Church of Peace





Greetings

Welcome to the community of Church of Peace United Church of Christ. We believe that all people are children of God and rejoice that you have chosen to worship God with us today. If you are visiting our community, we wish to extend our faith in Christian fellowship and hope that you will take a moment to visit with us after the service. If you have any questions prior to the service, please ask anyone in the community. We have all been visitors at some time in our life, and we are eager to assist you in any way. May the Holy Spirit fill us and guide us as we worship God together.

December 29th 2024,

1st Sunday After Christmas

9:00am

Gathering Music - Ringing of the Bells - Welcome and Announcements

We Prepare to Worship God

Prayer & Prelude

We Gather Around God's Word

A reading from Colossians 3

Call to Worship

One: Praise God from the heights! The Holy One is transcendent, radiant, and glorious.

Many: Salvation, redemption, and liberation come from above and dwell among us.

One: Praise God from the earth! Emmanuel is humble, gracious, and near.

Many: Past, present, and future rests in the work of our hands through God's hands.

One: Praise the name of God! I AM hears our cry, responds to our needs, and still speaks to our spirits.

Many: Blessing, honor, and power belong to our God. Praise God!

One: Please join me in our Prayer of Invocation

Wise and Eternal God, You are sovereign over all the earth. Your works declare your greatness. Make your wisdom known to us as we gather in your holy name. Amen.

Opening Hymn

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

155

*Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Holy God, you possess wisdom and knowledge beyond our ability to imagine or comprehend. Yet, you reveal yourself and the wonders of your creation to us. Regrettably, we allow the hustle and bustle of our lives, and the influences of the world to pull us from your revelation and presence. Hold us accountable to your covenant so that as you are with us, we will be with you. Make us a righteous branch in the vineyard. In the name of Jesus and in the hope of restoration, we pray.

Words of Grace

Pastor: Sisters and Brothers, trust that the love of God has appeared, bringing new life to all. Receive the gifts of grace and mercy from Jesus Christ who recognizes our faith, comes to us in our weakness, and offers us strength for transformation.

Many: We accept the call to live in faith and reap the joy that it brings. Praise be to God! Amen.

*The Passing of Christ's Peace in Community

<u>Special music</u> "Love Came Down At Christmas" by Roger Copeland

<u>Pastoral Prayer</u> a sharing of community and world prayers

Affirmation of Faith

One: We are not alone; we live in God's world.

All: We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

<u>Hymn</u> "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" 150

We Engage God's Word

<u>Scriptures</u> 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Luke 2: 41-52

Multigenerational Lesson

<u>Sermon</u> "Growing Up with Jesus!"

We Respond to God's Word

Offering Invitation (responsive)

One: The blessings we receive through wisdom and faith are meant to be shared.

Many: When we use these gifts to sustain the ministry of the church and respond to the needs of the community, we demonstrate the good news in the world.

One: The gifts God gives us are meant to be regifted for the work of Jesus.

Many: So, let us give with boldness and boundless trust in the provision of the Creator of all. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Generous God, collect these offerings so that the blessings and favor you have given to us may be shared among our neighbors with trust, hope, and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

We Are Sent into the World

Closing Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

148

*The Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors")

*Commissioning & Benediction

Postlude

(*If you are able, please stand at the pastor's invitation)

Rev. Stephen Stepp Patricia Siekierke

Rob Giese

Victor Abitz

Brenda Roehl

All People



Minister

Organist AV Tech

Custodian

Liturgist

Disciples

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THIS AT WEEK CHURCH OF PEACE

Sun	M	Tues	W	Th	F	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
9:00am Worship Social Hour: Hospitality Committee			Office Closed No Loaves & Fishes	9:00am TOPPS		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00am Worship W/ Communion Social Hour: Stewardship	Loaves & Fishes		Loaves & Fishes	9:00am TOPPS		



12/29- Matt Abhold, Ronald Rymer, Holly Shea 12/31 – Jack Eyers

1/1- Harold Demaskie, Calista Treptow, Allison Now

1/2- Maggie Kollmann, Doris Kastorff, Sharon Terrill

1/3- Abby Immel

1/4- Jeremy Smet, Kelly Schubert

Thank you to Everyone who helped make our Christmas Eve Worship of God wonder-filled and joyful.

