

**Peace United Church of Christ
May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter
10:30am**



Pivot, Gordon Studer

1111 North 11th Avenue East, Duluth, MN 55805

www.peaceucc.org
office@peaceucc.org

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

*Call to Worship from Psalm 66

Let us bless our God who has kept us among the living,
Bless the God who guides our feet and does not let us slip.
God has led us through times of struggle,
God has listened and heard our prayers.
We trust in our God of belonging,
We worship in the embrace of God's steadfast love.

*Song *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* #1, *New Century Hymnal*

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*Your life is lifegiving - to both great and small;
in all life you're living, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers,
then wither and perish - but naught dims your powers.*

*So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
All praise we now render as your angels do:
in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.*

*Community Affirmation of the UCC Statement of Faith

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

Amen.

*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!***

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

Betty Greene, reader

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask our Parent, and God will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees it nor knows it. You know the Spirit because the Spirit abides with you, and it will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in God, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by God, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Choir Anthem

The 23rd Psalm, Bobby McFerrin

New Testament Reading

Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, God who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is God served by human hands, as though God needed anything, since God gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor the Creator made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and God allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places

where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for God and find God—though indeed God is not far from each one of us. For ‘In God we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are God’s offspring.’

“Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now God commands all people everywhere to repent, because God has fixed a day on which God will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom God has appointed, and of this God has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

Sermon

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Song

I Was Hungry

#28, *Praise & Worship*

***I was hungry, and you gave me bread
Homeless, you gave a place to lay my head
I was naked, you clothed me
I was imprisoned and you set me free***

Refrain:

***And the prison doors are opening
And the prison walls are falling down (repeat)***

***I was parched and dry and you gave me rain
Sick and tired and you eased my pain
I was cold as ice and your warmth melted me
I was imprisoned and you set me free***

Refrain:

***I was crying, you kissed my tears
Frightened, you relieved my fears
I was unheard, you listened to me
I was imprisoned and you set me free***

***And as you’ve done it to the least of these,
My brothers and my sisters
You’ve done it unto me (repeat)***

Final refrain:

***And the prison doors are opening
And the prison walls are falling down
And our eyes and ears are opening
And the walls that divide are falling down
And our hearts and hands are opening
And the chains that held them are falling down***

Reception of New Members

Service of Welcome

Introduction of New Members

Covenantal Questions of the New Members

Covenantal Questions of the Congregation

We are grateful for this opportunity to welcome these new members of our congregation. Do you promise to welcome them, to be open to what they bring, and to care for them? Will you pray for and with them? Will you learn from them even as they learn from you? If so, please answer yes. **Yes.**

Congregational response:

We welcome you with joy into the covenantal life of this church. We promise you our friendship and support as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's love.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Community Prayers and Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

Jeshua's Prayer

see page 7

Sung Amen

Offertory

Take Me To The Pilot, Elton John

Kelli Hallsten-Erickson

*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

Be Now My Vision

#451, *New Century Hymnal*

***Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart-
You my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.***

***Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
now and forever your child I will be.***

***Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.***

***Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.***

*Benediction

*Postlude

Wild Mountain Thyme, Scottish traditional

Assisting in Today's Service:

Phyllis Cook, Danny & Julie O'Neill, and Pam Kramer, Ushers

Kate Dean and Andrew Holmstrom, Nursery Attendants



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Peace United Church of Christ Staff

Alex Nelson - Livestream Technician

Amanda McElray Hunter - Children, Youth and Small Group Coordinator

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Dan Shepard – Maintenance

Rev. Laurie Crelly - Pastoral Care Chaplain

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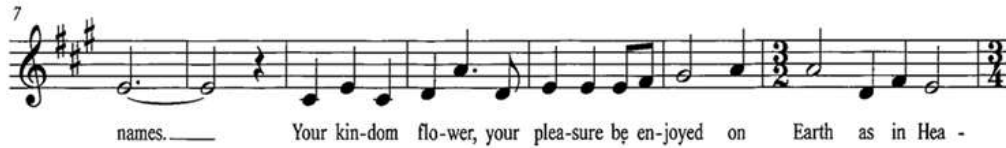
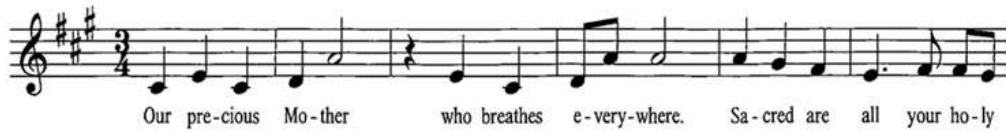
Carrie Kelsey - Kitchen Manager

