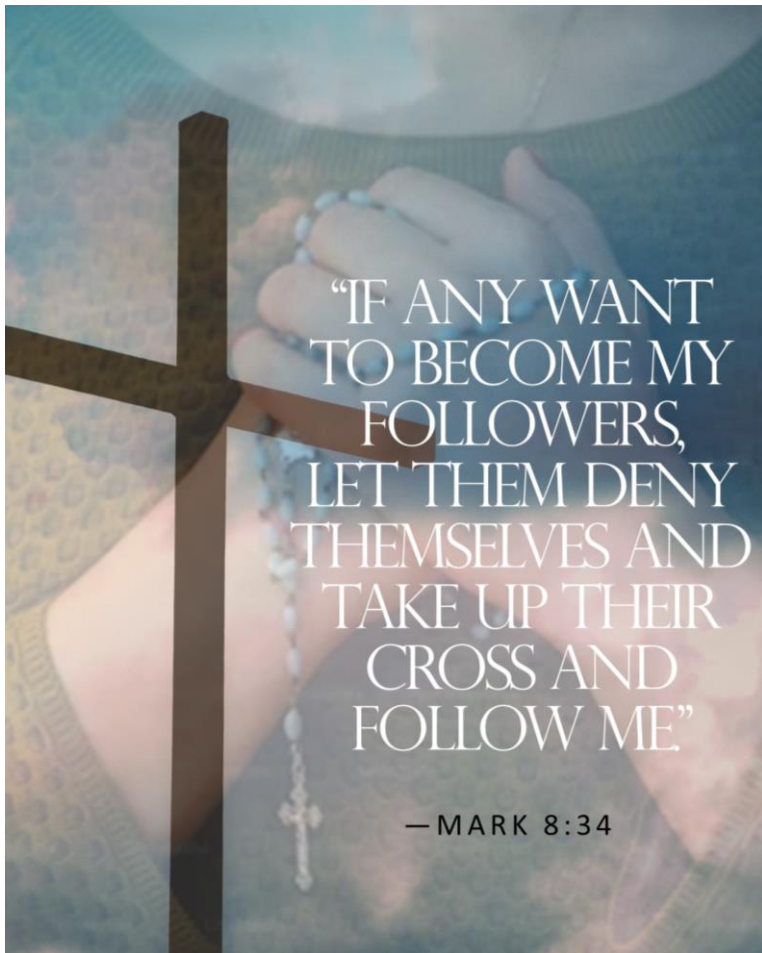




**ST. PETER'S**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



February 25, 2024

S E C O N D   S U N D A Y   I N   L E N T

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\*(Stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Greeting      Announcements      Birthdays      Anniversaries*

PASTOR: *"This is the day the Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!"*

PRELUDE: *"Prelude in G minor", J. S. Bach*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP: *\*(Stand as you are able.)*

Leader: As sages from the East offered you their best,

**People: So may we honor you, O Christ, with our highest  
visions and highest energies.**

Leader: As you turned the water to wine at Cana,

**People: So come to your church now and teach us to change  
human tears to joyful song.**

Leader: As you were baptized to fulfill all righteousness,

**People: So may your church humbly do your will.**

Leader: As you gave light to those who followed you on earth,

**People: So be our light as we follow you on city streets  
or country roads.**

Leader: Be revealed among us in power, in word, in sacrament,  
and in places where we live and work. God be to you,  
O Christ, now and forever. Amen. *-UCC Book of Worship*

\*HYMN OF PRAISE: #345 *"Blessed Assurance"*

**\*THE MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)*

We give you thanks, O God, for those who believed Jesus to be  
your Promised one. We thank you for Mary, we praised your  
name because you chose her as mother of Christ. We thank you  
for sages were led from the East by signs in the sky to greet your

holy birth. We give you thanks for John, who bore witness to Jesus. Most of all, we give thanks that when Jesus was baptized you showed your affirmation of Jesus as your beloved child and servant.

Through the word of many witnesses, we too name Jesus as our Christ and Savior, our Light and Life. Shine in our hearts through the light of Christ that we may be signs of your presence on earth, making peace and doing justice. May your people be a light to the nations, through Jesus, your faithful servant. Amen.

*-UCC Book of Worship*

*(Please be seated)*

**HYMN OF MEDITATION: #366 "I Surrender All"**

**PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 9:6 #555**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: LUKE 2:49 #834**

**SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "TAKE UP THE CROSS AND FOLLOW HIM"**

**A TIME OF GIVING**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**Doxology *\*(Stand as you are able.) #625* unison prayer of dedication**

**praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God all creatures here below;**

**praise God above ye Heavenly host; \*\***

**praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen. *(Please be seated.)***

*(\*\*alternate: Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen)*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

## A TIME OF GOING OUT

### THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*(We offer one another the peace of Christ for the week ahead.)*

\*HYMN SENDING FORTH: #376 *"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"*

### BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *"Jesus, How Could It Be True"*, Gieseke

*(Please remain seated "quietly" during the postlude.)*

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The Hymnal For Worship and Celebration ©1986 Word Music. Used by/with permission  
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*Everyone is Welcome!*

**Feel at home, for Christ Jesus is our host. If you are visiting for the first time, we are delighted to have you here!**

The Psalmist sings: *"Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing... thanksgiving... and praise."*  
We pray peace and joy to you, dear friend.

