



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

“MY KINGDOM IS NOT
OF THIS WORLD”

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born,
and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone
who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”



November 24, 2024

Twenty-Seventh 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: *"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring",* Bach

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

Leader: Rejoice in the light of the morning!
Give thanks for the sun's energy, even through clouds!

**People: God has spoken to us and meets us here.
We live in covenant with the Eternal One.**

Leader: Gather in the spirit of Jesus, whose name we bear!
Thank God for truth that lives in spite of death!

**People: We celebrate the faithful witness of Jesus Christ.
We seek to share the good news that Christ reigns.**

Leader: The Spirit encounters us here that we might learn.
The Spirit inspires us that we might serve.

**People: God anoints us for ministry, giving us tasks to do.
God's word is on our tongues, that the world
may believe.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #561 *"We Gather Together"*

***MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)* Terry Deliman

Speak to us, eternal God, through the representatives you anoint to proclaim your Word. Grant that all in authority will speak truthfully, rule justly, and serve selflessly. Find your dwelling place today, not just in this sanctuary, but in our hearts and lives – and not just today, but every day. May we know your grace and peace as we honor your majesty, bowing in awe before the one who was, and is, and is to come. Amen.

Choral Response: *Gloria Patri #623*

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #563 *"Count Your Many Blessings"*

PASTORAL PRAYER LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD Terry Deliman

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 2 SAMUEL 23:1-7

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: JOHN 18:33-37

CHOIR ANTHEM: *"Holy Name of Jesus Medley"*

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "THE UNEXPECTED"

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: #559 *“Come Ye Thankful People Come”*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *“Trumpet Voluntary”*, Purcell

(Please remain seated “quietly” during the postlude.)

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Note: Call to Worship and Invocation adapted from Lavon Bayler. Offering Invitation and Prayer adapted from UCC Worship Ways.



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!

WORSHIP TEAM

Guest Minister	Rev. Amanda Nagy
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	Terry Deliman
Ushers	Geoff Gatz, Linda Gatz, Fred Helyes, Lynda helyes

**Please stay after worship for
Hanging of the Greens!**

Church News

Circle Six December Events

Circle Six will hold its next **meeting on Tuesday, December 3 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall**. At **7:00 pm the Amherst Madrigal Singers** will be performing in the Sanctuary and the congregation is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served afterward in Fellowship Hall.

On **Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 pm**, we are very fortunate to have **violinist Mary Beth Ions** returning to entertain us in the Sanctuary. Mary Beth has performed with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra and in the orchestra pit for Broadway shows at Playhouse Square as well as other notable venues. She plays anything from Beethoven, to Beatles, Broadway, country fiddle, classical concertos and beyond. This wonderful event is open to the congregation and the public so please pass this information along to your neighbors and friends. **Tickets are free and are available from any Circle Six member or in the church office**. Donations will be accepted and refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall following the program.

Circle Six will be holding our **annual Christmas cookie sale** in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, **December 15**. Be sure to mark your calendar!

Sports Blankets, A Great Christmas Gift!

Sports blankets are for sale at \$50 each and can be purchased after church or in the church office M-F, 8:30-2:30. Proceeds go to church improvements fund. Please see Christine Burman.

Message from Anton Kobiakov

As you are aware the Kobiakov family left our parsonage during the first part of July to begin the next phase of their lives in the United States. There was money left from one of the grants I wrote, and I approached the Church Council asking permission to have it divided equally among all five family members. Recently I was told that Anton and Hlib had not cashed their checks from us. In speaking with them they were convinced to do so. The reason for this explanation is that I want to share with you the thank you that Anton sent.

"I am very grateful to you and your church for what you have done for us. They gave us warmth and comfort, which we needed so much, and something more than a home – your care and love.... Thank you so much."

Ponderings about St. Peter's

When you enter the church building on north side, the elevator entrance, have you ever taken the time to look at the picture and plaque hanging there? Do you know its story?



The picture shows the Madonna and Child not Jesus as a baby. This was chosen for a reason. The original is an oil painting on wood done by Raphael around 1512. It is commonly called the "Madonna of the Chair". The description of it follows:

"Mary is seen from the side, seated on a 'chamber chair', a type of seat reserved for the high dignitaries of the papal court. She just lifts one leg to better accommodate the body of her Son, clasping it (him) against her chest, while St. John, on the right, casts an intense gaze at them, extending his hands in sign of prayer."

This picture was given to St. Peter's by the Watts family as a memorial for their son, James Dewey Watts (October 16, 1964 – April 12, 1967). James died at age 2 ½ after being ill for several days. His parents, Barbara Snyder Watts and Dewey R. Watts, lived on Telegraph Road. His grandparents were from Elyria and Fort Gay, West Virginia. Rev. Happel performed the funeral, and James was buried at Ridge Hill Cemetery.

Ring the Bell!

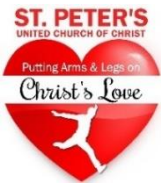
On Sat. Dec. 14, St. Peter's UCC will be ringing the bell for the **Amherst Salvation Army** at the Amherst Giant Eagle store. Proceeds are used to assist needy families in Amherst. St. Peter's has had a long tradition of assisting the Salvation Army's Red Kettles at Christmas. Volunteers may sign up starting at 9 AM for **1 hour time blocks**, and we need 2 ringers each hour. Please call Don Ramsey if you have any questions. If you need his phone number, please call the church office.

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.



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)

YouTube channel: St Peters UCC Amherst



This Week's Events

- Mon., Nov. 25 Communion Visits, 1-4 PM
Preschool Sharing Party, Fellowship hall, 9-12 PM
- Tues., Nov. 26 Bible Study, Zoom, 7 PM
Preschool Sharing Party, Fellowship hall, 9-3:30 PM
- Wed., Nov. 27 YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM
Coffee Chats, Sandstone, 9-11 AM
Preschool Break returning Dec. 2
- Thurs., Nov. 28 Thanksgiving office closed
- Fri., Nov. 29 Thanksgiving holiday office closed
- Sun., Dec. 1 Worship Service, 10 AM, First Sunday in Advent

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 440-988-4965

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