Jim Pospisil - Music Director

Mali Lorenz - Bookkeeper

Sophia Farell - Soundboard Technician

Jeshua's Prayer



Peace United Church of Christ

May 10, 2026

Forums in May

Sunday, May 10 - Congregations as Democracy Hubs

Faith communities have a long history of serving as nonpartisan centers of democracy. During the Civil Rights Movement, faith leaders registered voters, organized rides to polling places, and provided security for those polling places on election day. In recent weeks, faith communities have served as essential locations for mutual aid, connection, and resilience. As threats to our democracy build, ISIAH MN is rolling out a Democracy Hub program, encouraging congregations to embrace nonpartisan democratic values as part of our Christian witness. Learn more about this effort and how Peace Church can be part of the work.

Sunday, May 17 - Feral Hope with Rev. Dr. Cody Sanders

Cody J. Sanders (he/him) is an ordained Baptist minister (Alliance of Baptists and American Baptist Churches U.S.A.). He teaches at Luther Seminary in St. Paul in the areas of pastoral theology and spiritual care within congregational and community contexts. Pastor Corinne experienced Cody's hopeful theology when he was the keynote

speaker at the Conversations senior ministers' conference in Florida this past January. We will get to experience his preaching and teaching about feral hope: the gritty resilience we find in the Gospel and in the faithful living of that Gospel across history.

Beginning Sunday, May 24, No Regularly Scheduled Forums until September

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Last Soup Supper will be Next Wednesday, May 13

Annual Reports Due Monday, May 18

It is that time of year again for our Annual Meeting on June 7. Every year we ask that the heads of each team and committee to write an article about 3 things that have happened in the past year. Please submit all articles to Bri at office@peaceucc.org.

It's time for the Spring Puppet Play! Woot!

This year the play explores themes of immigration, belonging and neighborism.

Elementary kiddos can join us Wednesdays at Kids' Club – 5:45 to 6:30pm. We will rehearse on May 6 and 13 for our performance on Wednesday, May 20 at 6pm in the Sanctuary.

This Week's Schedule

Monday, May 11

9:00am Yoga with Robin in the Fireside Room and Zoom

6:30pm Queer Connections Game Night in the Fireside Room

7:00pm Boy Scouts in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 12

1:00pm Alician Grogan's Memorial Service in the Sanctuary

2:00pm Memorial Reception in the Fireside Room

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

Wednesday, May 13

8:30am Chum Breakfast Making in the Kitchen

1:00pm History Team Meeting in the History Room

4:00pm Finance Committee Meeting in the Staff Lounge and Zoom

5:00pm Soup Supper in the Fellowship Hall

5:45pm Bible Study in the Fireside Room and Zoom

5:45pm Kids' Club in the Wildwoods Room

6:15pm Choir in the Sanctuary

6:30pm Middle School Youth Group in the Youth Room

6:30pm High School Youth Group in the Wildwoods Room

Thursday, May 14

8:00am Men's Breakfast at Perkins on London Road

2:00pm Belonging and Community Team Meeting in the Fireside Room

3:00pm Dismantling Racism Team Meeting on Zoom

7:00pm Capital Campaign Team Meeting on Zoom

Friday, May 15

9:00am Rummage Sale Drop Off in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, May 16

9:00am All Church Rummage Sale in the Fireside Room

Sunday, May 17

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion. Sermon by Rev. Dr. Cody Sanders.

9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex

9:30am Forum: Feral Hope with Rev. Dr. Cody Sanders in the Fireside Room

10:00am Childcare Available in the Nursery

10:30am Worship with Sermon by Rev. Dr. Cody Sanders. Children's Church with Amanda McElray Hunter.

11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall