

**Peace United Church of Christ
October 4, 2026
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
10:30am**



Woven Bird, Tree, and Flower Motif, William Morris

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www.peaceucc.org
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Prelude

La Valse d'Amélie, Yann Tiersen
La Noyée, Yann Tiersen

Diane and Mike Swanoski

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

Choral Call to Worship

***Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here***

*Call to Worship

from Psalm 19

Siggy Hunter

The heavens are telling the glory of God,

The firmament proclaims God's handiwork!

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge,

The voice of the heavens rings out through all the earth.

God's commandments are clear;

God's direction revives the soul and gives us wisdom.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O God,

Let us worship our rock and our redeemer!

*Song

Come, Let Us Worship God, Ray McKeever

Come, let us worship God. Come, let us worship God.

Welcome everyone to the love of God.

Hope for the children...

Bread for the hungry...

Peace for the nations...

*Prayer of Confession

Righteous God, you have given us the roadmap for a faithful life. Your commandments are clear. Yet we often drift away from loving you, loving our neighbor, and loving ourselves. Remind us that the path to flourishing is love. Lead us back to that everlasting path so that we might be fruitful and give glory to your name. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

God's grace meets us at our point of need with compassion, direction, and strength. **Through Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

*Passing of the Peace

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!***

Hebrew Bible Reading

Exodus 20:1-4, 7

Cindy Macaulay, reader

Then God spoke all these words:

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth.

"You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for I will not acquit anyone who misuses my name."

Choir Anthem

Prayer, René Clausen
text by Mother Teresa

Contemporary Reading

I Woke Up, Jameson Fitzpatrick

Silvee Romberg &
Lu Filkins, readers

I woke up,

and it was political.

I made coffee and the coffee was political.

I took a shower and the water was.

I forgot my sunglasses and later, on the train, that was political,
when I studied every handsome man in the car.

Who I thought was handsome was political.

I went to work at the university and everything was
very obviously political, the department and the institution.

All the cigarettes I smoked between classes were political,
where I threw them when I was through.

I was blond and it was political.

I had long hair and it was political. I shaved my head and it was.

That I didn't know how to grieve when another person was killed in America
was political, and it was political when America killed another person,
who they were and what color and gender and who I am in relation.

I couldn't think about it for too long without feeling a helplessness
like childhood. I was a child and it was political, being a boy
who was bad at it. I couldn't catch and so the ball became political.
My mother read to me almost every night

and the conditions that enabled her to do so were political.
That my father's money was new was political, that it was proving something.
How difficult my life felt relative to how difficult it was
was political. I thought I could become a writer
and it was political that I could imagine it.
I thought I was not a political poet and still
my imagination was political.
It had been, this whole time I was asleep.

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

Reflection

Amanda McElray Hunter,
Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis,
2026 Youth Voices Participants

Song *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* #286, New Century Hymnal

Refrain:

***Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free, Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***

***You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
And over the eons you called to each thing,
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."***

Refrain:

***You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
When they were confounded by their idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.***

Refrain:

***You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
And down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.***

Refrain:

***You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise.***

Refrain:

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.

Sung Amen

Offertory

Love is the Answer Polka
J. Tomaszewski

Diane and Mike Swanoski

*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

Call to Communion

From every corner of the earth, Christ calls us to the table.

We come from many peoples, many places, many traditions.

We come with the songs of our ancestors and the prayers of those who came before us.

We come carrying stories of faith, struggle, hope, and joy.

From the villages of Africa and the islands of the Pacific, from the mountains of Asia and the cities of the Americas, from the churches of Europe and the Middle East—

We come as one people, gathered in Christ.

Some come to this table with abundance. Some come longing for daily bread.

Christ welcomes us all.

Some come singing. Some come grieving. Some come with questions. Some come with gratitude.

Christ welcomes us all.

Today, the walls that divide us do not have the final word. Language does not divide us. Geography does not divide us. Culture does not divide us.

At Christ's table, there is room for all.

Come, people of God. Come with open hands and open hearts.

We come to receive. We come to remember. We come to share. We come to be made one.

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.)

Music During Communion

Edelweiss, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein

Prayer after Communion

God of every nation and generation, gather us into the great company of your people— those who have gone before us, those who worship beside us, and those we may never meet in this life. Until the day when every people and every nation are gathered into your eternal feast, keep us faithful to one another and to you. Send us from this table as people of Christ's peace. One body. One Spirit. One Lord. One faith. One hope. One table. Amen.

