

St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

June 2, 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

If you are visiting us for the first time, welcome!  
Thank you for joining us, we're happy you are here.

Please make sure to sign-in in the Narthex and include your name and email so we can keep you updated on upcoming events and special worship services.

\*Please stand if you are able and comfortable

**Congregation reads text in bold print**

*In our liturgy, A: is all our voices. L: is the liturgist's voice P: is the Pastor's voice*

Pre-Service Music ~ 9:55 a.m.

Please enter the sanctuary to prepare for worship

Bringing Christ's light into Worship

*Kyra Anderson, Acolyte*

Prayer Requests, Joys and Concerns

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

*Live stream begins*

Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

Prelude

*Garrett Woods, Music Director*

**\*Call to Worship**

*David Warner, Liturgist*

L: Holy One, you have searched and known us.

**A: You know when we sit down and when we rise up; you discern our thoughts.**

L: You search out our paths and our lying downs and are acquainted with all my ways.

**A: Even before a word is on our tongues, O Holy One, you know it completely.**

L: You hem us in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon us.

**A: We praise you, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that we know very well.**

\*Hymn

***“Be Thou My Vision”***

**No. 595**

**\*Invocation**

**A: We are called to “observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy, as our God commanded us.” Be with us Holy One, so that we may be refreshed and renewed, every day. May the Holy Spirit descend upon us as we gather in worship and praise, for all you do in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**\*Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

L: As we gather in worship, let us take this moment to consider our needs for transformation and forgiveness. I invite you to quietly reflect on our need for grace. *Allow a short moment of silence.*

**A: Dear God, the creator of all things based on love. You created us in your image of love and there have been times we have fallen short of that love, not only to you but to each other and all of creation. I ask for your forgiveness and from you, present today, my siblings, sisters and brothers in Christ. I thank you for the comforting strength and compassion of the Holy Spirit to do better in bringing love and grace and all I do. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Words of Grace**

P: Scripture tells us “Light will shine out of darkness,” and though we may be “afflicted in every way, we are not crushed, perplexed but not driven to despair” and when we turn to God for blessed grace; grace is always granted. Grace is our greatest gift. Amen.

**A: We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

\*Gloria Patri (Glory be to the Father)

No. 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

Time for Silent Prayer ~ Prayer Challenge #5 - Before you go to sleep at night, offer a song of praise as a prayer to God - Psalm 42:8~ Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

**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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;  
incline thine ear to us, and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

**Young People's Message!**

*All young people are invited to come forward for their own special time with the Pastor.*

*Young people may go to Sunday School*

*Tammi Hart*

**The Holy Scriptures**

**First Reading – 1 Samuel 3:1-20**

<sup>1</sup>Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. <sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup>The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. <sup>10</sup>Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

<sup>11</sup>Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." <sup>15</sup>Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." <sup>17</sup>Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me."

May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.”<sup>18</sup> So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.”

<sup>19</sup>As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

### **The Holy Gospel – Mark 2:23-3:6**

<sup>23</sup>One sabbath he was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. <sup>24</sup>The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?”<sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? <sup>26</sup>He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to them, “The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; <sup>28</sup>so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

<sup>1</sup>Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. <sup>2</sup>They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. <sup>3</sup>And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come forward.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to them, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. <sup>5</sup>He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. <sup>6</sup>The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

*Message*

*“Growing Seasons”*

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

### **Welcome to New Member – by Affirmation of Faith**

P: We invite to come forward **Bruce Hust**, who wishes to affirm his baptism by uniting with us in this household of faith. Bruce came from Phillipus UCC, which closed some years ago. Thus he joins us by affirming his Baptism in this service.

P: Friends in Christ, we all are received into the church through the sacrament of baptism. Bruce has found nurture and support in the midst of the family of Christ. Through prayer and study, he has been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm his baptism and to claim in our presence his covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the church. He is here for service to Jesus Christ, using the gifts which the Holy Spirit bestows.

