

Peace United Church of Christ

208 E Maurer Street
Shawano, WI 54166



Sunday May 1, 2022 – 9:00 AM

Pastor & Teacher: Pastor Uriah Williams
Choir Director: Nathan Falk
Ministers: All the People

Liturgist: Bob Gehm
Organist: Vicky Wagner

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Peace United Church of Christ
Order of Worship
April 24, 2022

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN "We Have Gathered, Jesus Dear" #74

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Holy One, Provider

Many: Our ever-present help

One: In our emptiness

Many: You remind us of your presence

One: In your abundance

Many: You remind us you are here

One: With a love that conquers death

Many: You remind us we are yours

One: Holy! Holy! Holy!

Many: To the Ever-present One

All: Amen.

UNISON INVOCATION

The Risen One is with us

Your ways are ways of justice

Your ways are ways of peace

Your ways are ways of love

In you, our hearts are full

In your ways, we will follow

Amen

HYMN "Listen to Your Savior Call" #250

UNISON CONFESSION

Lover of Creation,

Forgive us

We have not loved ourselves

We have not loved our neighbors

We have not followed in your ways

We have rebelled against your love

Forgive us

Engage us

Reshape our imaginations

Trade our complacency for your courage,

Our pettiness for your possibility.

Our greed for your goodness

Our aimlessness and for your adventure

Our lives for your love

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Open your hearts. Hear the good news.

God has not abandoned us

God has not sent us out to find our own way.

God is with us, all around us, at work within us.

In the name of all that is,

You are welcome

Into the grace, mercy, and forgiveness

Of the Creator of our hearts

Many: **Glory to Giver of Life.**

All: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 9:1-20

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."⁶ But get up and enter

the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”¹¹ The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying,¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem;¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.”¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel;¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

GOSPEL: John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way.² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples.³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.”⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea.⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred

yards off. ⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

MESSAGE

“The Necessity of Redemption”

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

“God’s Eye is on the Sparrow”

#475

CALL TO OFFERING

One: In a world that lives out of scarcity

You call us to a life of abundance

You offer grace and mercy

You heals us

You carry us.

In you, we live.

In you, we move.

In you, we are made whole.

Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May these gifts be used to bring life and love and liberation for this world that God so dearly loves. Amen.

HYMN

“Jesus Took the Bread”

#343

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER

One: God be with you

All: And also with you

One: We lift up our hearts and give thanks to God who meets us where we are.

Let us pray:

Holy and loving God, we offer thanks for this day—for the beauty of the earth, for your love and care for every creature, for this table that is before us. We offer gratitude for the virtual community that surrounds this table, and for the many tables and faces we cannot see that make up this ceremonial banquet montage. We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this marvelous mosaic. We offer prayers for those without tables to gather around, without food to eat, without beverage to quench their thirst. Communion and community are for them too. We are humbled by this reality, and as we prepare to receive this gift of grace, remind us to be gracious with one another. Meet us in our striving, and hear us as we pray the words that Jesus taught us, saying:

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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WORDS OF REMEMBERING

God, we remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying: “This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Come, for all things are ready.
Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.
Drink this, for it is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

BENEDICTION

Now, may the grace of God go with us. May God's face shine upon us. May we love the world as God has loved us. May we be peace. May we be love. May God's mercy be present among us. Amen.

HYMN

“In the Bulb There is a Flower”

#433

Giving link for the UCC's Humanitarian effort in Ukraine.: [Ukraine Appeal - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](https://www.ucc.org/ukraine-appeal)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: May 8: Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

This week at Peace Church:

Fri., April 29: 1:00 PM Quilting Group
Sat., April 30: Conference Annual Mtg/Appleton
Sun., May 1: 9:00 AM Worship - Communion
7:00 PM AA Meeting
Thurs., May 5: 1:30 PM Worship - Communion
Fri., May 6: 1:00 PM Quilting Group
Shelley vacation day

Church Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM till 2:00 PM.

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations:

Call the church office (715.526.2916) if you would like to put yourself or a loved one on the prayer list.

