

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 27, 2025

7th Sunday after Pentecost

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

"Cannon in D"

Patti Fleer, Violinist

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 145 CEB adapted) Susan Harms, Liturgist

One: I will lift you up high, my God, the true Sovereign. I will bless your name forever and always.

Many: I will bless you every day. I will praise your name forever and always.

One: God is great and so worthy of praise! God's greatness can't be grasped.

Many: One generation will praise your works to the next one, proclaiming your mighty acts.

One: They will talk all about the glorious splendor of your majesty;

Many: They will speak of the power of your awesome deeds.

One: They will rave in celebration of your abundant goodness; they will shout joyfully about your righteousness:

Many: God is merciful and compassionate, very patient, and full of faithful love.

*HYMN

"You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim"

305

**You servants of God, your Sovereign proclaim,
and publish abroad that wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
Who, sovereign and glorious, now rules over all.**

**God rules from on high, almighty to save;
and still God is nigh, whose presence we have;
the great congregation God's triumphs shall praise,
ascribing salvation to Jesus always.**

"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
 let all cry aloud, for what God has done;
 the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
 still veiling their faces, they worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and render God's right:
 all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
 all honor and blessing with angels above
 and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, in our wanderings and pursuit of selfish desires, we have forsaken fellowship with our families, our friends, and our neighbors. We, in addition, have neglected our communion with you, choosing worldly pleasures and desires over justice, mercy, and righteousness. In a world of plenty, we have hoarded earthly blessings, rather than storing up treasures in heaven. Free us from such bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives. 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.

THE DEDICATION OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Sentences of Scripture Proverbs 2:1-4 Philippians 4:8-9 Matthew 7:12

Litany of Dedication

One: For our community's children as they enter a new year of learning and discovery.

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

One: For these backpacks that are filled with tools and materials to help our students learn.

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

One: For shoes that allow our students to walk, run, and jump.

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

One: That every activity throughout the school day will be enriched by these supplies ... classes, recess, sports, the arts, and so much more.

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

One: For the gift of teachers, administrators, and support staff who are entrusted with the task of sowing seeds of learning.

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

One: For the partnership of public schools, community, and civic organizations dedicated to educating our many different and diverse students.

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

One: For the needed blessing of families and friends to encourage and guide our children.

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

One: For the generosity of all who worked together to provide our children with these supplies

Many: We give you thanks and dedicate these resources.

PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Goodness of God”

Lindsey Jasper

SCRIPTURE

Luke 12:13-21

SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2, 12-14, 2:18-23, 3:1-8

SERMON

Qoheleth ... the Bible's Eeyore

*HYMN

“I Would Be True”

492

**I would be true, for there are those who trust me;
 I would be pure, for there are those who care;
 I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;
 I would be brave, for there is much to dare,
 I would be brave, for there is much to dare.**

**I would be friend of all, the foe, the friendless;
 I would be giving, and forget the gift;
 I would be humble, for I know my weakness;**

I would look up, and laugh, and love, and live,
I would look up, and laugh, and love, and live.

I would be prayerful through each busy moment;
I would be constantly in touch with God;
I would be tuned to sense God's slightest whisper;
I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod,
I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod.

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

OFFERTORY "Hallelujah"

*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)

Holy God, we are honored that you would give us a share in Christ's ministry. May these offerings further your will and work in our community, nation, and around the globe. Amen.

*HYMN "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" 295

**I sing a song of the saints of God... faithful their whole lives through,
who bravely labored, lived, and died for the God they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and another a shepherd in pastures green: they were saints of God, if you
know what I mean. God, help me to be one, too.**

They loved their God and they lived that love. It was loving that made them strong. They did what was right, for Jesus' sake, lived justly their whole lives long. And one was a prophet, and one was a priest, and another was slain by a fierce wild beast: there is no earthly reason, none in the least, why I shouldn't be one, too.

They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still. The world is filled with living saints who choose to do God's will. You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea: for the saints are folk like you and like me, and I mean to be one, too.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE "Rejoice, the Lord is King"

☞ 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 Sid & Needra Troyer in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

"These Days" devotional booklets and the August Newsletter are available in the atrium and the church office. The deadline to submit articles for possible inclusion is the 21st of each month.

Please pray . . . With Maple, 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

The **Evangelism Committee** is moving forward with its **Home Helpers program**. There is a bulletin board posted near the dining room door with information and forms for our members to fill out requesting help with minor household tasks. If you are unable to fill out a form at church, you can simply contact Denise Towell at 636-388-2588 or Pat Swinger at 636-980-6728. There is no charge for this help but "thank you's" are always welcome.

Another highlight marking **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** celebrating 150 years in 2025. A Bit of History-Oct. 3, 1909 It was decided to request owners of lots on the cemetery to keep them in order in the future, and those owners who could not be contacted, together with those owned by the congregation, to be kept clean by the latter.

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

St. Peter's is cohosting Harvest Table with First United Methodist Church to serve the meal on Sat., Aug. 30. Ten people are needed to volunteer, and donations are needed to help pay for desserts. If you can help, please contact Erna Holland. (text or call 314-616-7143)

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.

Individuals who would like to be included on the **Funeral Usher Team** call list may contact Susan Harms at s.harms@charter.net or reach out to the church office. Please provide your name and phone number. Cecil will get in touch as needed. Inclusion on the list does not require participation at every funeral; the list will facilitate scheduling ushers when assistance is required.

Please note: The next **Aluminum can drive** will be August 9/10.

Save the Dates

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.

Christmas Rummage Sale Sat., Sept. 27. Please consider donating any decorations, lights, ornaments, wrapping paper, etc. (No clothing please.) We will collect items from Thurs., Sept. 18 to Thurs., Sept. 25.

St. John's UCC, Cappeln, Chicken & Beef Dinner Aug. 3, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Dine in or carry out. Baked & Canned Goods, Country Store, Quilt Raffle

Femme Osage UCC Annual Picnic Aug. 17, 11:30-6 p.m. All you can eat Kettle-cooked Beef, Fried Chicken, Free Entertainment

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

Sunday, July 27, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

Monday, July 28, 2025

12:00 p.m. – Quilting

6:30 p.m. – AA

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

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

6:30 p.m. – Evangelism Committee

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Quilting

10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting

11:30 a.m. – Bible Study

Thursday, July 31, 2025

6:30 p.m. – AA

Saturday, August 2, 2025

5:00 p.m. – Worship

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

Sunday, August 3, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

Worship Attendance – July 19 & 20, 2025

Saturday In-Person: 43 Sunday In-Person: 56 YouTube Views: 28



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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