

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 2, 2025

Transfiguration

10:00 AM

[www.youtube.com/stpetersuccwashmo](http://www.youtube.com/stpetersuccwashmo)

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*\* - Please rise in body or spirit.*

CENTERING OURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE                    "Fantasy on Kingsfold" arr. Wagner                    Bell Ensemble

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT    "One Great Hour of Sharing"

SCRIPTURE ... Luke 9:28-32                    Pat Swinger, Liturgist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (remembering Luke 9:33-36)

One:    Peter said: "Jesus, it's good that we're here. We should construct three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

**Many: Then a cloud overshadowed them. As they entered the cloud, they were overcome with awe.**

One:    Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!"

**Many: Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. His disciples were speechless and at the time told no one what they had seen.**

\*HYMN                    "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"                    182

**We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place,  
Where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God's grace.  
Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain,  
Searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.**

**Light breaks through our clouds and shadows,  
splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,  
Moses and Elijah marvel as the heavenly voice is heard,  
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder how the Law and Prophets meet:  
Christ with garments drenched in brightness,  
stands transfigured and complete.**

**Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline,  
We, like Peter, find it tempting to remain and build a shrine.  
But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess,  
That our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)

**Holy God, you are beyond our words and description. Your love is beyond  
our knowledge and explanation. Make our hearts ready to receive you.  
Change us, we pray, that our lives may reflect the glory of your  
Transfiguration. Bless us as we ponder the mystery of your claim on our  
lives in our baptisms. We rejoice in the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

CHOIR ANTHEM      “Create in Me” Michael Burkhardt      Chancel Choir  
*(lyrics p 8)*

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Luke 9:37-45

SERMON

THE DEDICATION OF OUR NEW CHURCH PARAMENTS

Scripture: Psalm 117, Psalm 5:7

One: We gather in worship as we dedicate our church’s new white paraments to  
the glory of God.

**Many: We give thanks for God’s goodness.**

One: We know that God delights in hearing the prayer and praise of people  
gathered together in worship.

**Many: We thank God for the blessings of worship and for the direction,  
comfort, and joy which God gives us in this place.**

One: We are thankful for worship aids which enhance our worship.

**Many: We are thankful for signs and symbols which assist us in  
understanding the story of our faith.**

One: The white paraments we dedicate today speak of your glory.

**Many: The white paraments we dedicate today celebrate the brilliant light  
of Jesus’ birth, transfiguration, and resurrection.**

One: Holy God, the source of every blessing, we now give you these new

paraments for your mission and ministry in this place, and for all who will be touched by the witness of this community of faith.

**Many: Bless us and consecrate these paraments that they may be sanctified by you and sacred to us, to your glory and for the building up of the Body of Christ. Amen.**

WE GIVE WHAT GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US  
INVITATION TO GIVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

1 (v 4)

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)

**Faithful God, you have called us to be a light shining in the world. In our baptisms you have called us to follow Jesus and his path of love, compassion, and justice. May these offerings we bring today reflect the light of Christ into the world around us. As we enter the shadows of Lent, keep us faithful in our discipleship and love of you. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Hymn

“Beautiful Jesus”

44

**Beautiful Jesus, Head of all creation, God and the blessed Mary's child:  
I want to love you, praise and adore you, joy of my soul, so long desired,  
Beautiful springtime, lovely, green, and hopeful, all earth exhales its sweet  
perfume: Jesus is sweeter, Jesus us purer, sad hearts at this,  
rejoice and bloom.  
Beautiful sunshine, clear, so lovely, moonlight, stars shine like angels,  
ranked through space: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines clearer,  
in perfect beauty, love, and grace.  
All earthly beauty, all celestial radiance fade when compared to Jesus' face.  
Let me not cherish beauties that perish; let me this lovely good embrace.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: Let us pray. (Communion Prayer)

Remembrance

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)

**Gracious God, thank you for gathering us together at your table of abundant life. As we depart this place to serve you in the larger world, bless us so that we might share that same abundance both near and far. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN

"I Sing the Praise of Love Almighty"

50

**I sing the praise of Love almighty, which shines revealed in Jesus' face.**

**I offer up all that delights me, all mean desires, each fond embrace,  
Turn from myself, in pure devotion, and eager plunge in love's vast ocean.**

**How loving kind you are, how gentle, how your heart reaches after mine!**

**My heart responds in elemental sympathy, beating perfect time. This  
mutual love, this strong attraction, I know no other satisfaction.**

**Secure my heart and all my being, in you, my Savior, crucified.**

**You gave your life to work my healing, bleeding for me, you groaned and  
died. Beloved Jesus, my salvation, you have, through love, restored creation.**

**May my heart bear the deep impression of love that Jesus shares with me,  
 My life become a pure expression of all that Christian love can be:  
 Each word, each act, a bright reflection of joy in Love's own resurrection.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

☞ Thank You for Worshipping Here Today ☞

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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

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 March Newsletter/2024 Annual Report are available in the atrium and the church office.