Joys

Birthdays: 4/29: Jeffrey Reinke; 4/30: Lynda Mutter; 5/1: Laura Naeyaert; 5/3: Logan Skytta; 5/8: Kathy Kuse

Anniversaries: 5/5: Brooke & Joseph Skytta

Concerns

Jim Niesen	Abby Tuma	Clayton Blom
Karen Mandel	Lola Kaczor	Jerry Bucher
Pastor Lew	Barbara Minster	Bob Engel
Lori Mueller	Mary Ellen Scherer	Marian Pauly
Theresa & Jim Timmer	Leola Anderson	Andrea Knickerbocker
Mary Peterson	Sandy Laehn	Gary Gurnee
Baby Helena Theis	Brian Wescott	Don Olsen
Mike Winkler	Roland Dobratz	

All our homebound members

Those serving in the military: Mike Hert, Shayne Lanou, Adam Larson, Ian McNerney and Ryan McNerney.

SAM25 Annual flower sale fund raiser is going on now. Order forms are posted on the bulletin board in the Great Room if you would be interested in supporting our neighbors. All orders are due by May 5th and will be delivered in our parking lot at Peace UCC on Thursday, May 19th, between 4:30 – 6:30 PM.



Greeters!

As we continue our move into the future of the church post-quarantine, I would like to bring back greeters to the church. I have heard from several people around town and visitors to our church how much they loved their opening conversations with the people who initially met them in their past visits prior to the COVID-19 quarantine. When you are entering a new space for the first time, especially one as community oriented as a church, the initial impressions can have a lasting effect on your overall memory of the location. If you are interested in fulfilling this ministry of the church, please sign up on the bulletin board or reach out to Shelley!



Last Sunday Funday & Senior Sunday!

With the end of the school year quickly approaching it will soon be time to say farewell to some phenomenal graduating seniors as they continue onto their next journeys in life. Sunday, May 15th, we will be holding a special spot in the 9:00 AM service to recognize their accomplishments and hear what their next plans are! We would also like to invite any of our seniors who graduated during the COVID-19 quarantine to partake in this event as well if they are interested. Additionally, that Sunday will be our final Sunday Funday for the season! From what I have heard so far, we are looking at playing outdoors with a variety of different outdoor activities such as chalk, bubbles, and a field hockey set as well as holding an ice cream sundae bar! Come on out to have a blast with our youth here at Peace UCC!



Sensory Room!



A huge thank you to Cassandra Whitehouse and Hunter Hokenstad for presenting to the Council what it would take for the church to have a sensory room. For those that may not know, a sensory room is a room designed to help

neurodivergent (ADHD and autism are examples of this) children and adults receive stimuli that help calm them and focus them while preventing sensory overload. The council voted this week that we move forward with converting one of our nursery rooms into a sensory room in an effort to be a more inclusive congregation. No major renovations need to be done to the room, we just need to purchase some equipment to place in the room. The cost to purchase the basic equipment that was recommended totals to \$197 and would include a Pea Pod, Small Trampoline with a safety bar, and a variety of Fidget Tools. The next steps would be hanging a swing or purchasing a swing stand (stand would range from \$190-220), purchasing a crash pad (a decent sized one costs around \$279), and then sensory mats which vary widely in price. The intent with this room is to provide a safe space that families with neurodivergent members can utilize during different events at the church such as Sunday worship and our hopeful future disability groups. In all, the project will likely cost around \$800 total. We will be working on an Amazon registry if you would like to support this project by purchasing any of the equipment yourself or if you would like to mark your offering envelopes specifically for this project, we will make sure your offering is utilized for this purpose.



Mark your calendars for June 5th, 2022! This Pentecost we will be holding a service to install and recognize Pastor Uriah as our new settled pastor with visitors from across the Northeast Association! We will have a luncheon catered by

Angie's starting around noon with the service itself starting at 1:30. So we can provide an accurate count to Angie's, if you could please sign up if you are planning on coming to the luncheon it would be a great help to us! This is an important moment in the life of the church and the covenants that are recognized between the congregation and the pastor publicly, we hope to see many of you there!



New Member Course!

For any current friends of the church, anyone visiting, or even if you're an old member interested in learning a little bit extra about your church family, I invite you to our New Member Course! This week I was able to make great progress on the initial curriculum and have

heard the need to get the ball rolling on it for a couple months now. My goal is to provide this course in early June. If you are interested in attending, please email the church office and let us know or sign up on the sheet and provide an email so we can reach out for scheduling purposes! Thank you to Andrew Warner for bringing this need to my attention and helping me greatly with what a course like this should entail.