

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



“BLESSED ARE YOU WHO  
ARE POOR, FOR YOURS IS  
THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

“BLESSED ARE YOU WHO  
ARE HUNGRY NOW, FOR  
YOU WILL BE FILLED.

“BLESSED ARE YOU WHO  
WEEP NOW, FOR YOU  
WILL LAUGH.”

**Feb. 16, 2025 | Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

# 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

Stacy Gleason

Leader: As the days lengthen, Holy One, our hopes soar.

**People: As we prepare to worship you, our hearts become full.**

Leader: Be with us now, Loving God, that we feel the security of your presence.

**People: Be with us now, Loving God, that as we turn our hearts to worship, we will find that still place where you dwell.**

Leader: Bless us, God of Salvation. For when we are in your midst, your light shines upon us and our hopes soar.

**People: Bless us, God of Salvation. For when we worship you, Our hearts become full and our lives change. As we worship you this morning may we know once again the holiness of your love. AMEN.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE: #184 *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

### \*MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION *(Unison)* Stacy Gleason

Hope of the poor, friend of the persecuted, advocate of the suffering, O God, we praise you for you are our help. Turn our tears to laughter and give us what we need to live. Then keep us faithful, that we may never be satisfied until all have what they need. May all people receive your blessing, through Jesus Christ, who died and rose again, and through whom we find light. Amen.

*Caring for Us*

*Caring for Others*

*Praising God*

Choral Response: "*Gloria Patri*" #623

*(Please be seated)*

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #445 "*Savior Thy Dying Love*"

**PRAYERS & CONCERNS 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.

**A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD** Stacy Gleason

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 17:5-10 #628

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 6:17-26 #838

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "Living in the Light of Christ"

**A TIME OF GIVING**

OFFERING INVITATION: As followers of Jesus, we seek to minister to one another, our community, and the world. To this ministry we bring our time, talents, and other resources as we are able, asking God's blessing as we go out to love and serve. Let's give and receive this morning's offering.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*Doxology #625 unison prayer of dedication *(Please be seated.)*

PASTOR: OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**A TIME OF GOING OUT**

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

Choral Response: *"God Be With You"* vs. 1  
(sung by congregation)

\*HYMN SENDING FORTH #380 *"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"*

## BENEDICTION

Leader: God is always with us. Even when times get difficult and the way is not clear,

**People: God is truly by our side.**

Leader: We go to serve God with joy.

**People: We go in peace. Amen.**

Pastor: May God bless you and keep you well. God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. God asks us to accept the joys and costs of discipleship. Therefore, go out into the world carrying with you the peace of Christ, the Love of the Creator and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit. Amen

## 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. Alana Kelley
Organist	Daesean Lawson
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Zoom Assistant	Tom Hollstein
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Scripture Reader	Stacy Gleason

Ushers

Fred Helyes, Lynda Helyes,  
Luena Beale, Walter Beale

# Church News

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## Do you have a favorite hymn?

Please write it down on the back of your *blue* Participation card and place in the offering plate. *Thank you, Jen Wasilk*

## Help Feed our Children!



Needed items for **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

There's a great need for the following items for the Food Pantry:

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

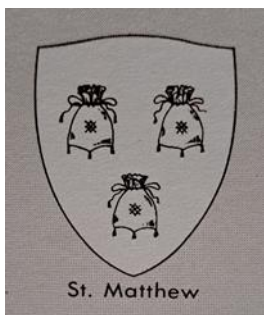
Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. Pam Miskov will make sure donations are delivered. Thanks to Pam and everyone for all you do in helping others!

## St. Elizabeth Homeless Shelter

2726 Caroline Ave., Lorain

Wednesday, Feb. 19th, we need volunteers to serve starting at 4:30 PM, or to bake cookies or cupcakes. If you want to help or have questions, please contact Betty Pekare.

## Ponderings About St. Peter's



We have been looking at Christ's Apostles. So far, we have done Peter, John and Thomas. This Sunday we will learn a bit about Matthew who was also called Levi. The symbol for Matthew is three money bags which refer to his previous job as a tax collector. Matthew would have been of great assistance to Jesus as a skilled writer and keeper of records. Matthew is the

author of one of the most quoted Gospels although there are some who question whether he wrote it. This is also the only Gospel that uses the word "church". After the crucifixion he was an evangelist spreading "the Word" first in Judea and then into other countries. Matthew was crucified in Ethiopia on a Tau cross and then had his head severed with a battle-axe.

## Circle Six Update

I'd like to thank everyone that attended Circle Six's program on February 4 featuring John Kowalski and his keyboard. From the feedback I received, I can without a doubt say that it was enjoyed by all. John was entertaining, funny and encouraged everyone to sing along. He is very gifted for never having any formal training. His ability to incorporate all instruments into his performance utilizing all the functions of his keyboard is absolutely impressive. For those that were unable to attend, please consider it the next time we have him back.

Circle Six's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00 in Fellowship Hall. At 7:00 PM Matt Nahorn will be doing a presentation in Fellowship Hall on the "Lost Houses of Lorain County". The congregation is invited to attend and please also invite your family and friends to join you. Matt has done several presentations on various local landmarks and places of interest. I'm sure this one will not disappoint. Refreshments

will be served following the presentation and Circle Six members are to bring finger snacks to share.  
*Blessings, Sally Readinger, President*

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## **YOGA with Mary-K**

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM

Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM

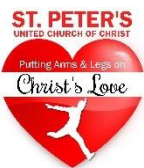
Cost is \$10 per class.

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The **Preschool Book Buddy** sign up is Thursday and Friday, 2/20 & 2/21. Mornings will be from 10:15-10:35am, and Thursday afternoon from 1:30-1:50pm. The sign up is located by our fundraiser form just outside of the sanctuary. We're just looking for about 20 minutes of time to read and visit with our preschool friends. The goal is to be in Walker Lobby if we have several church buddies or in a classroom if not.

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

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- Mon., Feb. 17    No Preschool  
                          Spiritual Life visitations throughout the week  
                          Council Meeting, 7 PM, Zoom
- Tues., Feb. 18    Bible Study 7 PM, Zoom
- Wed., Feb. 19    YOGA with Mary-K 8:30-9:45 AM  
                          Coffee Chats, Sandstone 9-11 AM  
                          St. Elizabeth Shelter meal, 4:30 PM
- Thurs., Feb. 20    YOGA with Mary-K, 6-7:15 PM
- Sun., Feb. 23    Worship Service 10 AM

## How To Reach Us

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**Office Hours:** Monday–Thursday 8:30-2:30 PM

**Address:** 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

**Website:** [www.stpetersamherst.org](http://www.stpetersamherst.org)

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**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.*