**Please pray . . .** With Cindy Moeller, Bryce Meyer, Ken, Grace, Amber E., Clayton, Matt Ashley, Greg Berry, Jon Sanfilippo, Charlie Sincox, Todd Ford, Laurie Pinnell, Blake Georgie

**Join us after church today for Mardi Gras.** All money raised will go to the general fund. Thank you to all who donated baskets, food and time. The BCE appreciates your efforts.

St. Peter's UCC will be taking in new members in the near future. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact the church office or Pastor Kurt.

**2025 calendars are available for purchase in the church office.** Cost is \$10 each.

**Call to Congregational Meeting:** The Spring Congregational Meeting will be held following worship Sun., March 23. Please plan to attend.

In 2025 **St. Peter's UCC Cemetery** is celebrating 150 years--A Bit of History-Sept. 24, 1882- The committee to take care of the markers on the cemetery lots reported that the cost of them amounted to 40 cents each and would be delivered soon. June 24, 1883- It was decided that as soon as the hay has been removed from the cemetery, the job of grave-digger be given to the person who is satisfied that the hay be sold. He must, however, be a member of the congregation, otherwise Mr. Fritz Mittendorf be retained to do the work and the latter was instructed to place the stone markers on the lots.

**Trivia Night**, sponsored by the Grape Cluster of UCC congregations in our Eastern Association (to benefit Camp MoVal), is scheduled for Fri., March 7 and will be held in our auditorium. Cost is \$25 per person. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.; the first question will be at 7 p.m. Look for more details in the E-Messenger or you can ask Pastor Kurt if you are interested in registering.

Just a reminder that **cemetery cleanup and removal** of Fall and Christmas flowers started yesterday and will continue through March 15. If you would wait until March 16 to place Easter and spring flowers it would be appreciated so they are not accidentally removed. Thank you, St. Peter's Cemetery Board

The **Cemetery Board** is seeking volunteers to assist with mowing and trimming at the cemetery for the 2025 mowing season. We typically mow weekly using zero turn mowers. The time required for mowing is typically 2.5 to 3 hours per cutting. We trim every other week with gas powered string trimmers which are provided. The time for trimming is approximately three hours. The more people the less time it will take. Even if you cannot work the whole time any assistance would be appreciated. Our mowing season typically starts late March or early April and ends usually at the end of October. If interested call or text Gary Edler at (636) 667-0918.

Worship Attendance – February 22 & 23, 2025

Saturday In-Person: 30 Sunday In-Person: 94 YouTube Views: 36



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!

**Femme Osage UCC Sausage Dinner** March 9, 11:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**Immanuels UCC Holstein Fish Fry** March 21, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

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

**Sunday, March 2, 2025** Aluminum Drive

10:00 a.m. – Worship/Holy Communion

10:15 a.m. – Sunday School

**11:00 a.m. – Mardi Gras Celebration**

**Monday, March 3, 2025**

12:00-3:00 pm. – Quilting

5:00 p.m. – Harvest Table Board

6:30 p.m. – AA

**Tuesday, March 4, 2025**

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

7:00 p.m. – Building & Grounds Board

**Wednesday, March 5, 2025** Ash Wednesday

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

9:00 a.m. – Quilting

10:00 a.m. – Prayer Meeting

11:30 a.m. – Bible Study

7:00 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Worship

**Thursday, March 6, 2025**

10:30 a.m. – Food Pantry Task Force

6:30 p.m. – AA

**Friday, March 7, 2025** World Day of Prayer

6:30 p.m. – Trivia Night

**Saturday, March 8, 2025**

2:30-4:30 p.m. – Salam Clinic

5:00 p.m. – Worship

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

**Sunday, March 9, 2025** Daylight Saving Time Begins

10:00 a.m. – Worship

10:15 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – Confirmation

Choir Anthem "Create in Me"

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me, and renew a right spirit within me."