### WORSHIP TEAM

Pulpit Supply	Rev. Monica Harmon
Organist	Allen Cadwallader
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Choir Director	Jennifer Wasilk
Scripture Reader	Joan Whitman
Ushers	Susan Cherry, Fred Helyes Judy McCurdy, Betty Pekare

# Church News

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Palm Sunday, March 24 | Maundy Thursday, March 28  
Good Friday, March 29 | Easter, March 31

## **The Season of Lent**

When we sacrifice things that this world tells us we need, it can remind us that only God can truly satisfy our spiritual hunger. Lent's three pillars are prayer, fasting and almsgiving—meaning that we're called to do more than just abstain from a particular food or activity. It involves not only what we're willing to give up, but what we're willing to take on. When we think about what to give up for Lent, we ought to also think about what sort of commitment to prayer, *and* the ability to be charitable, that we can hold ourselves to.

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## **Rev. Monica Harmon, Pulpit Supply**

Rev. Harmon will be back again next Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We take this moment to thank her for leading us in our worship service. Next week is Communion Sunday. Join us!

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## **Circle Six Meeting**

Circle Six's next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 5 at 6:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall. Members are asked to bring a snack to share. The congregation is invited to attend our scheduled program which will begin around 7:00 PM. The program is on "*The Great Amherst Train Wreck*" presented by Tom Jewel on behalf of **The Amherst Historical Society**. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Sincerely, Sally Readinger, President*

# Coffee Chats

Sandstone Coffee House, Amherst  
Wednesday from 9-11:00 a.m.

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## Hey Chocolate Lovers!

The Preschool will be selling **Suzin L Chocolates for Easter**. If you are interested, the order form will be in the church office. All orders are due by March 6. Please make your check out to St. Peter's UCC Preschool. Candy can be picked up on March 19.

*Thank you for your support! -Wendy Kosakowski*

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*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."*

## Should one child go hungry? You can help!

There is a real need for the following items  
for the **CHILDREN'S WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM**.

- . Single Serving PB & Jelly
- . Peanut Butter Crackers
- . Canned Soup (Pop top lids)
- . Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)
- . Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)
- . Individual Cereals
- . Granola Bars
- . Fruit Cups & Jello Cups
- . Oatmeal Packages
- . Small Bag Pretzels
- . Small Bag Chips



Please leave your donations in the drop boxes at church.

*Thank you for your continued support!*

We are also collecting 'regular food items' for families with food insecurities. Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. Pam Miskov will make sure donations are delivered. *Thanks to Pam and everyone who donates.*

*If we can conquer space,  
we can conquer childhood hunger. ~ Buzz Aldrin*

# YOGA with Mary-K

St. Peter's UCC, enter Chapel door to the lower level | Cost: \$10  
Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM (arrive by 8:25 AM)  
Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM (arrive by 5:55 PM)

Please fill out the Participation cards and drop into the offering plate. *Cards should be filled out weekly.* Thank you!

Help us continue to move forward in faith by submitting your pledge card, if you have not already done so. Thank you.

“When leaving the church, please make sure to push the door closed. There have been times it’s left unlocked.” *Thank you!*

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At St. Peter's we work together in love to build strong foundations for our lives in Christ. This firm foundation allows us to put **“Arms and Legs on Christ’s love in the world”** We believe that God is calling you to be embraced by God’s radical love and to be a part of this foundation of faith.

Join us LIVE on **Facebook: St. Peter's UCC Amherst, OH**

**Zoom: Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205**  
(or call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099)

The service will be posted at a later date to view on our **YouTube channel: St Peters UCC Amherst**



## This Week's Events

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Mon., Feb. 26	Communion Visits, 1-4 PM
Tues., Feb. 27	Bible Study, Zoom, 7 PM
Wed., Feb. 28	YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM Coffee Chats, Sandstone, 9-11 AM
Thurs., Feb. 29	YOGA with Mary-K, 6:00-7:15 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 7 PM
Sun., Mar. 3	Worship Service, 10 AM, Rev. Monica Harmon

## How To Reach Us

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**Office Hours:** Mon.–Fri. 8:30-12:30 PM and 1-2:30 PM  
Afternoons available by appointment with Pastor Chris

**Address:** 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

**Website:** [www.stpetersamherst.org](http://www.stpetersamherst.org)

**Phone:** 440-988-4965

*We are currently searching for a new pastor. If you need help, please contact either Christine or Kaye at the phone numbers below.*

Christine Burman, Church Council President  
[president@stpetersamherst.org](mailto:president@stpetersamherst.org) 440-522-8035

Kaye Oswald, Church Office Administrator  
[admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org](mailto:admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org) 440-988-4965

Please visit our website, **[www.stpetersamherst.org](http://www.stpetersamherst.org)**  
to make your donation electronically via Breeze or Paypal.  
**Also, we now have the ability to accept donations by TEXT!**  
For more detailed information, contact the church office.

**ST. PETER'S**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Please remember St. Peter's UCC in your estate planning.*