

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter

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 "Jubilation Fanfare" Sandra Eithun Chapel Bells

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. Carlton R. Young

*CALL TO WORSHIP Ken Tucker, Liturgist

Springtime changes are bursting forth all around us.

The earth awakens from winter with a wondrous display of light and color.

The cycle of living and dying continues, as it has for ages past and will for ages to come.

Lent has passed and the celebration of Easter Sunday is over.

But the message of new life, new hope, new surprises, remains with us.

Praise God for new life within and among us this day!

*HYMN "Now the Green Blade Rises" 238

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain;

Wheat that in dark earth for many days has lain;

Love lives again, that with the dead has been:

Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,

Thinking that their Love would never wake again;

Laid in the earth, like grain that sleeps unseen:

Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Christ came forth at Easter, like the risen grain,

Jesus, who for three days in the grave had lain,

Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:

Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

And Joseph begged his body, and laid it in the tomb
 And Joseph begged his body, and laid it in the tomb
 And Joseph begged his body, and laid it in the tomb
 and God's grace will bear my spirit home *refrain*

An angel came from heaven and rolled away the stone
 An angel came from heaven and rolled away the stone
 An angel came from heaven and rolled away the stone
 and God's grace will bear my spirit home *refrain*

Oh, Mary, she came running and found an empty tomb
 Oh, Mary, she came running and found an empty tomb
 Oh, Mary, she came running and found an empty tomb
 and God's grace will bear my spirit home *refrain*

WE GIVE WHAT GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US
 INVITATION TO GIVE

*RESPONSE

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, you heavenly host:
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

God of resurrection hope, we thank you that you have raised Jesus
 Christ from the dead, bringing us the promise of new life here and now.
 Open our eyes to your presence in our midst; help us notice new
 opportunities to love and serve your people. Use us and our gifts to
 your glory. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

The God of every morning be with you.

And also with you.

Easter people, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the One who has raised Jesus from the grave.

People of Easter's joy, give thanks to the One who raises us to new life.

We sing our alleluias to the God of everlasting love.

Singing the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Tune: "All Creatures of our God and King"

**From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land by every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.**

The night that Jesus was betrayed,
He blessed and broke the loaf and said, **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
"This is my body here for you,
My gift that frees and makes you new."
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

Then Jesus also took the cup,
After those gathered all had supped, **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
"This is my lifeblood shed for you,
The measure of my love for you."
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

"Do this," he said, "till time shall end,
Remembering your living friend," **Alleluia! Alleluia!**
"Remember me in all you do, and I will always be with you."
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

**Jesus, your feast we celebrate,
We eat the food you consecrate. Alleluia! Alleluia!
We glimpse the glad eternal feast
To which you welcome great and least.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.**

Prayer of Consecration and the Prayer of Our Savior (debts, debtors)

**Our Father, 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. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for all our neighbors, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN

“I Come with Joy”

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**I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free
The life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
The new community of love in Christ’s communion bread,
in Christ’s communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.**

**And thus we meet, and better know the Presence, ever near,
And join our hearts and sing with joy that Christ is risen here,
that Christ is risen here.**

**Together met, together bound, in friendship we will stay,
And go with joy to love the world and live the way we pray,
and live the way we pray.**

*BENEDICTION

The stone has been rolled away! Jesus walks with us on our journey,
sometimes in ways we do not recognize.

**We have been strengthened by the gifts of the table and fellowship with
one another.**

Jesus has opened our eyes. We will go with him wherever the road takes us.

Loved and accepted, we go to serve in word and in deed. Amen.

*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.

Pastor Kurt will be on vacation until May 6 when he intends to return to the office. If you need pastoral care during this time, please contact the church office or Ben Alspach.

"These Days" devotional booklets and the May Newsletter are available in the atrium and the church office. A special thank you to Patty Wood, editor, and the faithful proof-readers who produce our monthly newsletter. The deadline to submit articles is the 21st.

Please pray . . . With Jody B., Jason, Delores Borcharding, Cheryl, Samantha Cerutti-Wacker, Patrick & Christina Flanagan, Pete, Marge Jones, Cindy Moeller, Bryce Meyer, Ken, Grace, Amber E., Clayton, Matt Ashley, Greg Berry, Jon Sanfilippo, Charlie Sincox, Todd Ford, Laurie Pinnell

Thank you to Sara Barnett, Dottie Brinker, Marty Derner, Diane Gephardt and Lewis Swinger for repainting the cemetery labyrinth.

In 2025 **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** is celebrating 150 years--A Bit of History

September 30, 1894 Pastor William Beck requested the congregation to retain a place for his grave beside that of his beloved wife. It was moved and carried that his request be granted and that both places be given him without cost.

