



FIFTH SUNDAY  
*In Lent*

St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

\*Please stand if you are able and comfortable

**Congregation reads text in bold print**

<i>In our liturgy, <b>A: is all our voices.</b> L: is the liturgist's voice P: is the Pastor's voice</i>
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Bringing Christ's light into Worship

*Brody Strahn, Acolyte*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns for Prayer

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

*Live Stream Begins*

Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

Prelude

*Garrett Woods, Music Director*

\*Call to Worship

*Bob Hedspeth, Liturgist*

L: New life rises!

**A: That which rises, must first fall and die.**

L: Single grains merely remain as they are unless they are released to the ground.

**A: The grains of the earth that fall will multiply and nourish.**

L: Come, die to the self and live a life of service to the Living God.

**A: And God will raise us up anew. Amen.**

Hymn

***"O Jesus, I Have Promised"***

**No. 612**

Invocation

L: God of grains and grace, we gather today seeking to follow in the way of Jesus. The path he chose for his disciples was one of service and it requires of us that we lay down our desires, our ambitions, and serve you with our whole heart. May our worship this day inspire our dying and rising with you as we seek to love and serve like Jesus. May it be so. Amen.

\* Call to Confession

L: Let us call to mind our need for change, openness, and greater love.

\*Prayer of Transformation and New Life

**A: God of love, we confess that our ego can all too often get in the way of our ability to serve you and others with our lives. Our false self is driven by our lack of trust in you to provide for our every need. We rely on our own strength. But, our true self can let go and be formed anew by your love. Forgive us our false ways and transform us and raise us to new life. Amen.**

\*Words of Grace

P: Friends, Jesus reminds us that those who serve him will have the assurance of his presence with them. Trust that you are you are forgiven, that new life rises, and that Jesus abides with you. In the name of Christ, Amen.

\*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 ~ 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.**

Prayer Through Song

*"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*

No 306

**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*

**First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**A New Covenant**

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Anthem

*"Take Up Your Cross"* by Lloyd Larson

Choir

### **The Gospel – John 12:20-33**

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup> “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup> The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup> Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people<sup>[a]</sup> to myself.” <sup>33</sup> He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

*Message*

*“At the Feast of Love”*

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

\*Affirmation of Faith – “The Apostles’ Creed” **All speak together.**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Hymn

***“Give Me a Clean Heart”***

**No. 515**

*Please listen through the first time, then we will sing through the verse twice*

Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee.

Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee.

For I'm not worthy of all these blessings.

Give me a clean heart and I'll follow thee.

\*Invitation to the Offering

L: The richness of God's love extends to all persons and in response to God's abundant compassion, we are invited into a spirit of generosity so that God's love may be known to the very ends of the earth. Let us give generously.

\*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 Dedication

**O God, whose richness is not found at the tables of those willing to exchange goods for the sake of acquiring earthly riches, but rather is found at the table of extravagant love for neighbor, we entrust these gifts to your care that they may abound in your steadfast love for all persons. Use them for the building of your beloved community here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

\*Hymn      *“Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing”*

No. 439

\*Benediction

P: God has turned our world upside down and called us to a life of transformation. Now, go forth changed, called anew, and turned towards a God who makes us whole. Amen, and Amen!

\*Benediction Response

**God be with you till we meet again,  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you,  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus’ feet;  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again. Amen.**

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

spspuccoffice@gmail.com + www.spspucc.org All Hymns copied from Chalice Hymnal - Red Pew Edition © 1995 / Chalice Press Eleventh Printing, 2001. Used by Permission. / CCLI # 11439836 / CSPLI # CSPL1650 / One License M-401820