*Closing Song

How Could Anyone

***How could anyone ever tell you
You are anything less than beautiful
How could anyone ever tell you
You were less than whole
How could anyone fail to notice
That your loving is a miracle
How deeply you're connected to my soul***

*Benediction

*Postlude

Liechtensteiner Polka, Ed. Kotscher and R. Lindt
Happy Wanderer, F.W. Miller

Assisting in Today's Service:

Darlene Leafgren, Pam Kramer, and Laurie Berner, Ushers

Musicians: Ian Connell, drums; Dale Shimmin, trombone; Kirby Wood, trumpet

2026 Youth Voices Participants: Lu Filkins, Siggy Hunter, Gary Ramsey, Scarlett Romberg, Silvee Romberg, Colin Westbrook

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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Today's Forum: Youth Report of the 2026 UCC Youth Voices; Bold Faith Lobby Day in Washington DC

Join us today for a 9:30am forum & 10:30am worship experience with high school youth who traveled to Washington DC in July to talk to their representatives about ensuring safety from ICE for sensitive locations (churches, schools, hospitals) and to request mental health support for LGBTQIA+ youth.

New Member Orientation Today, 9:30am in the Music Room

We welcome all who are interested in learning more about Peace, what we believe, how we engage the community, and how we're structured to join us for one of these orientation sessions. New members will be received into the church on November 1. Save the date if you are interested in joining Peace.

Women's Retreat Planning Today, 11:30am in the Staff Lounge

If you are interested in brainstorming about this fall's women's retreat scheduled for October 23-25, please meet in the Staff Lounge following the 10:30am service today. If this time doesn't work for you but you have suggestions or would like to help plan, please let the office know!

Liturgies for Resisting Empire Book Discussion Today, 11:30am in the Music Room

The group that gathered to discuss *Liturgies for Resisting Empire* has decided to meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 11:30am to engage in book discussions that will help us more deeply understand the themes in Kat Armas's book and/or that will guide us as we move out to avoid and resist the ways of empire in our work, ministries, and daily living.

Wednesday Night Schedule**5:00-6:00pm – Dinner**

By using crock pots and heating devices, we will keep food hot and ready until 6:00pm so folks coming from work and school will have time to eat.

5:30-7:00pm – Nursery Open for ages 0-5

Same as last year, with paid and trained nursery staff.

5:45-6:30pm – Kids' Club for grades K-5

More overlap with Bible Study so parents can attend, starting a little later so kids and families have time to eat.

5:45-6:45pm – Bible Study

Feel free to bring your soup to the Fireside Room if you're running late.

6:15-7:30pm – Choir

Rehearsals in the Sanctuary for the Sunday services.

6:30-7:30pm – Middle School & High School Youth Group for Grades 6-12

The Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers will meet separately most weeks, but their youth groups will meet at the same time to ease transportation challenges for families.

7:15-8:15pm – Confirmation 2

Second-year confirmands in 11th grade meet in the Chapel for a deep dive into our faith and practices.

7:30-8:30pm – Confirmation 1

First-year confirmands in 10th grade meet in the Fireside Room to learn about the Bible and the core stories of our faith.

A Night Together Stewardship Campaign Dinner and Talent Show, Saturday, October 10, 6:00pm

Let's come together for an evening to look back at what our financial contributions made possible this year, and Prepare the Way for an outstanding 2027. Enjoy a complimentary dinner from Valentini's Italian Bistro followed by a Talent Show featuring Peace Church's finest. Childcare will be provided, but children are also welcome for the dinner and talent show. Please RSVP by Sunday, October 4 by calling the office at 218-724-3637 or by email to office@peaceucc.org.

New Member Orientation, Sunday, October 18, 11:45am in the Fireside Room

We welcome all who are interested in learning more about Peace, what we believe, how we engage the community, and how we're structured to join us for one of these orientation sessions. We will have a orientation on October 18 at 11:45am in the Fireside Room where we will provide a light lunch. If you need childcare for any of the orientation classes please email Bri ASAP. Please RSVP to Bri in the church office via email or phone (office@peaceucc.org or 218-724-3637). Just popping in is great too. Looking forward to meeting with you! New members will be received into the church on November 1. Save the date if you are interested in joining Peace.

This Week's Schedule

Monday, October 5

7:00pm Boy Scouts in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, October 7

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

5:00pm Soup Supper in the Fellowship Hall

5:30pm Childcare Available in the Nursery

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

5:45pm Kids' Club for grades K-5 in the Wildwoods Room

6:15pm Choir in the Sanctuary

6:30pm Middle School Youth Group in the Fellowship Hall

6:45pm High School Youth Group in the Wildwoods Room

7:15pm Confirmation 2 in the Chapel

7:30pm Confirmation 1 in the Fireside Room

Thursday, October 8

2:00pm Belonging & Community Team Meeting in the Staff Lounge

3:00pm Dismantling Racism Team Meeting on Zoom

5:30pm Worship & Arts Team Meeting in the Fireside Room

7:00pm Capital Campaign Team Meeting on Zoom

Saturday, October 10

6:00pm A Night to Together Stewardship Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 11

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

9:30am Self-Serve Coffee in the Narthex

9:30am Forum: Faith in Democracy in the Fireside Room

10:00am Childcare Available in the Nursery

10:30am Worship with Sermon by Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis. Children's Church with Children Ministry Volunteers

11:30am Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall