

**Peace United Church of Christ
August 23, 2026
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30am**



Untitled, Diana Ejaita

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Prelude

Rondo, Muzio Clementi

Welcome and Announcements

Ring of the Bells

*Call to Worship

Presence who holds Sky and Sea,
In the breath of the wind and the pull of the tides,
Remind us that we belong to one another:
Creatures of soil and spirit,
Woven into the sacred web of earth.
Let us worship God!

*Song *Take My Life, God Let it Be* #448, New Century Hymnal

***Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.
Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.
Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.
Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's community.***

*Prayer of Confession

**God of Creation, forgive our hands that have harmed, for our hearts
have grown distant from the earth's gentle voice. We confess the
wounds we've inflicted on the soil and sky, and we grieve how
empire has disconnected us. Remind us who we've always been,
and in the songs of trees and the wisdom of rivers, restore us to the
beauty of belonging. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Beloved, we find liberation in our connection to each other, to the
earth, and to the divine.
**Through Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and set free for new life.
Thanks be to God!**

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Sending the Children

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around:
loaves abound!***

***Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around:
loaves abound!***

Scripture

Romans 12:1–8

Marilyn Mayry, reader

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

Special Music

Rondo from Gypsy trio, F.J. Haydn

Sermon

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Song

Sacred the Body

see page 6

Community Prayers and Pastoral Prayer

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.

Offertory

For Sandra, Jim Pospisil

*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

Music During Communion *The Prayer*, Carole Bayer-Sager
David W. Foster

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

*The Church of Christ #306, New Century Hymnal
in Every Age*

***The church of Christ in every age
beset by change, but Spirit led,
Must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.***

***Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
For shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.***

***Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
A partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.***

*Benediction

May we walk with reverence, side by side with all creatures, honoring the sacred rhythms that pulse through the waters and winds. May our every step echo the ancient song of creation as we live in harmony, guided by love and the quiet wisdom of the land beneath our feet. We rejoice in the abundance of the earth. We commit ourselves to the balance of creation, to sharing, to laughter, and to love. Amen.

*Postlude

Allegro from Ghost Trio, L.V. Beethoven

Assisting in Today's Service:

Phyllis Cook, Deb McLeod, and Darlene Leafgren, Ushers
Ronda Redmond and Loni Cran-Hovis, Coffee Hour Volunteers
Emily Ramsey, violin, Byron Klimek, cello

Our liturgy in this season is adapted from
Liturgies for Resisting Empire by Kat Armas.

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

Rachel Burnett – Business Manager

Sophia Farell – Soundboard Technician



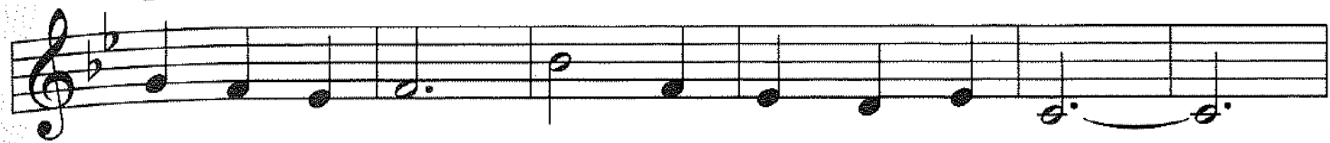
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Sacred the Body

27

Capo 3: (G)
B $\flat$ (Dsus)
Fsus(D)
F(Em)
Gm(Bsus)
Dsus(Bm)
Dm

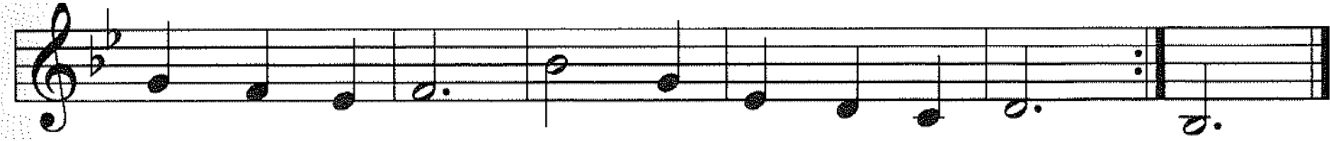
1 Sa - cred the bod - y God has cre - at - ed,
 2 Bod - ies are var - ied, made in all siz - es,
 3 Love re - spects per - sons, bod - ies and bound - aries.
 4 Ho - ly of ho - lies, God ev - er lov - ing,

(C)
E $\flat$ (D7)
F7(G)
B $\flat$ (Am7)
Cm7(Dsus)
Fsus(D)
F

tem - ple of Spir - it that dwells deep in - side.
 pale, full of col - or; both frag - ile and strong.
 Love does not bat - ter, ne - glect, or a - buse.
 make us your tem - ples; in - dwell all we do.