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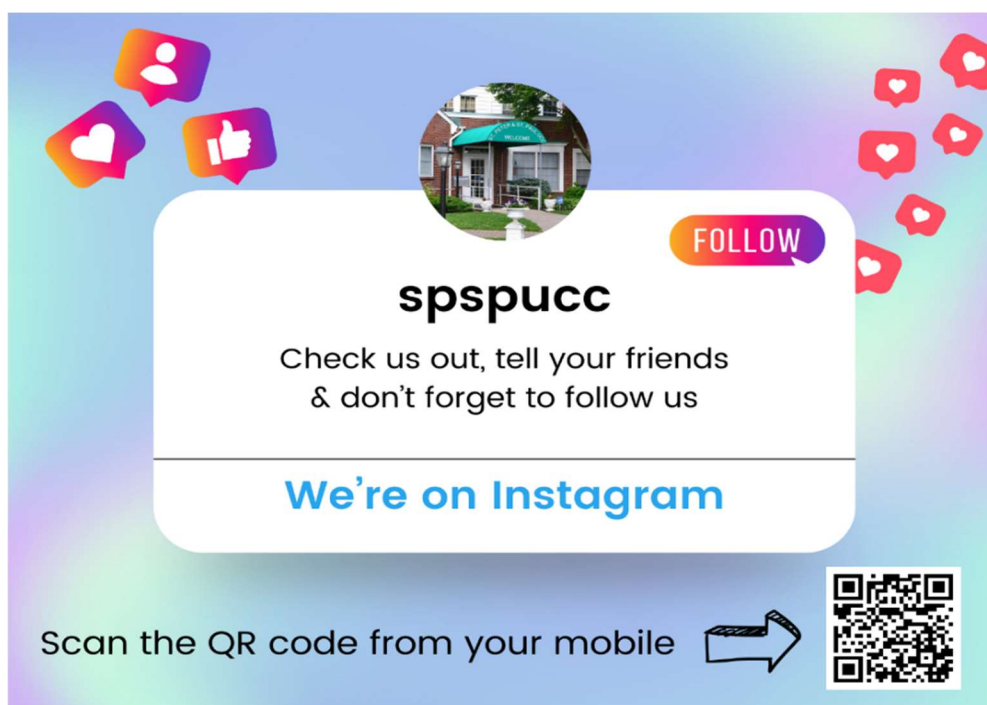
You will notice there is a Cross on the front step, and a basket in front of it. The

basket is for you to write your greatest concerns and difficulties, fold them and place them at the foot of the Cross. You can release your hurts in this way; and our loving God will hold them for you.

Then, if you wish, take a Word from below the Cross: what is it you truly need from Jesus? Forgiveness – Hope – Love – Peace – Joy – Beauty? Take that Word with you, for your own faith journey! The basket will be stored in Pastor's office during the week. She will not read them. They are between you and God.

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**Last day to order Easter Lilies is today 3/17 –  
Order forms are in the Narthex**





The graphic features a central white rounded rectangle on a colorful gradient background. At the top center is a circular profile picture of a church building. To the left are three colorful speech bubbles with icons of a person, a heart, and a thumbs up. To the right are several red heart icons. Below the profile picture is the text 'spspucc' in bold black, followed by 'Check us out, tell your friends & don't forget to follow us' in a smaller font. A 'FOLLOW' button is positioned to the right of the profile picture. Below the white rectangle, the text 'We're on Instagram' is written in blue. At the bottom left, the text 'Scan the QR code from your mobile' is followed by a right-pointing arrow and a QR code.

**spspucc**

Check us out, tell your friends  
& don't forget to follow us

**We're on Instagram**

Scan the QR code from your mobile  



Lenten Suppers & Bible Study  
**The Last Days of Jesus**

by Matthew Williams

Every Wednesday through Lent  
 February 21st  
 February 28th  
 March 6th  
 March 13th  
 March 20th  
 March 27th

Potluck - 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
 Bible Study - 6:00 pm - 7:00pm

Please sign up at Communication Corner



**EASTER  
 EGG HUNT**

**March 23rd**  
 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM



**Share with Friends**

Small individually wrapped  
 candy and monetary  
 donations would be greatly  
 appreciated







**MAUNDY  
THURSDAY**

**MARCH  
28**

**ST. PETER & ST. PAUL UCC**

**JOIN US FOR OUR  
MAUNDY THURSDAY  
WORSHIP SERVICE  
MARCH 28TH - 7:00 PM**

# GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

**March 29th**

**2:00 PM - Traditional  
Worship Service**

**7:00 PM - Tenebrae  
Worship Service**





LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

# Easter Sunday Breakfast

MARCH 31, 2024 | 8:30 AM


PLEASE SIGN UP AT  
COMMUNICATION CORNER





# MARCH 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 Steering Committee / Congregation Discussion - 11:00 am F.H.	4 Church & Ministry - 11:30 am F.H.	5 Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	6 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	7	8	9
10	11	12 Property - 7pm - Par.	13 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	14	15	16 Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
17 Happy St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H. Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	21	22	23 Easter Egg Hunt - 2:00-3:30 
24/31 31st - Easter Breakfast - 8:30 am F.H. HAPPY EASTER	25	26 Council - 7 pm - Rm. 107	27 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	28 Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00	29 Good Friday Service - 7:00 Good Friday / Tenebrae Service - 7:00	30