And thank you to Everyone who made cookies, brought in items for the Food Pantry Reverse Advent Calendar, and the Angel Giving Tree.

We are living in the life and light of Jesus Christ! Praise be to God!!

The Church of Peace Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 26, 2025 following our Worship Service. All groups and committees of the church need to submit their financial report and activities report to the office by January 13th.

At the meeting, the Church Council will present proposed changes to the Church of Peace United Church of Christ Constitution. These changes will be voted on during the meeting. Please plan on attending this meeting so you can participate in the decisions of our church.

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WELCOME TO

CHURCH OF PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 29th, 2024

Church office phone: 921-8215

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

Pastor Steve Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m. or call for an appointment.

Website: <u>uccchurchofpeace.com</u>

Facebook: Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac

IN OUR PRAYERS

Lucy Zahn Bill Manka **Heather Reader-Schubert** Elise Sonnenberg Dixie & Dave Borchert Deb Abitz Diana Candlish John **Janet & Eugene Willis Bob and Shirley Hanke Doris Kastorff** Deb Baker Sara & Michael Janelle Anderson Leo Lefeber Al Pahnke **Bailey Gehrt** Jim & Kathy Stephany **Marilyn Peters** Sharon Hensen Eli & Barb Gustafson **Ruth Pedix** Amy Jo Theresa Schultz Amy Mitchell **Christine Weimer** Mary Jean Nicholson Pat Grose Donna Birkholz Rev. James Martin Debra Rammer Sister Julia Nancy Schaefer **Doris Rymer Arnold Breitenfeld** Brenda Post Wayne Katerski Janet Rymer Susan Snider Del Weigel **Nicole Schendel Alexis Hayes Greg Baker** Dan Guell Edna Karl

Carol Kryzyanowski

The family of Lee Treleven

p.s. Dear God, enable me to feel the Holy Spirit guide us in the ways of Jesus Christ!

CHURCH OF PEACE – FACTS AND FIGURES OFFERINGS LAST WEEK:

General Fund: \$2,987.00; Mission - Giving (OCWM): \$109.00; (UCC Christmas Fund): \$75.00; E-giving: \$185.00;

Investing in the Future: \$5,110.00.

Attendance Sunday, December 22nd:

Online: 15 — In person: 85 Last year: 73 Christmas Eve 4pm 6pm

<u>Online: 36+ In person:128=164</u> <u>Online: 11+In person: 94=105</u> Last vear 9am—73 5pm—150

The Church Office will be closed New Year's Day.

Annual giving statements will be mailed out before January 31, 2024

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I	Elise Sonnenberg	Deb Abitz	Dixie & Dave Borchert
I	Diana Candlish	John	Janet & Eugene Willis
I	Doris Kastorff	Deb Baker	Bob and Shirley Hanke
I	Janelle Anderson	Leo Lefeber	Sara & Michael
I	Al Pahnke	Bailey Gehrt	Jim & Kathy Stephany
I	Marilyn Peters	Sharon Hensen	Eli & Barb Gustafson
I	Ruth Pedix	Amy Jo	Theresa Schultz
I	Christine Weimer	Amy Mitchell	Mary Jean Nicholson
I	Pat Grose	Donna Birkholz	Rev. James Martin
I	Debra Rammer	Sister Julia	Nancy Schaefer
I	Arnold Breitenfeld	Brenda Post	Doris Rymer
I	Wayne Katerski	Janet Rymer	Susan Snider
I	Nicole Schendel	Del Weigel	Alexis Hayes
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