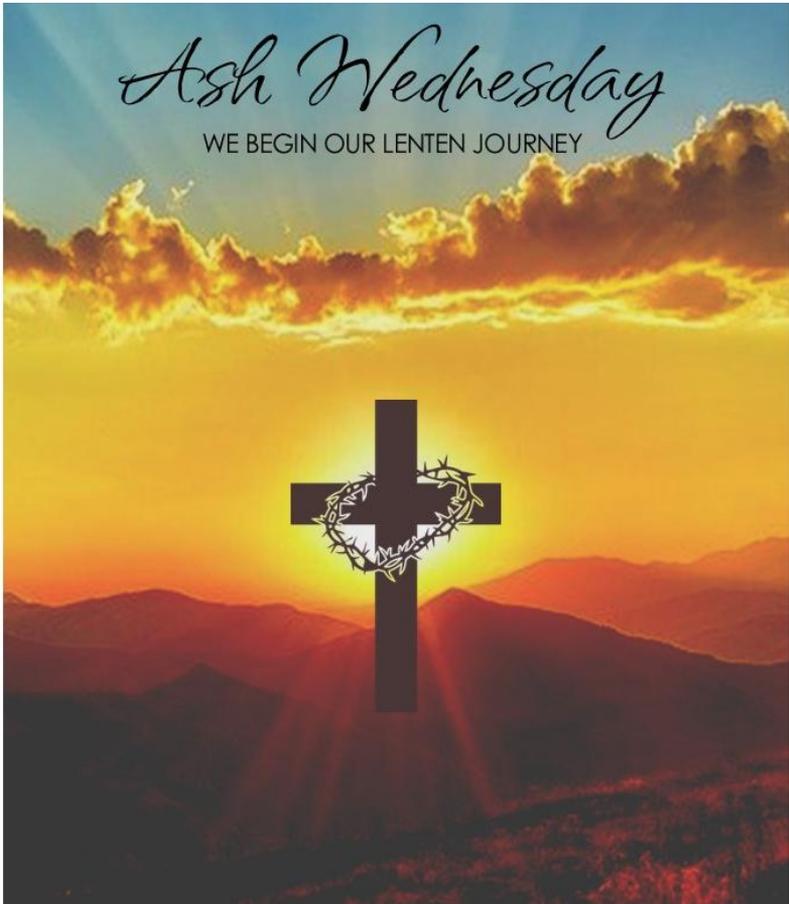




ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Feb. 18, 2026 | Ash Wednesday

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**(Stand as you are able.) + (if needed, use green insert in hymnal rack)*

GATHERING MUSIC

Words of Welcome and Announcements

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive) Pastor Mike Boehm

Leader: Come quietly before the Lord your God.

People: Bow low in humble repentance.

Leader: Repent in sackcloth and ashes, O people of God,
for our sins are mighty.

**People: Our sins are mighty, but God's capacity to forgive
is mightier. Come to the Lord Most High, and be
cleansed.**

CHORAL INTROIT

**HYMN #52 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) Don Ramsey

Forgive us, Almighty God, for we have sinned before You. On a daily basis we sin in thought, word or deed. We denied in our hearts that we are sinners, and we have failed to acknowledge our complicity in the sins of the world past and present which led to the death of our beloved Brother, Jesus Christ. We have allowed ourselves to believe that the events of Calvary were done and condoned by people long ago and far away. And yet Jesus died for the sins of the world, both those who had been committed in the past and those which would be committed by us in the future. And so, we are guilty. We have helped drive the nails into His hands and feet. We have helped raise the cross and have thrust the spear into his side. We are filthy with sin. Yet say the word and we will be forgiven. Forgive us this day, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #270 *“Wonderful Words of Life”*

CHORAL ANTHEM: *“El Shaddai”*

Pastoral Prayer

+Lord’s Prayer (debts & debtors)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Don Ramsey

Psalm 22:1-5, 27-31 #434

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 #787

* + Gloria Patri #623

SERMON: *“Ashes in the Heart”*

The Imposition of Ashes *

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (use booklet in hymnal rack)

OFFERING

Offertory

* + Doxology #625

*Prayer of Dedication

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

*HYMN #285 *“In Christ There Is No East or West”*

*BENEDICTION

*Choral Benediction

*Pastoral Benediction

*If you wish to receive ashes but cannot come forward,
tell the usher and the Pastor will come to you.



**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

Minister	Pastor Mike Boehm
Pianist	Cindy Boehm
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Zoom Assistant	Tom Hollstein
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Director of Music	Jennifer Wasilk
Scripture Reader	Don Ramsey
Ushers	Susan Cherry

Church News

*Our sins are mighty, but God’s capacity to
forgive is mightier.*

“But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,
so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your
Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret
will reward you.” -Matthew 6:17-18



Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent

When we sacrifice things that this world tells us we need, it can remind us that only God can truly satisfy our spiritual hunger. Lent's three pillars are prayer, fasting and almsgiving—meaning that we're called to do more than just abstain from a particular food or activity. It involves not only what we're willing to give up, but what we're willing to take on. When we think about what to give up for Lent, we ought to also think about what sort of commitment to prayer, *and* the ability to be charitable, that we can hold ourselves to.



Help Feed our Children

Items needed 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/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!

GriefShare

Feb. 12 through May 14, 2026

Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 PM in the Fireside Room

GriefShare* is a program for those who are grieving the loss by death of a loved one.

Circle Six Happenings

Circle Six is pleased to announce **The Bobby Jones Family** will be live in concert at St. Peter's UCC on **Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00 PM** in the Sanctuary. The congregation is invited to attend and is also open to the public. There will be refreshments served in Fellowship Hall afterwards. The Bobby Jones Family are residents of Amherst. If you have never heard them perform, you can check them out at WWW.THEBOBBYJONESFAMILYMUSIC.COM. Please pass this along to your family and friends.

Thank you! Sally Readinger, President

Request for Favorite Hymns

At the end of Epiphany, we will have gone through the list of requested songs that you all provided last spring. Now, I'm asking for more of your favorite hymns. Please either write your song on the back of your attendance card, or email them to me at wasilknj@linkup.us or let the office know. *Thank you, Jen Wasilk*

Coffee Chats Please come join us any Wednesday from 9-11 AM. We will meet from 9-11 AM at Panera Bread (Oak Point Road). This is not a committee meeting—it is purely a social group. Bring a friend! Contact Judy McCurdy or Christine Burman for the current meeting place.

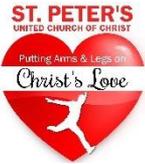
YOGA with Mary-K

Stretch 'n Flex, at your own pace

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM

Thursday Evenings | 5:30-6:45 PM Cost is \$10 per class.

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

- Thurs., Feb. 19 GriefShare, 2-4 PM, Fireside Room
 YOGA with Mary-K, 5:30-6:45 PM
- Sun., Feb. 22 Worship Service 10 AM, 1st Sunday in Lent

How To Reach Us

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 8:30-2:00 PM

Address: 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

Website: www.stpetersamherst.org

Phone: 440-988-4965

Mike Boehm, Pastor

Office Hours: Tuesday 9-1 PM & Thursday 1-5 PM

pastor@stpetersamherst.org 440-988-4965 | 216-316-3482

Susan Conkle, Church Council President

president@stpetersamherst.org 440-988-4965

Kaye Oswald, Church Office Administrator

admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org 440-988-4965

Heidi Chambers, Preschool Administrator/Teacher

preschool@stpetersamherst.org

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.