P: Bruce, God’s message is near you, on your lips and in your heart, that is, the word of faith that we preach. If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised Jesus from

the dead, you will be saved. For it is by our faith that we are put right with God; it is by our confession that we are saved.<sup>19</sup>

**\*Affirmation of Faith ~ Candidate and Congregation**

P: Bruce, do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Bruce: I do.

P: Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

Bruce: I do.

P: Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Bruce: I do.

P: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Bruce: I promise, with the help of God.

P: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

Bruce: I promise, with the help of God.

P: Let us unite with the whole church, and this congregation, in all times and places, in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

**A: I believe in God.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**A: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**A: I believe in the Holy Spirit**

P: By your baptism you were made one with us in the body of Christ, the church. Bruce, today we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place. We give thanks for every community of faith that has been your spiritual home, and we celebrate your presence in this household of faith.

P: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of this local church as it serves this community and the world?

Bruce: I promise, with the help of God.

### **WELCOME AND RECEPTION**

*Members of the congregation who are able may stand and say the following or other words of welcome.*

P: Let us, the members of St. Peter and St. Paul, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**A: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of St. Peter and St. Paul, we extend to you, Bruce Hust, the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we praise you for calling us to be your servant people and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for sending Bruce to us, that we may work together in serving the needs of others. Confirm in us the power of your covenant that we may live in your Spirit, share regularly in worship, and so love each other that we may have among us the same mind which was in Christ Jesus, to whom be all honor and glory.

**A: Amen.**

*The congregation may applaud and/or wave, saying "Welcome."*

\*Hymn

***"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"***

**No. 588**

**\*Invitation to Generosity**

L: As Bruce has offered his faith, hope and love in worship, discipleship, fellowship and service, so we offer to you all that we are, and all that we have. Let us bring our gifts of time, talent and treasure before God for the love of our neighbor and the world.

\*Doxology (Praise)

No. 46

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

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**A: O Lord our God, maker of all things, through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Service of Holy Communion**

**Communion Prayer**

P: Pastoral Leader: In the United Church of Christ, and here in this place, we bring the Sacrament of Holy Communion on first Sundays and on Church Festival days. We practice an open communion, which means all are welcomed to this table...it is God's table.

You don't have to be a member of this church or any church to partake in the sharing of the bread and drink of the vine. Since 1970 we have had an open table, and just as Jesus did, we have been welcoming people of all abilities and ages, from every time and every place, to join in the Sacrament.

We remember, the night before Jesus would be betrayed and crucified, that he sat among his friends and took bread, blessed, and broke it, and said "Take and eat for this is my body given for you. As often as you do it do it in remembrance of me."

After the supper had ended, Jesus took the cup, blessed it and said, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

My friends, whenever we share this bread and cup, we remember the compassion and love Jesus taught and the call to follow Christ in all we do.



\*Seraphic Hymn

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and Earth are full,  
Are full of the majesty of Thy glory,  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!**

**Distribution of Communion**

P: Come. Find your place at this table, you who seek the Spirit's power and grace. We are a community in Christ. Join in the meal of love with all Christians. Our God has given Christ Jesus, for us, forever!

*All may come forward for the bread (Gluten Free is available) and wine (outer ring of cups) or grape juice (center of tray). If you are not able to come forward, raise your hand and we will bring Communion to you.*

**Prayer of Gratitude**

**A: Holy Creator, we remember the sacrifice of Jesus, and all who follow to bring love and justice to the world. May this bread and drink nourish us as they are the symbol of Christ's presence between us, and in all of us. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*“Open My Eyes, that I May See”*

**No. 586**

**Benediction**

P: Dear friends, we have been nourished and renewed in this Sabbath day with the love of God who created us, God who redeemed us, and God who sustains us. Go in peace, sharing the Good News. Amen.

