



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

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. EPHESIANS 2:8-9

*Grace*

We believe we are saved by faith through grace. God's grace is usually defined as undeserved favor.

Grace cannot be earned; it is something that is freely given. We count on God's grace and the bridge he built in our relationship with him.

March 10, 2024  
Fourth Sunday in Lent

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# 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: *"Jesus, Lover of My Soul", Held*

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

Leader: Come my friends, let us meet and worship our God who loves us unconditionally.

**People: We delight to gather, meet, and celebrate the love of God.**

Leader: Let us remember Jesus who loved everyone wastefully, only asking others to love as he loves.

**People: We are grateful for Jesus who demonstrated in word and deed the unconditional love of God.**

Leader: Let us open ourselves to the Holy Spirit who, in every breath, fills us with Divine love songs.

**People: We are grateful for these Divine love songs and ask the Spirit to help us sing only songs of love for all of God's creation and creatures.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE: #92 *"Love Divine All Loves Excelling"*

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

O God who is Friend, the vastness of your love flows through all of creation, and this is cause for rejoicing. For all the harshness and condemnation that we see in the world, you have come to us out of love, compassion, and to save us from ourselves. We acknowledge our belief that you have come to redeem, to heal, to restore, and forgive, not just some of the world, but all of the

*Caring for Us*

*Caring for Others*

*Praising God*

world. May our worship embody the love and light you bring in Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen. *(Please be seated)*

Choral Response: *Gloria Patri #623*

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #202 *"Amazing Grace"*

**PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Choral Response: #614 *"Here Our Prayer O Lord"*

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: EPHESIANS 2:1-10 #949

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 3:14-21 #864

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "WHAT IS GRACE?"

## **A TIME OF GIVING**

OFFERING INVITATION **"One Great Hour of Sharing"**

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: #284 *"They'll Know We Are Christians  
By Our Love"*

## BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *“Finale in G major”*, Buxtehude  
(Please remain seated “quietly” during the postlude.)

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*Everyone is Welcome!*

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**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. Jim Cunningham
Organist	Allen Cadwallader
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Choir Director	Jennifer Wasilk
Scripture Reader	Karen Geduldig
Ushers	Shelley Harmych, Judy McCurdy, Betty Pekare

# Church News

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## Good Friday Breakfast Invitation!

Once again Penny Knepper is hosting a Breakfast on Good Friday from 9-11 AM. All women in the church are invited. Her home

address is 6421 South Dewey Road, Amherst. If you have any questions please call Penny at (440) 988-8025.

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## 75 years of Sharing!

Jesus teaches that faith calls for action. Sharing our light, is the expression of God's love here on earth and leads to making blankets, staffing food pantries, cooking meals, building houses and schools, signing petitions for worthy causes, and protesting injustices. On any given day, light is shining because we are there through our gifts to OGHS.

***Share the light. Give generously. Thank you!***

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## *Start saving for our Spring Rummage Sale!*

*Fellow Church Members*, as you Spring Clean your house, please save your unwanted items for the Church Rummage Sale *and* tell your friends and family too! Starting in June, items can be brought to the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar!

The Rummage Sale will be 2 days this year:

**Friday, July 19 from 5-8 PM and  
Saturday, July 20 from 9 AM-3 PM**

No clothing or shoes please. Questions? Please contact:  
Sue Conkle (440) 537-1749 or Kaye (440) 988-4965

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## **Ponderings about St. Peter's**

The oldest artifact in our church is the bell that calls us to worship each Sunday. It rings the hour throughout the week and reminds our neighbors that we are here and to come join us in worship. Cast in Sheffield, England, it was added to the steeple of the first wooden church St. Peter's built in 1860.

## **St. Peter's UCC Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser!**

Our newly formed Fundraising Team is excited to announce their first event, which will be a Spaghetti Dinner. It will be *carry-out only* on **Sat., April 20 from 4-6 PM**. Tickets are \$12 that will include spaghetti, meatballs, sauce, salad, bread & butter, and cookies. Tickets go on sale after worship on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Support your church by enjoying a delicious meal at the same time! And, buy a ticket for a friend! Ticket sales end on April 15<sup>th</sup>. *Thank you in advance for supporting your church!*

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**St. Joseph Performing Arts** *presents* **“THE ANSWER”**  
St. Joseph Performing Arts is a collaboration of members from surrounding churches, and we are so excited to bring the GOOD NEWS to various locations. Event cost is free. Please consider a donation. Thank you! See our schedule below:

**March 14 & 15** – 7:30 pm at St. Peter Parish, 3655 Oberlin Ave. Lorain

**March 22 & 23** – 7:30 pm at St. Albert the Great Parish,  
6667 Wallings Rd. North Royalton

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**Choral Spectrum presents “Light Eternal:  
Songs of Our Heavenly Home” Sun., Mar. 10 at 3 PM**  
St. Peter Parish, 3655 Oberlin Ave., Lorain

Featuring Morten Lauridsen's “Lux Aeterna” and Shawn Kirchner's “Heavenly Home,” this concert speaks to us of the promise of all that is still to come. The concert is free and open to the public. A freewill offering will be taken. Choral Spectrum is an auditioned choir under the direction of Anthony Trifiletti. Visit us at [choralspectrum.org](http://choralspectrum.org) for more information!



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

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## YOGA with Mary-K

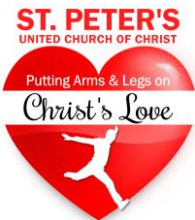
St. Peter's UCC, enter Chapel door to the lower level | Cost: \$10  
Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM (arrive by 8:25 AM)  
Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM (arrive by 5:55 PM)

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., Mar. 11	Communion Visits, 1-4 PM
Tues., Mar. 12	Bible Study, Zoom, 7 PM
Wed., Mar 13	YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM Coffee Chats, Sandstone, 9-11 AM
Thurs., Mar. 14	YOGA with Mary-K, 6:00-7:15 PM No Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Sun., Mar. 17	Worship Service, 10 AM

## How To Reach Us

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**Office Hours:** Mon.–Fri. 8:30-12:30 PM and 1-2:30 PM

**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.*