

**Peace United Church of Christ
May 12th, 2024**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
10:30am**



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Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Bells

*Call to Worship from *Psalm 1*

Happy are those whose delight is in God,
Whose trust is in God's law and love.
 We are like trees planted by streams of water,
We yield fruit in our season and our leaves do not wither.
 With God's help, we can grow, thrive, and prosper.
Let us worship God!

*Song *Born of God, Eternal Savior* #542 NCH

***Born of God, Eternal Savior, source of life, of truth and grace,
 Human one, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race,
 Come again, in all your glory; come to us, inspire and lead;
 Fill us with you loving kindness; heal our wrongs, and help our need.***

***Christ, as you have lived for others, so may we for others live;
 Freely have your gifts been granted, freely may your servants give.
 All the wealth that we may gather is for the use in causes just,
 We are stewards of the bounty loaned to us in solemn trust.***

***Come, O Christ, and reign among us, granting love and joy and peace,
 Hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease.
 By your patient years of toiling, by your silent hours of pain,
 Quench our fevered thirst for pleasure, shame our selfish greed for gain.***

***See the Christ-like host advancing, high and lowly, great and small,
 Linked in bonds of common service, answering the Savior's call.
 Jesus Christ, we hear your pleading, that your people should be one.
 Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: here on earth, your will be done.***

*Prayer of Invocation

God of love and light, you call us to be in the world but not of the world. Bring your spirit of wisdom and discernment to all we do, that we might seek your guidance and uncover a path, following Jesus, that leads to grace, healing, and love. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Amanda McElray Hunter

Sending the Children

***Goodbye sweet children, it's time to leave this place,
 May our love hold you all with grace.
 Our hearts go with you 'til you come back to this place.
 So we bid you goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.***

Gospel Reading

John 17:6-19

Gudrun Witrak, Reader

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been

glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy One, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbers about one hundred twenty persons) and said “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus - for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.”

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken from us - one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection. So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

May these words be to us our light and our life. **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem

23rd Psalm, Bobby McFerrin

Sermon

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Song

Softly and Tenderly

#449 NCH

***Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me;
See at the portals Christ waiting and watching, watching for you and me***

Refrain:

Come home, come home, All who are weary, come home;

Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is coming - calling, “O sinner, come home!”

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?

Why should we linger and heed not God’s mercies, mercies for you and for me?

Refrain:

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing, passing for you and for me;

Shadows are gathering, death beds are coming, coming for you and for me;

Refrain:

O for the wonderful love Jesus promised, promised for you and for me;

Though we have sinned Jesus offers us pardon, pardon for you and for me;

Refrain:

Community Prayers and 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.

Choral Ameen

Offertory

*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.**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song

I Will, Steve Horner

7 P&W

***I will lift you up
Sister I will lift you up
I will lift you up
Brother I will lift you up

I will speak your name
Sister I will speak your name
I will speak your name
Brother I will speak your name

I will bow to you
Sister I will bow to you
I will bow to you
Brother I will bow to you

I will hold your hand
Sister I will hold your hand
I will hold your hand
Brother I will hold your hand

I will care for you
Sister I will care for you
I will care for you
Brother I will care for you

I will lift you up
Sister I will lift you up
I will lift you up
Brother I will lift you up***

*Benediction

*Postlude

Assisting in Today's Service:
Pam Kramer and Cindy Macaulay, Ushers

Peace United Church of Christ Staff

Corinne Freedman Ellis - Pastor

Jim Pospisil - Music Director

Dan Shepard - Maintenance

Bri Dornbush - Office Coordinator

Rachel Obed - Business Manager

Carrie Kelsey - Kitchen Manager

Alex Nelson - Livestream Technician

Mali Lorenz - Bookkeeper

Amanda McElray Hunter - Children, Youth & Small Group Coordinator