



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”



March 9, 2025 | First Sunday in Lent

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: *"Christe, du Lamm Gottes", BWV 619*
Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

***CALL TO WORSHIP** -Betty Pekare

Leader: Gather to remember and share stories of faith;
Rejoice in the goodness of the loving God.

**People: Before our stories began, there was God;
Through all our days, God walks with us.**

Leader: Worship the one who gives and sustains life;
Sing praises to the one who is our refuge.

**People: There is no place we can go where God is not;
Amid life's terrors, God's promises hold true.**

Leader: Delight in God, whose protection we enjoy;
Dance with the God, who frees us for new possibilities.

**People: We call out to God, expecting to be heard;
We listen, knowing there is truth to be received.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #410 *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

***MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)* -Betty Pekare

God of history, whose Word is alive in us, write your truth into our lives this day. Work your signs and wonders in our midst. Show us your salvation. Be present in our troubles and in our triumphs. Lead us away from bondage to things that do matter.

Show us the better land you intend for us, where barriers no longer divide and true community is born. Amen.

Choral Response: *"Gloria Patri"* #623

(Please be seated.)

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #181 *"Were you There?"*

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.

Choral Response: *"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"*

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD -Betty Pekare

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11 #158

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: LUKE 4:1-13 #835

CHOIR ANTHEM: *"To Be Like Jesus"*

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: *"Lenten Journey"*

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY: *"Pièce No. 12 Bibliothèque de l'Organiste, 8e Suite"*,
François Benoist 1794-1878

*Doxology #625 unison prayer of dedication

PASTOR: OFFERTORY PRAYER

A TIME OF GOING OUT

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

Choral Response: #602 *"God Be With You"* vs. 1 (sung by choir)

*HYMN SENDING FORTH #345 *"Blessed Assurance"*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *"Nachspiel in d moll"*, Aton Brucker 1824-1896

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

The Hymnal For Worship and Celebration ©1986 Word Music. Used by/with permission
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Note: Call to worship, invocation, offering invention and prayer from Lavon Baylor.



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. Amanda Nagy

Organist

Daesean Lawson

Zoom Director

Mary K. Kirsch

Zoom Assistant

Tom Hollstein

Worship Producer

Brian Schieferstein

Handbell Choir Director

Shelley Harmych

Scripture Reader

Betty Pekare

Ushers

Geoff Gatz, Linda Gatz, Fred Helyes

Church News

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY, MARCH 23

The Search and Call Team has conducted an interview with Pastor Mike Boehm and made recommendations to Council who also approved the call. We will be having a Congregational Meeting following worship on March 23, 2025. The Pastor Mike Boehm will be preaching his sermon this day to respond to this call. He has indicated a desire to be our part time pastor. If he has an affirmative vote, he will officially start April 1, 2025 with a six-month contract. Please make sure to be in church that Sunday so your vote can count. We will also have a One Call on Sat., March 22nd as a reminder. During our Congregational Meeting following worship on March 23, we will offer each member an opportunity to ask questions of the Search and Call Team and to vote on the call to our new pastor.

It's time to order Easter Lilies!

This year the order forms have been placed by the bulletins at all entrances to the sanctuary. The deadline to order is March 28th. The cost this year is \$10.00. Please place your completed form along with your payment (check payable to St. Peter's UCC) in the offering plate or the church office.

Thank you for your support! -Altar Guild

Do you have a favorite hymn?

Please write it down on the back of your 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
- . Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)
- . Oatmeal Packages
- . Peanut Butter Crackers
- . Individual Cereals
- . Small Bag Pretzels
- . Canned Soup (Pop top lids)
- . Granola Bars
- . Small Bag Chips
- . Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)
- . Fruit Cups & Jello Cups

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!

Ponderings About St. Peter's

Here is another interview of a church member fulfilling a requirement for confirmation in 1987. This is an interview with Walter Mischka by Jason Gasser.

Walter recalled that he began attending St. Peter's in 1909 when he was three years old. His family has been members for over 100 years. As a youngster he was required to attend church every Sunday, but the services were in German, and he had little understanding of what was being said by the minister. He said he went to Sunday School more than church. His Confirmation classes lasted for two years and were led by Rev. Egli. On Confirmation Sunday each member had to stand in front of the congregation and answer a question. Walter commented that it made some of them look like dummies. In speaking with Jason, he said that it seemed to him that today once someone was confirmed you hardly ever saw them in church again. Walter also emphasized that it was important to attend church and that when he and his wife were in Florida they always went on Sunday.

YOGA with Mary-K

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM

Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM

Cost is \$10 per class.

Please continue to keep Nataliia and her kids in your prayers and support during these challenging times. You can help by financial contributions to them - placing money or a check in an envelope with the designation "Natasha" and the church will pass through directly to her. Or if you personally want to send a gift, ask Kaye or me for her address.

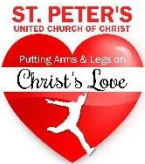
Thank you, Mary-K

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

This is the kind of fast day I'm after: to break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, cancel debts.

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)

The service will be posted at a later date to view on our

YouTube channel: St Peters UCC Amherst



This Week's Events

- Mon., Mar. 10 Spiritual Life visitations throughout the week
- Tues., Mar. 11 Bible Study 7 PM
- Wed., Mar. 12 YOGA with Mary-K 8:30-9:45 AM
Coffee Chats, Sandstone 9-11 AM
- Thurs., Mar. 13 YOGA with Mary-K, 6-7:15 PM
No Handbell Rehearsal
No Preschool, Conferences
- Fri., Mar. 14 No Preschool, Conferences
- Sun., Mar. 16 Worship Service 10 AM, 2nd Sunday in Lent

How To Reach Us

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

Address: 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

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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.