

**Peace United Church of Christ  
September 7th, 2025  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:30am**



*Feral Biome: Fall Fest, Amanda McElray Hunter*

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Prelude

Jessica Olson, Dale Shimmin, and Kelli Hallsten-Erickson

Welcome and Announcements

Ring of the Bells

\*Call to Worship

inspired by Psalm 139

Gather us in,  
**Lost and found, searched and known.**  
Gather us in,  
**Fearfully and wonderfully made.**  
Gather us in,  
**Hidden and beheld, formed and ever-forming.**  
Gather us in,  
**Gather us in to worship God!**

\*Song

*Let us Build a House (All are Welcome)*

see insert

\*Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, you call us to follow the way of Jesus. But the Way is not always easy. Forgive us when our desire for comfort and simplicity overcomes our resolve to follow you. Free us for the kind of abundant love you want for us: love, in community, that is strong enough to cast out fear. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

Beloved, there is nothing we can do or leave undone that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

**Through Christ we are forgiven and set free to live abundantly. Thanks be to God!**

\*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Amanda McElray Hunter

Sending the Children

#760 NCH

***Amen, we praise your name, O God!***

***(Sing amen) Amen, we praise your name, O God!***

***(Sing amen) Amen amen, amen amen, amen, we praise your name, O God!***

Hebrew Bible Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Bud Trnka, reader

"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in God's ways, and observing God's commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying God, and holding fast to God, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Anthem

*Hear My Prayer, Moses Hogan*

Gospel Reading

Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them,  
"Whoever comes to me and does not hate parents, spouse and children, siblings, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

"Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with

twenty thousand? If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon	<i>The Cost - and Joy - of Discipleship</i>	Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis
Song	<i>By Breath</i> , Sara Thomsen led by Gudrun Witrak	#1 P&W

***By breath, by blood, by body, by spirit, we are all one  
The air that is my breath, is the air that you are breathing  
The air that is your breath, is the air that I am breathing  
The wind rising in my breast  
Is the wind from the east, from the west  
From the north, from the south  
Breathing in, breathing out***

***By breath, by blood, by body, by spirit, we are all one  
The water that is my blood, my sweat, tears from crying  
Is the water that is your blood, your sweat, tears from crying  
And the rising of the tide  
Is in our veins, and in the ocean wide  
We are in the rising steam  
Rushing river, running stream***

***By breath, by blood, by body, by spirit, we are all one  
The earth is dust, the earth is clay, flow'rs blossoming and fading  
We are dust and we are clay, we are blossoming and fading  
Every color, every sound,  
Every place is holy ground  
Oh, every living thing  
Can you hear it laugh? Can you hear it sing?***

***By breath, by blood, by body, by spirit, we are all one  
The fire in my heart, my soul flame burning  
Is the fire in your heart, your soul flame burning  
We are Spirit burning bright  
By the light of day, in the dark of night  
We are shining like the sun  
And like the moon, like the Holy One***

***By breath, by blood, by body, by spirit, we are all one***

Community Prayers and Pastoral Prayer	Rev. Laurie Crelly
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The Prayer of Jesus

**Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Sung Amen

Offertory	<i>Hand it Over</i> , Keb Mo	Ron Deters and Ian Connell
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\*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen!**

## Sacrament of Holy Communion

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is a joy to give God thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Bread and Cup

*(In the United Church of Christ all are welcome to participate in Communion. Gluten free crackers are on the tray and we use non-alcoholic grape juice.)*

Prayer after Communion

**Bountiful God, we give thanks for all we have received at this table through the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world with courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\*Closing Song

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

see insert

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

*Cold Duck Time*, Eddie Harris and Les McCann Ian Conell and Matt Prois

Assisting in Today's Service:

Warren Post, Darlene Leafgren, and Pam Kramer, Ushers

### **Peace United Church of Christ Staff**

**Alex Nelson** – Livestream Technician

**Amanda McElray Hunter** - Children, Youth and Small Group Coordinator

**Bri Dornbush** - Office Coordinator

**Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis** - Pastor

**Carrie Kelsey** – Kitchen Manager

**Dan Shepard** - Maintenance

**Jim Pospisil** - Music Director

**Rev. Laurie Crelly** - Pastoral Care Chaplain

**Mali Lorenz** - Bookkeeper

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