



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

# “BEYOND THE SNAPSHOT”



## COMPASSION & HEALING

...they begged him that they might touch  
even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched  
it were healed.

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July 21, 2024

Ninth 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.)* Shelley Harmych

Leader: Come away and rest for a while.  
Leave behind your busyness to be fully present to God.

**People: We have come for relief from life's turmoil  
God gathers us as a shepherd gathers her sheep**

Leader: God's steadfast love surrounds us here.  
We are reminded of God's enduring faithfulness.

**People: This is God's house, and we are God's children  
God invites us to feel at home in this place.**

Leader: We have a covenant with our Creator.  
This is a time for renewal of our promises.

**People: God calls for righteousness and justice  
God offers us goodness and mercy all our days.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE:** #425 *"In the Garden"*

**\*MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)* Shelley Harmych

Rock of our salvation, we have accepted the invitation of Jesus to gather as your beloved people. We have been far away from you in our thoughts and separated from you in much that we do. Now we are together, seeking reconciliation with you and one another. We call on your steadfast love for assurance and healing. We feel your compassion for us and for all your children. We sense your longing for our wholeness and renewed faith and trust. You call

us to be saints and apostles and prophets. We are overwhelmed, even as you draw us close. Amen.

***(Please be seated)***

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #68 *“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”*

**A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD** Shelley Harmych

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: PSALM 23 #435

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: MARK 6:30-34, 53-56 #817

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: “BEYOND THE SNAPSHOT”

**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**

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

\*HYMN SENDING FORTH: # 434 *“Search Me”*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*(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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**Note:** Call to worship by Lavon Bayler; Invocation Lavon Bayler; and Offering Invitation  
and Prayer by Lavon Bayler.



*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**

Guest Minister	Rev. Amanda Nagy
Organist	Allen Cadwallader
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Choir Director	Jennifer Wasilk
Scripture Reader	Shelley Harmych
Ushers	Lewis Zeller, Vicki Zeller Walter Beale, Luena Beale

# Church News

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## **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

*Have you ever looked at the weathervane on top of our steeple? Many churches that have the name "St. Peter's" have a weathervane with a cock or rooster on it referring to Peter's denial of Christ three times before the cock crowed. Our weathervane, however, has only "E" for East and "W" for West on it. Why?*

One source says that having only east and west pointers might be due to design simplification or aesthetic preference

As far as "East", in Genesis 2:8 we read that the Garden of Eden was planted in the East and at the end of time, the Messiah will approach Jerusalem from the East. In Matthew 2:2 we learn that the Wise Men came from the East. Also early Christians hung the crosses in their homes on the eastern wall, the direction to focus their prayers.

"West" has both good and bad connotations in the Bible. The negative of West is that it often represents the sea; evil; darkness; and death. The good aspect of West is that it points to unity with God. In Exodus 10:19 God used a strong West wind to drive the locusts into the Red Sea; the wind is a sign of God's deliverance.

We also know that as far as directions North and South can meet but East and West don't. In Psalm 103:12 we learn about God's forgiveness:

"For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us." Psalm 103 we learn  
of God's forgiveness:

If you discover anything else regarding this "pondering" please let me know.

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

## **Continuing to help our Ukrainian Family**

Thank you, St Peter's, for your love and generous support of our Ukrainian family over these past two years. Nataliia and her children have become beloved members of our church family, and we would like to continue to offer our support to them. Going forward, if you are so moved to help Nataliia and family financially, you can earmark your check or envelope to go to them as a pass-through donation by simply noting "For Nataliia & children" on your check memo or envelope.

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## **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. Thanks to Pam and everyone for all you do helping others! *St. Peter's cares about feeding the hungry!*

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## **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.

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## **Bible Study, 7 PM, Tuesdays on Zoom**

The weekly Bible Study will be continuing. Please join us any Tuesday for an interesting discussion on the Bible. Everyone is welcome to participate in the comfort of your home! All the sign in credentials will remain the same.

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!*

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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., July 22	Communion Visits, 1-4 PM
Tues., July 23	Bible Study, Zoom, 7 PM
Wed., July 24	YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM Coffee Chats, Sandstone, 9-11 AM
Thurs., July 25	YOGA with Mary-K, 6:00-7:15 PM
Sun., July 28	Worship Service, 10 AM, Rev. Jim Cunningham

*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

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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

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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.

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