Roy Miller 12/21/1894-11/22/1924 Roy was a pipe worker and later became City Marshall of Washington. In August 1917, he enlisted with the Franklin County/St. Louis County Battery and went into training at Fort Doniphan, OK in the 188th Division. While overseas he took care of the horses, was in 6 battles, gassed and injured (not seriously). Roy attained the rank of Sergeant Field Artillery 35th Division. He died at home from appendicitis.

Celebration time: All are invited to join the Finance Board to celebrate reaching our goal of \$10,000 for the Heat Up/Cool Down St. Peter's campaign. Join us in the auditorium for hot fudge sundaes after the service this morning.

Aluminum can drive—this weekend (May 3 & 4). Please bring the cans you have been saving to church and put them in the truck sitting in the parking lot. Proceeds from the drive are used for mission projects. Thank you for your support.

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

Sunday, May 4, 2025 Aluminum Drive

10:00 a.m. – Worship w/Holy Communion

10:15 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – Confirmation

Monday, May 5, 2025

12:00 p.m. – Quilting

5:00 p.m. – Harvest Table Board

6:30 p.m. – Girl Scouts

6:30 p.m. – AA

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

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

7:00 p.m. – Building & Grounds Board

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

8:45 a.m. – Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans

9:00 a.m. – Quilting

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Sewing Class

10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting

11:30 a.m. – Bible Study

6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir

7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 8, 2025

12:30 p.m. – Cemetery Board

6:30 p.m. – AA

Friday, May 9, 2025

4:00 p.m. – Mother/Daughter Tea Setup - Auditorium

Saturday, May 10, 2025

2:30 -4:30 p.m. – Salam Clinic

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Mother/Daughter Tea - Auditorium

5:00 p.m. – Worship

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

Sunday, May 11, 2025 Happy Mother's Day

10:00 a.m. – Worship

10:15 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – Confirmation

Worship Attendance – April 26 & 27, 2025

Saturday In-Person: 28 Sunday In-Person: 59 YouTube Views: 85

St. Paul's UCC Defiance Chicken Dinner (Drive-thru) May 4, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

COME ONE, COME ALL to the Cemetery Anniversary Picnic on May 18 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Barbeque and sides provided by the American Legion. Fun games and activities for all ages. Bounce House. Learn how to use Dowsing Rods--magic, myth, or the mind??? Katie Dieckhaus (Washington Historical Society) will entertain us with stories and history of some of our "occupants" who helped shape St. Peter's and Washington.

School District of Washington Back-to-School Fair July 30, 2025, 2-6 p.m. Washington Middle School; for any enrolled SDOW Student. *Space is limited.* For more information contact: lindsey.jasper@sdowmo.org or jamie.knight@sdowmo.org

Save the date: The 3rd annual trivia night to support St. Peter's will be held on Oct. 18. Watch for more information on how you can support this important and fun fundraiser.

A few notes from the Mission Team:

We are happy to announce that we will again hear more about **Back Bay Mission** in Biloxi, MS on Sun., May 18. Joyce Bathke, member of Faith UCC in Wentzville and former President of the Back Bay Mission Board of Directors, will join us in worship and talk about this important United Church of Christ presence on the Gulf Coast. Help us welcome Joyce!

God is Great, God is Green: The Bible and Eco Justice, a lecture exploring Biblical expressions of God's care for creation and what that means for our lives. This learning opportunity is close to home at Zion UCC in Union, May 21 at 6:30 p.m. and is sponsored by the Eastern Association Social Justice Team. The speaker is Rev. Dr. Clinton McCann from Eden Seminary. This is a hybrid event. No reservations are required for in-person attendance. To join by Zoom register at 22.allinmsicproject.org. For more information, please contact Rhonda Stockglausner at 636-390-3425.

Memorial Day Work Weekend at Shannondale May 23-25, 2025. If you have never been to Shannondale or if you have been there many times, this is an opportunity to spend Memorial Day weekend in the beautiful Missouri Ozarks. Come spend a day or plan a long weekend. Bring the family. Work will be on Saturday from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on different projects on site or perhaps for homeowners in the area. For more information, call Theresa Enloe at 573-858-3284 or 573-247-0299 or email theresa@mmsucc.org



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!

Choir Anthem: "How Beautiful" Twila Paris

"How beautiful the hands that served the wine and the bread and the children of earth. How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ. How beautiful the hands that served the wine and the bread and the children of earth. How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ. And as he laid down His life, we offer, offer this sacrifice that we will live just as He died: willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price. How beautiful the feet that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King. How beautiful the hands that serve the wine and the bread and the children of earth. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ. How beautiful."

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