(G)
B $\flat$ (Dsus)
Fsus(D)
F(Em)
Gm(Bsus)
Dsus(Bm)
Dm

Cher - ish each per - son; nur - ture re - la - tion.
 Ho - ly the dif - ference, gift of the Mak - er,
 Love touch - es gent - ly, nev - er co - erc - ing.
 May we be care - ful, ten - der and car - ing,

(C)
E $\flat$ (G)
B $\flat$ (Em)
Gm(Am7)
Cm7(D)
F(G)
B $\flat$ (G)
B $\flat$ 

Treat flesh as ho - ly, that love may a - bide.
 so let us hon - or each sto - ry and song.
 Love leaves the oth - er with pow - er to choose.
 so may our bod - ies give hon - or to you.

Summer Worship Series: *Liturgies for Resisting Empire* by Kat Armas

In *Liturgies for Resisting Empire*, Cuban American theologian and writer Kat Armas provides a roadmap for Christians seeking a countercultural way of living that prioritizes community and humanity over dominance and power. Pastor Corinne, Pastor Laurie, and Amanda selected this book to guide our summer worship and after-worship discussions. It speaks to themes we've been hearing from many folks at Peace Church: they are hungry for a deep Christian faith that speaks to the hard stuff going on in our world, or they are deconstructing from faith traditions that harmed them and seeking a path toward reconstruction. Join us Sundays through August 30 for worship and table conversation at coffee hour, and buy a copy of the book at bookshop.org or one of our local bookstores!

Peace Church Directory App



Have you joined the Church Center app yet? This is a great way to stay connected, engaged, and involved at Peace Church! This has replaced our Instant Church online directory. Use the QR code to download the app from the app store. Once logged in, you can update your directory profile photo and manage what information

other members are able to see. You can give online and connect with your church groups too! Please note that you can create an account at any time but will need to have been invited to join and share in Peace United Church of Christ's private directory. Email office@peaceucc.org if you do not have access to the directory yet.

New Member Picnic, Tuesday, August 25, 5:00pm at Grant Park (901 E 11th St)

We are inviting new members who joined the church from 2024-2026 for a chance to connect with one another and check in with the Belonging & Community Team about life at Peace! Please bring a dish to share. RSVP by August 20 to Bri at office@peaceucc.org.

Chum's Wish List

Chum has put together a list of most requested items. You can drop off items in the office in the blue storage bin labeled *Items for Chum*.

Socks are needed the most. They also need underwear, towels of any size, reusable bags (backpacks, totes, duffel bags), bars of soap, chairs (lightweight + moveable), folding tables, art supplies, including watercolor + acrylic paints and canvases, and potting soil. In addition to this list, Chum is asking that Mac & Cheese be our designated food item.

Middle School Movie Night, Wednesday, September 2, 6:00pm in the Sanctuary

Calling all rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders! Join us Wednesday, September 2, at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary for a viewing and group discussion of Project Hail Mary. See old friends and make some new friends too – there will be popcorn and maybe a couple of games of hide and seek! RSVP to Amanda by Friday, August 28!

This Week's Schedule

Monday, August 24

5:00pm Making Meaning Out of Malignancy in the Fireside Room and Zoom

Tuesday, August 25

5:00pm New Member Picnic at Grant Recreation Park

6:00pm Property Team Meeting in the Staff Lounge and Zoom

Wednesday, August 26

10:00am Safety Team Meeting in the Fireside Room

3:00pm Tea & Talk in the Fireside Room

5:00pm Bible Study in the Fireside Room and Zoom

Thursday, August 27

7:00pm Capital Campaign Team Meeting on Zoom

Sunday, August 30

9:30am Worship with **Sermon** by **Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis**.

Children's Church with **Amanda McElray Hunter**

10:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall

10:30am *Liturgies for Resisting Empire* Book Discussion in the Music Room