



The Story of the
**ART GLASS
WINDOWS**

of St. Peter's
United Church of Christ
Amherst, Ohio

CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION
1924 - 2024

Sermon by
Rev. Dr. Don Nichols

*"People are like stained-glass windows.
They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but
when the darkness sets in, their beauty is
revealed only if there is a light from within."*

—Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

September 22, 2024
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**(Stand as you are able.)*

GATHERING MUSIC

Greeting Announcements Birthdays Anniversaries

ST. PETER'S BELL

PRELUDE: *"Prelude in G minor"*, Bach

*HYMN OF PRAISE: *"Joyful, Joyful"* #1 *(Stand if you are able)*

*PROCLAMATION – *(Stand if you are able)*

All: From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised for the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein! And, at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and earth and under the earth and every tongue confess Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Let blessing and honor, glory and power be unto Him and His name forevermore. Amen

GLORIA PATRI..... #493

You may be seated.

LITANY OF WINDOWS

Leader: Behold, this is Sunday! Let us remember that it was on the first day of the week that our Lord triumphed over death and the grave, and the great news was first proclaimed "He is risen!"

Lord, we have prayed to be kept alert, therefore, recall to our inner selves the opportunity of divine fellowship You have when you said: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." (Revelation 3:20-21)

People: LORD, WE OPEN THE DOORS OF OUR HEARTS TO YOU IN JOY. O COME TO OUR HEARTS, LORD JESUS, THERE IS ROOM IN OUR HEARTS FOR YOU!

CHOIR: *"Somebody's Knockin"*

Leader: Our Lord has taught us: "I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. When the hired man, who is not a shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and turns away; so the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. The hired man runs away because he is only a hired man and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them." (John 10: 11-15)

Let us confess that Psalm of David taught by generations of teachers and deepened within our hearts by experience.

People: THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I SHALL NOT WANT; HE MAKES ME LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES. HE LEADS ME BESIDE STILL WATERS; HE RESTORES MY SOUL. HE LEADS ME IN PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE. EVEN THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I FEAR NO EVIL; FOR THOU ART WITH ME; THY ROD AND THY STAFF, THEY COMFORT ME. THOU PREPAREST A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES; THOU ANOINTEST MY HEAD WITH OIL, MY CUP OVERFLOWS. SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE; AND I SHALL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER. (Psalm 23)

CHOIR: *"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*

Leader: They went to a place Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of

death.” He said to them. “Stay here and keep watch.” Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that, if possible, the hour might pass from him. “Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Simon,” he said to Peter, “are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. “The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him. Returning the third time, he said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”

People: LORD, SEND YOUR SPIRIT UPON US TO KEEP US ALERT TO THOSE MOMENTS WHEN CROSSES CONFRONT US AND WE ARE CALLED TO TAKE THEM UP AND FOLLOW YOU. BE WITH US WHEN GETHSEMANES OF DECISION PLUNGE US INTO EARNEST PRAYER.

BELL CHOIR: *“Go to Dark Gethsemane”*

Leader: But Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. “Woman,” he said, “why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him. Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher), Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am

returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”

People: HALLELUJAH! THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED! LET THE LESSON OF OUR EASTER WINDOW TEACH US ANEW THAT IT IS IN CHRIST’S RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD WE HAVE EXPECTANT HOPE AND WARM ASSURANCE OF BEING RAISED TO ETERNAL LIFE.

CHOIR: *“The First Lord’s Day”*

Leader: Do not the windows of our sanctuary recall to us the many parts of our Lord’s ministry! May they help us always to remember and to tell the story of Jesus and His love!

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

***HYMN:** *“Open My Eyes That I May See”* #381 *(Stand if you are able)*

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 3:13-17 #784

SERMON: *“THE DEEPER JOURNEY”*

OFFERATORY

***DOXOLOGY** #625 *(Stand if you are able)*

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)*

A TIME OF GOING OUT

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

***HYMN:** *“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”* #562 *(Stand if you are able)*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *"Rejoice!"*, Handel *(Please remain seated during the Postlude)*

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A special thank you to all who helped to make this special day of celebration possible! -Linda Gatz

Please join us in Fellowship Hall after the service for food and fellowship.