\*Benediction Response

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus, the Son,  
And give God the glory! Great things he has done!**

Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us at St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ!*

3001 Queen City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45238

Current Office Hours: W, Th, & Fri. 10am – 2pm (W & Th remotely) ~ Sat 9-11am + 513-661-3745

In case of pastoral care emergency, please call the office, Deb Boland,  
or Pastor Teri Lynn at 513-250-6460

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## Announcements



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### **All Church Meeting – TODAY – Immediately following service**

We've received feedback concerning various changes to the worship service together with various national UCC publications that have been made available. These changes will be discussed in an "All Church Meeting" on Sunday, June 2nd in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. We are hoping that you will attend, as your opinions are important to our ongoing discussions and decisions about the future of St. Peter and St. Paul.

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### **TODAY is the deadline to submit upcoming graduates.**

Next week, June 9<sup>th</sup> we will be honoring those who have recently graduated or will graduate from high school, college, graduate or professional schools. If you have a loved one you would like to be included in our Graduation Sunday please provide their name to the Church Office.

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### **Summer Singing**

Anyone interested in singing during worship this summer please sign up at communication corner.

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### **Community Meal – Clothing Donations**

Thanks to everyone who has donated clothing to our Community Meal. We have received an abundance of donations recently and need time to sort and organize them. If you have clothing donations for the church, could you hold onto them for a couple weeks to give us time to sort through the inventory we have. If you have any questions or are interested in helping to sort through items please see Jackie Frank.

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Nursery Summer Volunteers Needed - Please see Tammi if you are interested in volunteering on Sundays...(don't forget we have snacks and AC 😊)

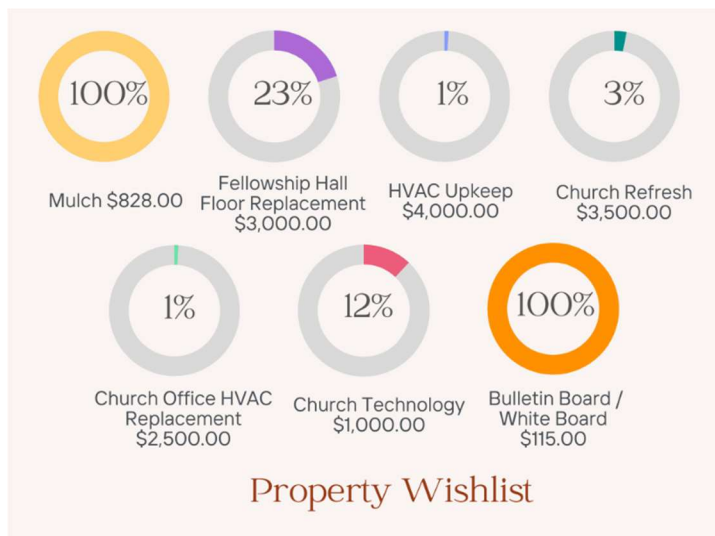
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We want to wish Jim and Judy Graham a most wonderful and blessed 62nd wedding anniversary!

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## Property Wish List

The Property Department is asking for donations to help with the cost of maintaining areas of the church. If you are able to help, please fill out the form located in the Narthex and return it with your donation. We will update the graph each week so you can see the progress of our goal.

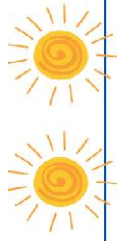


**Free Food Distribution**  
**JUNE 4TH**

If you or someone you know is in need stop by our free food distribution between 12:00 - 2:00 PM.

**Our free food pick-up is open to all.  
No documentation needed, no questions asked.**

# JUNE 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Church & Ministry - 11:30 am F.H.	<b>4</b> Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	<b>5</b> Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>8</b>
Communion						
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Property - 7pm - Par.	<b>12</b> Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>15</b> Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
<b>16</b> HAPPY FATHERS DAY Father's Day Breakfast - 8:30 am F.H.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Steering & Search Committees - 11:00 am
<b>23/30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Council - 7 pm - Rm. 107	<b>26</b> Book Club 5:30 - 7PM F.H.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Mission Services, Steering & Search Committees - 11:00 am VBS Registration - 12:30 - 2:30 - Outside Youth Group - 4:00 - 6:00 - F.H.