

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 6, 2025

4th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

www.youtube.com/stpetersuccwashmo

** - Please rise in body or spirit.*

CENTERING OURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rhonda Stockglausner, Liturgist

One: We come to worship this day, knowing deeply what it means to struggle.

Many: We remember times in our lives when we've felt hopeless, yearning for someone to care for us.

One: In this divided climate that might tempt us to ignore the neighbors in our midst, we need only tap into our own humanity.

Many: Because we know what it means to struggle, we are challenged each day to show radical love to our neighbors.

One: Even those who aren't like us.

Many: Especially those who aren't like us.

One: May our worship today help us remember times we have been helped...

Many: ...and how we can become the helpers, and the hope-bearers, in this world.

*HYMN

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

42

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories ever echoing the triumphs of God's grace!**

**My gracious Savior and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.**

**Jesus! The name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease
Is music in the sinner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!**

**Glory to God, and love and praise be ever, ever given
By all the saints in every age, the church in earth and heaven.**

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Christ, who shows us how to be in community together, thank you for gathering us into community together, onsite and online. We give you thanks for the ways we have been held in love in this community of faith. We are comforted by memories of mercy shown to us in difficult times, both by our friends in this space, and by your gracious presence in our lives. Empower us to be Good Samaritans in our own ways. Embolden us to seek out those who are hopeless and in need, not out of pity, but out of a deep understanding of difficulty in our own lives. Guided by your example, may we lead with radical love and brave compassion. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ruth Wood

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

SERMON

“Like Lambs”

Rev. Susan Shumway

HYMN

“O Christ the Great Foundation”

387

O Christ, the great foundation on which your people stand to preach your true salvation in every age and land: Pour out your Holy Spirit to make us strong and pure, to keep the faith unbroken as long as worlds endure.

Baptized in one confession, one church in all the earth, we bear Christ’s own impression, the sign of second birth: One holy people gathered in love beyond our own by grace we were invited, by grace we make you known.

**Where tyrants’ hold is tightened, where strong devour the weak, where innocents are frightened, the righteous fear to speak,
There let your church awaking attack the powers of sin and, all their ramparts breaking, with you the victory win.**

This is the moment glorious when Christ who once was dead shall lead the church victorious, their champion and their head. The Sovereign of creation a new dominion brings, the final consummation, the glory of all things.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

God of all grace and mercy, you have made an amazing and beautiful world – diverse and teeming with the bounty and beauty of your artful hand. You have made us mortals in your own image, and given us such a marvelous variety of gifts by which to praise and serve you, and to serve the common good. Hear our varied expressions of thanksgiving, as we look to you for care and guidance to use every skill and art with which you’ve blessed us for the blessing of humanity.

HYMN “Let Us Tongues and Talents Employ” 347

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
*Refrain (2x): Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

**Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the tone, teaching people to
live to bless, love in word and in deed express. *Refrain*
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! *Refrain***

WE GIVE WHAT GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US
THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO GIVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE 275 (v 4)

**To you, great One in Three, eternal praises be, forever more.
Your sovereign majesty, may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (unison)

**God of love, we give these gifts back to you with humility, remembering
times we’ve needed help in our own lives. Help us use the gifts we give to
love others as we have been loved. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN

“Lead Us from Death to Life”

581

Refrain Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,
from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;
Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world, let peace fill our universe.

Still all the angry cries, still all the angry guns,
Still now your people die, earth’s sons and daughters.

Let justice roll, let mercy pour down,
Come and teach us your way of compassion. *Refrain*

So many lonely hearts, so many broken lives,
Longing for love to break into their darkness.
Come, teach us love, come, teach us peace,
Come and teach us your way of compassion. *Refrain*

Let justice ever roll, let mercy fill the earth,
Let us begin to grow into your people.
We can be love, we can bring peace,
We can still be your way of compassion. *Refrain*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

☞ Thank You for Worshipping Here Today ☞

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St. Peter’s United Church of Christ welcomes you to today’s worship. If you are visiting us today for the first time, please fill out the “Welcome Card” in the pews and place it in the offering plate. We also welcome those who are attending worship online.

“These Days” devotional booklets and the July Newsletter are available in the atrium and the church office. The deadline to submit articles for possible inclusion is the 21st of each month.

Please pray . . . With Maple, Rick Shetley, Emily, Jason, Delores Borcharding, Cheryl, Samantha Cerutti-Wacker, Patrick & Christina Flanagan, Pete, Marge Jones, Bryce Meyer, Ken, Grace, Amber E., Greg Berry, Jon Sanfilippo, Bill & Laurie Pinnell

The **Women's Fellowship** of St. Paul's UCC from Marthasville has invited the women of St. Peter's to their annual luncheon. The event will be held on Wed., July 16, at 11:30 a.m. Please call or text Judy Verdine (636-346-8380) if you are able to attend. (RSVPs are needed by July 8.) We will meet on St. Peter's parking lot at 11 a.m. to carpool. This is a lovely event and wonderful opportunity of fellowship with our sisters in faith. This gathering will be our Women's Fellowship meeting for the month of July.