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. Dr. Don Nichols |
| Organist | Allen Cadwallader |
| Zoom Director | Mary K. Kirsch |
| Zoom Assistant | Tom Hollstein |
| Worship Producer | Brian Schieferstein |
| Handbell Choir Director | Shelley Harmych |
| Choir Director | Jennifer Wasilk |
| Scripture Reader | Neil Wasilk |
| Acolyte | Liam Gleason |
| Ushers | Terry Deliman, Walter Beale |
| | Lewis Zeller, Geoff Gatz |

Church News

LEV KOBIAKOV 2024

ST. ED’S VARSITY SOCCER SCHEDULE

Sept 27 / 5pm	Lakewood	Away
Oct 2 / 8 pm	St. Ignatius	Home
Oct 5 / 7pm	North Royalton	Away

More details at: <https://www.stedwardeagles.com/sports/soccer/varsity/>

Ponderings about St. Peter's

Have you ever wondered why it takes some people so many words to say very little? How about the length of some of the campaign speeches we are hearing now? Below is something of interest I found in "The Key" from July of 1965.

Just-A-Thought

A business tycoon sent a memo to his half-million employees reminding them of the length of some of the world's imperishable documents:

The Lord's Prayer – **56 words**

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address - **266 words**

The Ten Commandments - **297 words**

The 23rd Psalm - **118 words**

U. S. Government order on cabbage prices –
29,911 words!



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

Circle Six Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, October 1 at 6:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall. Members are to bring their own boxed dinner and beverage. As we do every October, we'll be making blankets that are given to members of the congregation (and their family members) that are hospitalized or undergoing treatment. If you know of anyone who should be given a blanket and hasn't already received one, please contact Pam Miskov or Jan Orseno.

Blessings, Sally Readinger, President

Help Feed our Children!

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!

We are also collecting 'regular food items' for families. There is a **GREAT NEED** for the following items for the Food Pantry:

1. Peanut Butter
2. Spaghetti Sauce
3. Canned Tuna or Chicken

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 in helping others!

Handbell Choir Practice

Handbell ringers, please join us on Thursdays at the church at 7:00 PM. We hope to see everyone! *Thank you, Shelley Harmych*



To check out the preschool wish list on Amazon, you can turn the camera on for your smart phone and focus on the QR code for it to bring up the wish list in Amazon.

It's also available at:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3JJACUT4CQHYG?ref=wl_share

CROP HUNGER WALK – JOIN US!

Sunday, Oct. 6 | 2 PM - meet at 5 point in Amherst

Get your pledge form from the church office, get sponsors, donations, and turn in money to Tom Jewell the day of the walk. If you can't walk, you can sponsor someone.

You can join our team, Amherst Crop Hunger Walk, using our neighbor church, Community Congregational UCC here:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/amherst-hunger-walk>

Click on Join the Team. To donate online, click on Donate Now on the Community Congregational UCC page so that goes to our total dollar amount raised for Amherst.



CHICKENS FOR A FAMILY



WATER FILTER FOR A HOME



HOME GARDENING

25% of the monies raised will go directly to Amherst Food Pantry at Good Shepherd Baptist Church. Thank you!

YOGA with Mary-K

After an August hiatus, Thursday yoga resumes in September:
Wednesday 8:30 am - 9:45 am and Thursday 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm.

For September, we will begin some light weight training to build muscle and burn fat. And we will continue doing our favorite core yoga poses.

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!*

Neighbors in Need

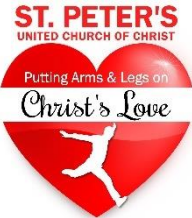
UCC's annual offering, is on October 6

Mental health is
a universal
human
right

"God will not falter or lose heart until justice
prevails throughout the earth." Psalm 135:3



In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is "Mental Health Justice For All!" In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. A just world for all is where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life's mental health journey.



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., Sept. 23	Communion Visits, 1-4 PM
Tues., Sept. 24	Bible Study, Zoom, 7 PM
Wed., Sept. 25	YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM Coffee Chats, Sandstone, 9-11 AM
Thurs., Sept. 26	Preschool Field Trip YOGA with Mary-K, 6:00-7:15 PM Handbell Rehearsal, 7 PM
Fri., Sept. 27	Preschool Field Trip
Sun., Sept. 29	Worship Service, 10 AM, Carol Struck

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

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 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.