be donated to unhoused people in Biloxi, MS.

Attention all Ushers: On Sun., Aug. 24, 11:10 (following the 10:00 service) we will be conducting an Usher emergency review meeting. Molly Derner will lead the meeting to discuss emergency procedures, location of fire extinguishers, AED's, first aid kits and other important topics. We will meet in the sanctuary. The meeting will last no longer than 1 hour. We hope all are able to attend. If you have questions, please contact Susan Harms 636-359-1452 or s.harms@charter.net

The St. Peter's annual tradition of presenting a **Bible to students in 3rd grade** will happen on Sun., Sept 7. If you have a child or grandchild who will be going into 3rd grade and would like them to receive a Bible at the presentation, please let Pastor Kurt know.

Do you have a light bulb that needs changing, or a battery that needs replacing? Maybe you need a ride to an appointment or help with groceries. Call any member of the **Home Helpers** team: Denise Towell, Pat Swinger, Donna Houchins, or Trudy Ronsick and they'll do their best to get you the help you need.

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

Sunday, August 17, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

Monday, August 18, 2025

12:00 p.m. – Quilting

6:30 p.m. – AA

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

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

6:30 p.m. – Church Council

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Quilting

10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting

11:30 a.m. – Bible Study

Thursday, August 21, 2025 Newsletter Deadline

9:00 a.m. – Eastern Association COM

6:30 p.m. – AA

Saturday, August 23, 2025 Foodstock XIV 5-10 p.m. at the Washington Farmers' Market

5:00 p.m. – Worship

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

Sunday, August 24, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

11:10 a.m. – Usher Meeting

Worship Attendance – August 9 & 10, 2025

Saturday In-Person: 32 Sunday In-Person: 75 YouTube Views: 25

Chapel Bell Choir and Chancel Choir rehearsals begin on Wed., Sept. 3.

Rehearsal times: Bells 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 7:15 p.m. If you are interested in joining us, please see Ken Tucker for more info. We'd LOVE to have you. kentucker@att.net

The Washington Civic Chorus will begin rehearsals on Mon., Sept. 8 for its annual Christmas Concert, under the direction of Ken Tucker. Rehearsals will be held in our auditorium every Monday from 7-9 p.m. through Dec. 1. The concert is scheduled for Sun., Dec. 7. For more information call 239-7394. Tell a friend; all voices are welcome.

As summer comes to a close, we would like to inform our community about the **Meals-on-Wheels** program. Meals on Wheels is a valuable initiative that benefits the Washington community by enabling elderly and disabled residents to remain in their homes while receiving nutritious meals. It is the only program within the area that delivers meals seven days a week, including holidays, exclusively to clients residing within the Washington city limits. Our services accommodate specific dietary requirements, including diabetic, cardiac, low-sodium, and mechanically soft meal options. The program is made possible through the generous support of United Way, various community organizations, the dedicated Mercy dietary staff, and our numerous volunteers who deliver meals. For additional information or to request services, please contact the Washington Chamber office at 636-239-2715.

Save the Date:

Foodstock XIV Sat., Aug. 23 from 5-10 p.m. at the Washington Farmers' Market. This event helps support St. Peter's Food Pantry as well as other Washington pantries.

Walk to End Alzheimer's Washington Walk, Sept. 6, Main Park; Visit alz.org/washmo

Christmas Rummage Sale Sat., Sept. 27. This year the sale will include ALL holiday items-- Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, patriotic, etc. and Christmas!! Please consider donating any decorations, lights, wreaths, ornaments, wrapping paper, etc. (No clothing please) We will collect items from Thurs., Sept. 18 to Thurs., Sept. 25. The Rummage Sale is in need of newspaper, bubble wrap, plastic/paper bags, and boxes to help people safely carry home their "treasures". Please deposit on the designated table in the auditorium. Thank you.

The **Eastern Association** of the Missouri Mid-South Conference will hold its **Fall Meeting** at our church on Sun., Oct. 5, 2025, 3:00-5:00

Trivia Night is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 18, 2025

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