Highlighting **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** celebrating 150 years in 2025. A Bit of History- April 4, 1909 Twenty-seven members were present. It was moved and carried to sell lots on the St. Peter's Cemetery only to members in the future, and that these lots cannot be transferred to non-members. It was decided that if the pastor of the St. Peter's Congregation officiates at the burial of a non-member, his fee for same shall be \$15, of which half shall be apportioned to the church treasury.

A special thank you to all who contributed to the School District of Washington's **Back to School Fair Backpack/Shoe drive!** Final numbers: total raised \$3,600--51 Child Sponsors, 21 Shoe Sponsors, and 21 Backpack Sponsors (and 3 new backpacks)!!

Strengthen the Church Offering In July we will collect the All-UCC Strengthen the Church offering. These funds are directed equally to the conferences and national body to support leadership development, church vitality, and youth ministry among other efforts. Please show your support by giving beginning July 12 & 13. **Thank you!**

Calling All Back Bay Missioners! On July 9 at 1:30 p.m. the Mission Team will meet in the Atrium Room. *All those who plan to go on the trip to Back Bay Mission Sept. 13--20 please join us!* We will go over the schedule, expectations, lodging questions, and anything else you need to know. We need firm commitments as to who will be joining us as we travel to Biloxi, Ms. Those of us who journeyed to Back Bay Mission last year had life-changing experiences. So come along with us, you will be glad you did! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Kurt or Rhonda Stocklausner 636-390-3425.

The Evangelism Committee is moving forward with its Home Helpers program. There will be a bulletin board in the hallway outside the office with information and forms for our members to fill out requesting help with minor household tasks. If you are unable to fill out a form at church, you can simply contact Denise Towell at 636-388-2588 or Pat Swinger at 636-980-6728. There is no charge for this help but "thank you's" are always welcome.

The **Little Free Library** is currently undergoing a facelift, courtesy of Nathaniel Pfitzinger, Phil Butler and Ben Alspach. It is in need of refinishing due to constant exposure to the elements. In the meantime, we are looking to restock the book supply. Books are needed for all ages--from board books for the littlest ones to novels and non-fiction for adults. We also need books for early readers, pre-teens and young adults. Graphic novels are especially popular with the elementary school age kids. Any donations are greatly appreciated. A drop off basket is located in the quilting hallway next to the puzzle shelves for your convenience. For pick up or any questions, please, call Janet Alspach at 770-313-0018. Thank you for your support. The Library is used frequently by our Harvest Table guests.

This Week at St. Peter's United Church of Christ:

Sunday, July 6, 2025 Aluminum Drive

10:00 a.m. – Worship w/Holy Communion

Monday, July 7, 2025

12:00 p.m. – Quilting

5:00 p.m. – Harvest Table Board

6:30 p.m. – AA

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

1:30-3:00 pm. – Coffee with the Pastor

6:30 p.m. – Board of Christian Education

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Quilting

10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting

11:30 a.m. – Bible Study

1:30 p.m. – Mission Team (All Back Bay Missioners invited)

Thursday, July 10, 2025

12:30 p.m. – Cemetery Board

6:30 p.m. – AA

Saturday, July 12, 2025

2:30-4:30 p.m. – Salam Clinic

5:00 p.m. – Worship

5:00 p.m. – Harvest Table (Dining Room)

Sunday, July 13, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship

Worship Attendance – June 28 & 29, 2025

Saturday In-Person: 23 Sunday In-Person: 56 YouTube Views: 27

A **Friends Foundation** membership meeting is planned for Sat., July 19, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at Rainbow Abilities Center, 3 Prairie Dell Plaza Dr., Union, MO.



Never have cash or a check handy but want to financially support St. Peter's UCC? Use this QR code to open a link to give via PayPal. PayPal allows you to use your credit card or checking account to give once or a reoccurring gift. Don't forget that your bank also offers reoccurring checks and/or transactions. Thank you for helping to take care of your church!

The Rev. Kurt Schaller Blaufuss, Pastor & Teacher

Ken Tucker, Director of Music

Andrew Jackson, Principal Organist

Carol H. Hackmann, Office Manager

Gary Edler, Cemetery Sexton

Nathaniel Pfitzinger, Building & Grounds Custodian

The Rev. Dr. William H. Schwab, Pastor Emeritus