



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

“IF GRACE IS
TRUE...
WHY ARE WE
HERE?”



July 14, 2024

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP: **(Stand as you are able.)* Penny Knepper
(based on Psalm 100)

Leader: On your feet now—applaud God!
Bring a gift of joy!
Sing yourselves into God's presence.

**People: The Creator is our God.
God made us! We are all God's people.**

Leader: Enter with the password: "Thank you!"
Make yourselves at home.
Offer praise. Thank God. Worship God.

**People: For God is sheer grace.
God's unconditional love is ever present.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #20 *"All People that on Earth do Dwell"*

***MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)* Penny Knepper

We thank you God for who you are, for who we are, and for the gift of this day. We thank you for our congregation and for our community. May we feel your Spirit's presence and love as we share this time together. Help us to be faithful and courageous in these challenging times. Forgive us when we focus more on ourselves than your vision for the world, a world of love and kindness, and respect for all of creation, for all people. Open our minds and hearts to feel and see clearly your unconditional love for us and all people. Bless our time together this morning as we

gather in worship to offer our praise and thanks to you, our Creator, to Jesus, the Word made flesh, and to the Holy Spirit, your sacred presence within us and among all. Thank you! Thank you!! Thank you!!! Amen.

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #8 *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD Penny Knepper

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: PSALM 95:1-7 (The Inclusive Bible)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: LUKE 2:41-50 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: “IF GRACE IS TRUE...
WHY ARE WE HERE?”

A TIME OF GIVING

PASTOR: 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)*

PASTOR: OFFERTORY PRAYER

A TIME OF GOING OUT

PASTOR: THE PEACE OF CHRIST
(We offer one another the peace of Christ for the week ahead.)

*HYMN SENDING FORTH: #601 *“Lord, Dismiss Us With
Thy Blessing”*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

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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

Guest Minister	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	Penny Knepper
Ushers	Dave Rice, Betty Pekare, Fred Helyes, Lynda Helyes

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Church News

Summer Hospitality Host/Hostess

There will be a signup sheet outside the church office for anyone willing to host a Sunday Coffee Hour in June, July, or August. The donations will go towards the beautification of the church grounds. Thank you to volunteers and donors!

Ponderings about St. Peter's

Did you know that our Church Bulletin used to have "Thoughts for Today" on the last page?

Sometimes there would be poems, or hymn verses, or just ideas to ponder. Below is one that appeared in 1937 and was originally found in the fly-leaf of Moody's Bible.

Repentance – A change of mind.
New mind about God.

Conversion – A change in life.
New life for God.

Regeneration – A change of nature.
New heart for God.

Justification – A change of state.
New standing for God.

Adoption – A change of family.
New relationship toward God.

Sanctification – A change of service
Separation unto God.

Glorification – A change of place.
New condition with God.

Coffee Chats 

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

Hello Yogis!

Yoga is at the usual times - Wednesday 8:30am - 9:45 am and Thursday 6:00pm - 7:15pm. Our focus this month is simple exercises for the "senior" generation. Stretching is probably the #1 exercise you can do to maintain and improve your flexibility and health. Come out this July as we direct our attention to simple stretching and muscle/fascia lengthening exercises. And while you are at it - USE THE STAIRS!

From the AARP news:

"A study of nearly a half a million people found those who climbed the most stairs had a 24% lower risk of dying from any cause and a 39% lower risk of death by cardiovascular disease. The study by the European Society of Cardiology was published by ScienceDaily."

Namaste, Mary-K

St. Elizabeth Homeless Shelter

2726 Caroline Ave., Lorain

Every 3rd Wednesday of the month volunteers help feed the hungry. This week on **Wednesday, July 17th at 4:30 PM**, we will not need volunteer(s) to bake cookies, as we will be serving ice cream through the summer to give our bakers a much needed break. If you want to help or have questions, please call **Betty Pekare at 440-245-1231**. Thank you!

Thank you to Rev. Jim Cunningham

We are pleased to welcome back the Rev. Jim Cunningham. As a reminder, Jim is retired from full-time ministry having served for 23 years as a Board Certified Health Care Chaplain and 15 years as a Parish Pastor in the United Church of Christ. Jim and his spouse, Charlie, live in Westlake, Ohio with two cats.

ATTENTION all EMAIL and TEXT USERS

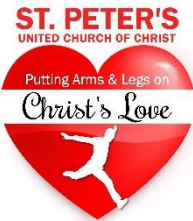
A number of members are getting **SPAM EMAILS & TEXTS** saying they are coming from Pastor Chris, our visiting pastors, and including from some members. PLEASE DO NOT CLICK ON or OPEN THESE EMAILS or RESPOND.

Continue to Help Feed our Children

Please share as you are able for the **Children’s Weekend Backpack Program**. 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. Thank you Pam and everyone for all you do helping others! *St. Peter’s cares about feeding the hungry!*

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

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



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

Mon., July 15	Communion Visits, 1-4 PM
Tues., July 16	Bible Study, Zoom, 7 PM
Wed., July 17	YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM Coffee Chats, Sandstone, 9-11 AM St. Elizabeth Homeless Shelter meal, 4:30 PM
Thurs., July 18	YOGA with Mary-K, 6:00-7:15 PM
Sun., July 21	Worship Service, 10 AM, Rev. Amanda Nagy

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

How To Reach Us

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

Phone: 440-988-4965

Christine Burman, Church Council President
president@stpetersamherst.org 440-522-8035

Kaye Oswald, Church Office Administrator
admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org 440-988-4965

Please visit our website, **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.