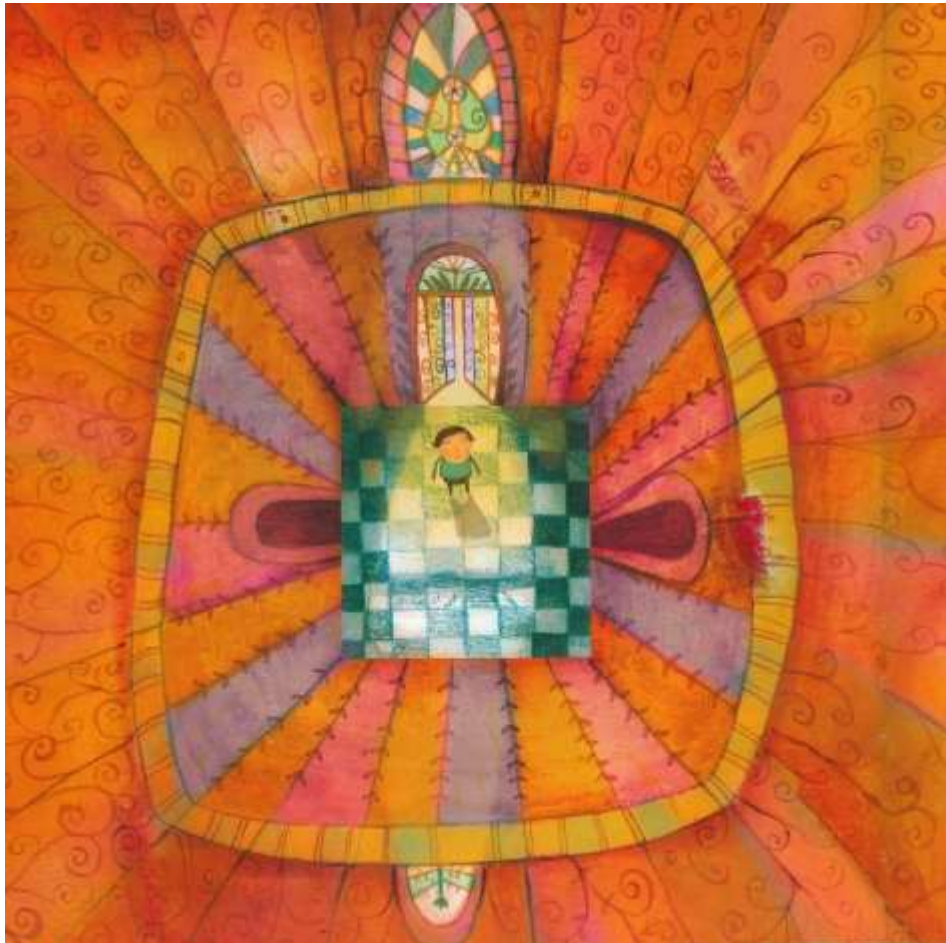


**Peace United Church of Christ
May 3, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter
10:30am**



1111 North 11th Avenue East, Duluth, MN 55805

www.peaceucc.org
office@peaceucc.org

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

*Call to Worship from Psalm 31

In you, O God, we seek refuge,
We trust in you as our strong fortress.
You are our rock,
You release us from the nets that hold us captive.
We give ourselves to your redeeming spirit,
We trust in your steadfast love.

*Song *You Are Welcome* #19, *Praise & Worship*

*Oh...Spirit,
You are welcome here.
Oh...Spirit,
You are welcome here.
Chorus:
Because in this house
There are many rooms
The healing power
Of life in bloom
Oh...stranger,
You are welcome here.
Oh...stranger,*

*You are welcome here.
Chorus:
Oh...enemy,
You are welcome here.
Oh...enemy,
You are welcome here.
Chorus:
Oh...silence,
You are welcome here
Oh...silence,
You are welcome here.*

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have tried to make you smaller than you are. We have not trusted your goodness and your grace. We have used your word against our neighbors and ourselves. We have forgotten to keep love at the center of our faith and our life. Open our hearts to your forgiveness. Set us free for life in community. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Beloved, there is nothing we can do or leave undone that can separate us from the love of God.
Through Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

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!***

Contemporary Reading *God's Nature*, St. Thomas Aquinas Darlene Leafgren
trans. Daniel Ladinsky reader

Sometimes we think what we are saying about God
is true when in fact
it is not.

It would seem of value to differentiate between what is
God's nature and what is false about Love.

I have come to learn that the truth never harms
or frightens.

I have come to learn that
God's compassion and light can never be limited;

thus any God who could condemn is
not a god at all

but some disturbing image in the
mind of a
child

we best ignore, until we
can cure the
Dark.

