

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 21, 2023

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:00 AM

[www.youtube.com/stpetersuccwashmo](http://www.youtube.com/stpetersuccwashmo)

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*\* - Please rise in body or spirit.*

CENTERING OURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Acts 1, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1)

One: Christ is alive. He is risen from the dead.

**Many: The Holy One calls us to worship and praise.**

One: Baptized with the power of the Holy Spirit,

**Many: We live with Christ in our hearts.**

One: Clap your hands and shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**Many: Sing praises to God, who fills the world with forgiveness and grace.**

\*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 (Acts 1, Ephesians 1, Luke 24)

**Blessed are you, Holy One, creator of all that is and all that ever will be. You sent your holy child, Jesus, to heal us and bless us, to show us your love. After his suffering and death on the cross, he was still among us, proclaiming repentance and forgiveness of sins for all who call on his name. Just as you sent the power of the Holy Spirit to those who first believed, fill us now with your power and grace, that we may become the hands and feet, and heart and spirit, of Christ. Amen.**

\*HYMN "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 Luke 24:44-53

CHOIR ANTHEM "Give Me Jesus" Tom Fettke Chancel Choir

THE SECOND LESSON Acts 1:1-10

SERMON

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Invitation

Sentences of Scripture

Promises

Welcome and Reception

**We welcome you with joy as partners in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our Risen Savior. Amen.**

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN

“Thank God for Sisters, Brothers”

397

**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.**

**Praise to God for congregations, keeping faith with Christ as guide;  
 Many tongues of many nations, song and service unified.  
 Sweet the psalm and sweet the carol, when our song is raised as one.  
 Glory, glory, yours the power, as in heaven your will be done.**

**Holy is your name forever! Heal divisions that remain;  
 Bless the church’s new endeavors; make our witness one again.  
 One in Christ and in Christ’s gospel, make us one we now implore.  
 Glory, glory, yours the glory, then and now and evermore.**

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. Amen.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Bless these gifts, God of all, that we might worship you with great joy and serve your people with great love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## \*HYMN

"Jesus Shall Reign"

300

**Jesus shall reign wher'er the sun does its successive journeys run;  
God's realm shall stretch from shore to shore  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**Through Christ shall endless prayer be made,  
borne by the Spirit's ceaseless aid;**

**Like sweet perfume new hymns shall rise with every morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of every tongue dwell on God's love with sweetest song,  
And infant voices shall proclaim their earliest prayers in Jesus' name.**

**Blessings abound where e'er Christ reigns:  
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,**

**The weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blessed.**

**Let every creature rise and bring tributes of praise for all to sing;  
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.**

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*POSTLUDE

Today's printed liturgy is from "Ministry Matters," an online resource of the United Methodist Church.

☞ Thank You for Worshipping Here Today ☞

The Rev Kurt Schaller Blaufuss, Transitional Senior Pastor

The Rev. Eric W. Moeller, Associate Pastor

Ken Tucker, Director of Music

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

Carol H. Hackmann, Office Manager

Nathaniel Pfitzinger, Building & Grounds Custodian/Cemetery Sexton

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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. Sunday School is offered for children prior to worship at 9:15.

This weekend we welcome three new members to our church. They are Ken Tucker and Pat & Lewis Swinger.

The altar flowers are placed as a courtesy of Hoffmann-Hillermann Nursery.

Patti Swinger was in my classes my first two years teaching at Ft. Zumwalt High School 1967-1969. She and three of her friends took shorthand and typing from me their jr. year & office practice their sr. year. The flowers are in honor of she and Lewis joining my lifetime SPUCC today as members. Congratulations & welcome! Carol Muench

**Graduates:** St. Peter's Church would like to recognize the graduates of kindergarten, high school, trade school, and college by including them in the June MESSENGER. Please send a brief note about you--from where you are graduating and what plans you have after graduation--to Patty Wood ([newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org](mailto:newsletter@stpeters-ucc.org)) today, May 21.

**Join us for Confirmation on May 28!** St. Peter's UCC is blessed to have two young men joining the church via the Rite of Confirmation Sunday, May 28! Miles Grimes and Tyler Francis will affirm their faith during our 10 a.m. worship service on this Pentecost Sunday. This is an important moment both for these young men and for our church family. Please join us in worship to support Miles and Tyler as they take this important step. Come welcome and affirm them, their gifts, and their presence in our community of care. Congratulations Miles and Tyler!

"These Days" devotional booklets and the May Newsletter are available in the atrium and the office lobby.

**Women of the Church:** There will be no Women's Fellowship in June or July. Please remember to attend the Women's breakfast on the third Friday of each month at Bob Evans.

Worship Attendance – May 13 & 14, 2023

Saturday In-Person: 24 Sunday In-Person: 87 YouTube Views: 34

**Communion Note:** Holy Communion will be celebrated next Saturday and Sunday, May 27 & 28. There will be no communion on Saturday and Sunday, June 3 & 4.

**Please pray . . .**

With Randy O., Sherry L., Kali C., Larry D., Beulah B., Jim H., Scott J., Matt (nephew of member), Laurie P., Larry R., Ruth K., Grace, Betty B., Dave P., A. James, Marylou E., Ruth D., Darlene B., Thelma L., Joan G., Glen M., Delores B., Michael A., Bill D., Fred K., and all who need God's tender care today.

For the Search Committee and the search process

For all children, parents, school officials and personnel

For residents of all the nursing homes and assisted living facilities

For friends who have had surgery and those undergoing various kinds of medical tests and treatments

For all who are lonely, sad, or depressed; may God bless them with comfort and hope.

For all who suffer with mental illness and various addictions

For all who suffer violence in our society

For all those around the globe whose lives are threatened with food insecurity and homelessness.

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

**Sunday, May 21, 2023**

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship (In-Person & Online)

11:15 a.m. – Sunday School

Newsletter deadline

**Monday, May 22, 2023**

11:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting

12:00 p.m. - Quilting

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023**

1:30-3:00 p.m. - Coffee w/the Pastors at Undergrounds Espresso Bar

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - Quilting

10:00 a.m. - Prayer Meeting (Online)

**Thursday, May 25, 2023**

6:30 p.m. - AA (Community Room)

**Saturday, May 27, 2023**

5:00 p.m. – Worship w/Holy Communion

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

**Sunday, May 28, 2023**

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Pentecost Worship w/The Rite of Confirmation & Holy Communion  
(In-Person & Online)

11:15 a.m. - Sunday School



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: "Give Me Jesus" Tom Fettke "In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You can have all this world, but give me Jesus. O, when I am alone, O when I am alone, O when I am alone, give me Jesus. From depths of sin I cry, from depths of sin I cry, from depths of sin I cry, give me Jesus. O, when I come to die, O when I come to die, O when I come to die, give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You can have all this world, but give me Jesus...."

