

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 12, 2024

SEVENTH 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

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Luke 24:50-53)

Phil Butler, Liturgist

One: Jesus led his disciples out as far as Bethany, where he lifted his hands and blessed them.

Many: As he blessed them, he left them and was taken up to heaven.

One: Jesus' disciples worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem overwhelmed with joy.

Many: And they were continuously in the temple praising God.

One: We come this morning seeking Christ's blessing.

Many: We gather this morning to joyfully offer Christ our praise.

*HYMN

"Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!"

257 (vs 1-3)

Alleluia! Gracious Jesus! Yours the scepter, yours the throne!

Alleluia! Yours the triumph, yours the victory alone!

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;

Jesus, out of every nation you've redeemed us by your blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now.

Alleluia! You are near us; faith believes, nor questions how.

**Though the cloud from sight received you when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget your promise, "I am with you evermore."**

Alleluia! Bread of angels, you on earth our food, our stay.

Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to you from day to day.

**Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
and the songs that sound in heaven will repeat your gracious plea.**

*UNISON PRAYER

God of incredible surprises, as we gaze into the clouds, remind us that we are standing on holy ground. Place our feet on the pathways of peace and hope. Shift our attention from the vision of the Christ rising to the heavens to be with you, and help us to focus on the ministries that you would have us do in this time and place. Keep us ready and willing always to serve you all our days. Amen.

*OUR RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!” 257 (v 4)

**Alleluia! Christ eternal, nothing can disrupt your reign;
Alleluia! Born of Mary, heaven and earth are your domain.
Human life you fully entered, tending those we count the least,
serving both as Priest and Victim in the eucharistic feast.**

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

THE FIRST LESSON Acts 1:1-11

CHOIR ANTHEM “Safe Within Your Arms” Mark Hayes Chancel Choir
(lyrics p. 6)

THE SECOND LESSON Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

SERMON

*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.**

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**

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

***RESPONSE “Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day” 241 (v 2)**
**O Jesus, Savior, Gentle One, come take our hearts to be your own,
That we may give you all our days the willing tribute of our praise.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

Gracious God, giver of all good gifts, bless our lives and our offerings this morning. As we close out this Easter season, remind us that we remain a people of the resurrection, sharing new life with all we meet. As Jesus ascended into the heavens, may our uplifted praise be matched by our service here on earth. And now help us to await the coming gift of your Holy Spirit, which enables us to do all things. Amen.

***HYMN “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” 233**
**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!**
**Let the Victor’s people sing, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!**
**Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
 Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
 Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

☞ Thank You for Worshipping Here Today ☞

The Rev. Kurt Schaller Blaufuss, Senior Pastor
 The Rev. Eric W. Moeller, Associate Pastor
 Ken Tucker, Director of Music
 Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist
 Carol H. Hackmann, Office Manager
 Gary Edler, Cemetery Sexton
 Hal Siebert, Building & Grounds Custodian
 The Rev. Dr. William H. Schwab, Pastor Emeritus

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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.

For the Children: Children are welcome to utilize the Prayground at the front right of the sanctuary during worship. This space is specifically for kids and is stocked with activities for them to utilize for the duration of the service. A pastor or other volunteer is seated there as well, so parents can worship where they choose.

The altar flowers are placed in memory and honor of all past, present and future mothers.

The worship bulletins are placed in memory of Anton Esser by the Bauer Family.

Next weekend is Pentecost, the day we celebrate as the Spirit-filled birth of the church. (You can read about it in Acts 2.) The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated. You are encouraged to wear red...the color of the Holy Spirit.

Entry to the church building during office hours: If, by chance, the south doors are locked during office hours, and you need access to the building we ask that you either call the church office (636-239-6176) or ring the doorbell. If you ring the doorbell, please be patient; it may take several minutes for office personnel to get there to let you in. Thank you for your understanding. Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30-4, Fri. 8:30-Noon.

“These Days” devotional booklets and the May Newsletter are available in the atrium and the church office.

2024 Graduates: Please let us know about your graduation and post-graduation plans to be included in the June 2024 MESSENGER. Please email Patty at newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org no later than May 21. Thank you!

Please pray . . .

With Laurie Pinnell, Larry Dawson, Carol Muench, Blake Georgie, Carol Frick, Ryan Patterson

Worship Attendance – May 4 & 5, 2024

Saturday In-Person: 27 Sunday In-Person: 75 YouTube Views: 43

Your Pastors’ Office Hours: Pastor Kurt: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m.-Noon
Pastor Eric: Wednesday Noon-3:30 p.m.

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

Sunday, May 12, 2024 Happy Mother’s Day!!

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Monday, May 13, 2024

11:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting

12:00-3:00 pm. - Quilting

6:30 p.m. - Advisory Committee

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

1:30-3 p.m. - Coffee w/the Pastors

5:30 p.m. - Justice Witness

6:30 p.m. - Board of Christian Education

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

9:00 a.m. - Quilting

10:00 a.m. - Prayer Meeting

11:30 a.m. - Bible Study

6:30 p.m. - Chapel Bells
 7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 16, 2024

9:00-3:00 - EA Committee on Ministry
 6:00 p.m. - Scout Pack Meeting
 6:30 p.m. - AA

Friday, May 17, 2024

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

Saturday, May 18, 2024

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - Mother/Daughter Tea Event (Auditorium)
 5:00 p.m. - Worship
 5:00 p.m. - Harvest Table (Dining Room)

Sunday, May 19, 2024

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. - Worship



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!

Choir Anthem: "Safe Within Your Arms" Mark Hayes "Whether I'm right, or whether I'm wrong, whether I'm weak, or whether I'm strong, whether I'm sure, or maybe confused, feeling loved or feeling used. I know a place where I can go; somewhere that winter winds don't blow. There I am warmed by loving arms, held with care, next to Your heart. And I'm safe within Your arms, Lord. I've become a child again. I've come back to the source of love; where healing can begin. Though the world would say I must be strong, and prove my worth by what I do, I will rest assured in Your embrace and find my strength in You. Whether I'm walking in the light, or whether I'm stumbling through the night, You are a God whose promise endures. Your love is deep. Your love is sure. When I am tempted to pursue plans that may lead me far away from You, gently You call, "My child, come home. I will never let go of one of my own." And I'm safe within Your arms, Lord. I've become a child again. I've come back to the source of love, where healing can begin. Though the world would say I must be strong, and prove my worth by what I do, I will rest assured in Your embrace, and find my strength in You, and find my strength in You."