



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SERVE ONLY HIM

Again, the devil took him to a very
high mountain and showed him all the
kingdoms of the world and their glory,
and he said to him,

"All these I will give you, if you will fall down
and worship me." Then Jesus said to him,
"Away with you, Satan! for it is written,
'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.' "

Feb. 22, 2026 | First Sunday in Lent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Words of Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE

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

Leader: We are called together today simply by the
grace of God.

**People: We do not have a right to be here; we have not
earned a place here.**

Leader: Merit alone does not bring us a place in worship.
We do not deserve to be here.

**People: But God calls us here to be His church and His
servants. By His grace alone are we called.
Praise be to God.**

CHORAL INTROIT

***HYMN #202 "Amazing Grace"**

INVOCATION (unison) Penny Knepper

**Holy God our Heavenly Father, by Your grace alone do we
have worth in the universe of Your creation. Without Your
grace we would be as the ants in the dust, living for a brief
spell and then dying forever from this world. Your grace
fills us and raises us up. Through Your grace we have
eternal life through Jesus Christ. Through Your grace the
Holy Spirit indwells us and gives us power. On this day we
pray that we might always be deserving of the grace which
You so freely give. Bless us in this hour of worship we
pray. Amen.**

HYMN #58 *"This Is My Father's World"*

CHORAL ANTHEM: *"Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down"*

Sharing Joys and Concerns:

Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (debts & debtors)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Penny Knepper

Matthew 4:1-11 #785

2 Corinthians 12:6-9 #943

* + Gloria Patri #623

SERMON: "Oh, Grace Died Years Ago!"

OFFERING

Offertory

* + Doxology #625

*Prayer of Dedication

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

*HYMN #181 *"Were You There?"*

***BENEDICTION**

*Choral Benediction

*Pastoral Benediction

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

Minister

Pianist

Zoom Director

Zoom Assistant

Worship Producer

Director of Music

Scripture Reader

Ushers

Pastor Mike Boehm

Cindy Boehm

Mary K. Kirsch

Tom Hollstein

Brian Schieferstein

Jennifer Wasilk

Penny Knepper

Fred Helyes, Lynda Helyes

Church News

Ponderings about St. Peter's

Today is the first Sunday of Lent, but what is the origin of Lent? The word itself is from the Old English word *lencten*, meaning "spring season" and refers to the lengthening of the days. In Greek, a language spoken by early Christians, the term refers to a period of 40 weekdays before Easter. In apostolic times this was a period of fasting before Easter. In 325 AD the First Council of Nicaea formalized Lent. Fasting rules then were very strict, with one meal allowed in the evening and fish, meat, eggs and butter were forbidden. In the Bible the 40 day time period can be seen in Exodus when Moses spends 40 days in the mountains to pray and fast; and in I Kings 19:8-9 when the prophet Elijah went to the mountain of God to fast and pray; and in the New Testament when Jesus went into the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. Now that

you know a bit more about Lent may you find it more meaningful when you fast and pray in preparation for Easter.

GriefShare
Feb. 12 through May 14, 2026
2:00 - 4:00 PM

GriefShare* is a program for those who are grieving the loss by death of a loved one. Our program began this past Thursday.



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!

Request for Favorite Hymns

We are working on the summer and fall list of hymns and songs for the congregation to sing during the services. If you have favorite hymns for summer and fall, please send them to Jennifer Wasilk. Thank you.

Coffee Chats Please come join us any Wednesday from 9-11 AM. We meet at Panera Bread (Oak Point Road) for food, fun and fellowship. Bring a friend! Contact Judy McCurdy or Christine Burman for the current meeting place.

Second Annual Bakeless Bake Sale Fundraiser

The second annual Bakeless Bake Sale fundraiser is happening through the entire month of **February**. If you did not receive a flyer, envelopes will be available at either sanctuary entrance door. The flyer is explanatory, but any questions should be referred to Lynda Helyes or Christine Burman. Thank you for your generous donation. -Christine D Burman

Due to our recent exposure to the ASHER (Active Shooter/ Hostage Response) program, and in part due to a recent security event, we have decided that the doors to the sanctuary will be locked from the outside on Sunday morning after the Prelude. We regret having to go to this extreme, as it seems counter to our policy of welcoming the visitor. Unfortunately, in the real world we live in these days, we must protect the safety of our members and staff as the higher priority. -Pastor Mike

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

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Altar Guild Needs Your Help!

We are a small group who prepares the Sanctuary for Sunday Worship. Unfortunately, our numbers are getting smaller as we lose members due to illness and aging, and this increases the work load on the rest of us remaining. We'd love to have

YOU join us, and men are also welcome!

Please contact Lynn Hollstein for more information.

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** -----

- Tues., Feb. 24 Voice Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 PM, Sanctuary
 Bible Study 1:45-2:45 PM, Fireside Room
 Handbell Rehearsal, 1:45 PM, Sanctuary
- Wed., Feb. 25 YOGA with Mary-K, 8:30-9:45 AM
 Coffee Chats, Panera Bread, 9-11 AM
- Thurs., Feb. 26 YOGA with Mary-K, 5:30-6:45 PM
 GriefShare, 2-4 PM, Fireside Room
- Sun., March 1 Worship Service 10 AM, 2nd 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.