Choir Anthem *We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace*
Trad Spiritual, arr. Hogan

Scripture Reading John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

Sermon

Amanda McElray Hunter

Song *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* #331, *New Century Hymnal*

***Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
Such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as conquers death.***

***Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
Such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes a guest.***

***Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move;
Such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.***

Community Prayers and Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sung Amen

Offertory *Méditation* from *Thaïs*, Jules Massenet Emily Ramsey, violin

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* see next page

*Benediction

*Postlude

Assisting in Today's Service:
Guy and Nadine Hubert, Ushers
Anya Holmstrom and Siggy Hunter, Nursery Attendants
Cindy Macaulay and Julie Flotten, Coffee Hour Volunteers

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

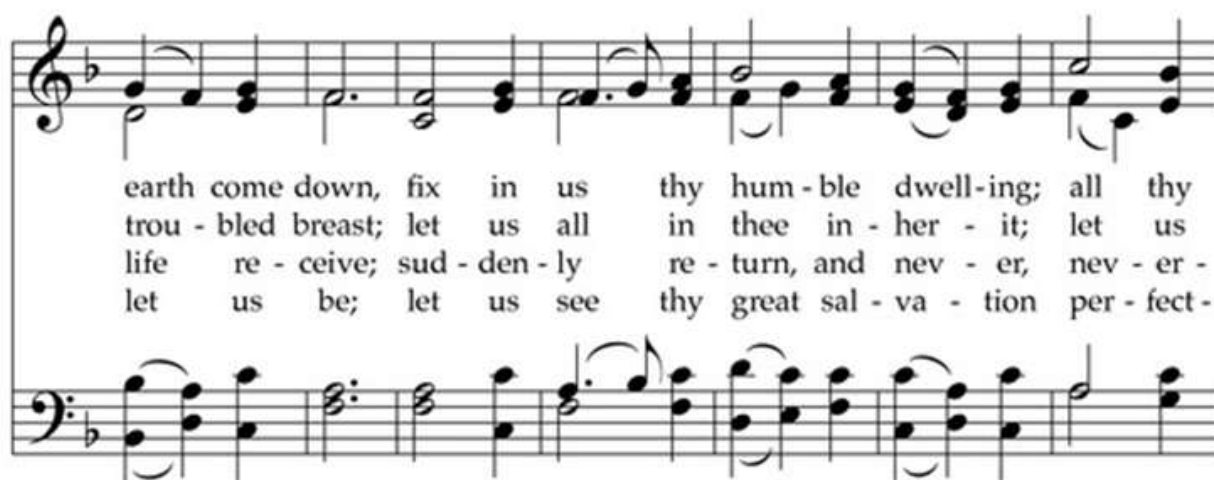
Rachel Burnett - Business Manager

Sophia Farell - Soundboard Technician

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



To donate electronically please scan
this QR code.

Forums in May

Sunday, May 3 - Church Center Orientation

Our new church directory is called Church Center – it's an online directory that is replacing Instant Church Directory and in addition to being able to access through a website, it also has a mobile app, making it very convenient! Join for a hands-on training. Bring your smartphone, tablet, or laptop if you have it, or receive written materials to help you set up the directory at home.

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, ISAIAH 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.

Sunday, May 24 - No Forum - Memorial Day Weekend

No Regularly Scheduled Forums until September

Lost & Found and Member Exchange Bins

Our All Church Rummage Sale is coming up soon, so it is time to go through our bins. For the next couple of Sundays, we will be taking out all items from the Lost & Found Bin and the Member Exchange Bin and putting them on tables in the narthex for people to go through. Any items left over will be put in the rummage sale.

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.

This Week's Schedule

Monday, May 4

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

7:00pm Boy Scouts in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 6

3:45pm Listen, Reflect, and Connect Group in the Fireside Room

4:00pm Acting for Justice Hub Meeting in the Staff Lounge

5:00pm Soup Supper in the Fellowship Hall

5:15pm Grounds Improvement Team Meeting in the Youth Room

5:30pm Sanctuary Now Team Meeting in the East Timor Room

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 7

7:00pm Pastoral Relations Committee in the Fireside Room

Saturday, May 9

2:00pm Victory Chorus Concert and Reception in the Sanctuary

Sunday, May 10

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion. Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

9:30am Self-Serve Coffee In the Narthex

9:30am Forum: Congregations as Democracy Hubs in the Fireside Room

10:00am Childcare Available in the Nursery

10:30am Intergenerational Worship with Holy Communion. Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis. Children's Church with Amanda McElray Hunter. Welcoming New Members.

11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall