



St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

August 24, 2025

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 comfortable and able. The Congregation reads text in bold print.**

*In our liturgy, A: is All our voices. L: is the Liturgist's voice. LL: is the Lay Leader's voice.*

Bringing Christ's Light into Worship,

*Youth Acolyte and  
Matthew Westermeyer, Senior Acolyte*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns for Prayer

Michelle Daniels, *Lay Leader*

*Live Stream Begins*

Prelude  
*Director*

*Garrett Woods, Music*

Welcome and Announcements

Michelle Daniels, *Lay Leader*

**\*Call to Worship**

*Jan Williams, Liturgist*

L: Come, all who feel alone, forgotten, or unsure.

**A: God is here—faithful in every moment.**

L: Come, all who rejoice and give thanks.

**A: God rejoices with us and receives our praise.**

L: In all seasons, through all things—

**A: We worship the One who never leaves us.**

\*Hymn

**“Surely the Presence of the Lord”**

**No. 263**

**\*Invocation**

**A: Almighty God, we gather in awe of your magnificent power and the beauty of your creation. As we come together in worship, may your Holy Spirit be present among us, guiding us in truth and love. Open our hearts to receive your word, and may we leave this place renewed by your grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.**

**\*Call to Confession**

L: We are the people of God, but Scripture reminds us that we still sin. We need to confess our failures, knowing that the Lord Jesus intercedes for us with our God, who freely forgives us, through his infinite goodness and mercy. Let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence. Let us pray together.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**A: Unclutter our lives, Lord, for we expect too much.**

**Grant us perspective, to see this world through others' eyes, rather than just our own.**

**Grant us compassion; there is a need to play our part, that we do not turn aside.**

**Grant us gratitude for what we have, our daily bread, the gift of life.**

**Unclutter our lives, Lord, giving us space and the simplicity of a thankful heart. Amen**

**\*Words of Assurance**

LL: Even in our moments of doubt, our lack of faith, and the blindness that means we fail to see God amongst us, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when you fail to see God, God still sees you and still loves you. Sisters and brothers, your sins are forgiven.

\*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.*

A: Silent Prayer - LL: Pastoral Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer**

**A: 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 a special time with Miss Tammi, after which they will go to Sunday School.

### Special Music

“My Hope is Built”

Chalice Hymnal

Joel, Mary Beth, Aaron Westermeyer, Jan Williams, and Kevin Wesley

### The Holy Scriptures

#### **Old Testament**

Romans 3:3-4

<sup>3</sup> For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? <sup>4</sup> Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: “That You may be justified in Your words and may overcome when You are judged.”

#### **The Gospel**

John 16:31-33

<sup>31</sup> Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? <sup>32</sup> Indeed, the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. <sup>33</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you <sup>[1]</sup>will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

*Message*

*“Faith On Trial”*

*Michelle Daniels, Lay Leader*

#### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

##### **The Apostles' Creed Interpreted**

LL: What do you believe when you confess your faith in “God the Father Almighty”?

**A: That God is a God of love, and that God's love is powerful beyond measure.**

LL: What do you affirm when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as “our Lord”?

**A: That having been raised from the dead, he reigns with compassion and justice over all things in heaven and on earth, especially over those who confess him by faith; and that by loving and serving him above all else, we give glory and honor to God.**

LL: What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?

**A: That apart from the Holy Spirit, our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served.**

**The Holy Spirit is the personal bond by which Jesus Christ unites us to Himself, the Teacher who opens our hearts to Christ, and the Comforter who leads us to repentance, empowering us to live in Christ's service.**

LL: What do you affirm when you speak of “the life everlasting”?

**That communion with Jesus Christ is eternal life itself. In him we were chosen before the foundation of the world. By him, the eternal covenant with Israel was taken up, embodied, and fulfilled. To him we are joined by the Holy Spirit through faith, and adopted as children, the sons and daughters of God. Through Him, we are raised from death to new life. For him we shall live to all eternity.**

\*Hymn

**“Faith of our Fathers”**

**No. 635**

**\*Invitation to the Offering**

L: The God of heaven and earth, of all of creation, holds each one of us in tender love and care. God is gracious and good, and no one is insignificant in God’s eyes. So, we respond to everything God is doing in the life of the world by offering a portion of what we have generously received from a loving God. In the ministry of this United Church of Christ, we reach out to all of God’s children in tender love and care. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

\*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**

**A: Almighty Father, as we present these offerings before You, we surrender our hearts in gratitude. May our gifts reflect our thankfulness for Your abundant blessings. Teach us to give with joy, knowing that everything comes from You.**

\*Hymn

**“To God be the Glory”**

**No. 72**

**\*Benediction**

**No. 712**

LL: May the strength of God pilot us.

May the power of God preserve us.

May the wisdom of God instruct us.

**May the hand of God protect us, this day and evermore.**

**\*A: Benediction Response**

O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
Because he first loved me!

Postlude

*Garrett Woods, Music Director*

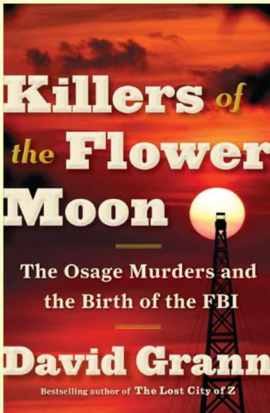
*Thank you for worshipping with us at St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ!*

3001 Queen City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45238

Current Office Hours: W, Th, & Fri. 10am – 2pm (W & Th remotely) ~ Sat 9-12pm + 513-661-3745

In the event of a pastoral care emergency, please call the office or Deb Boland.


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## Monthly Book Club

August 27th  
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM  
(4th Wednesday of every month)

**Killers of the Flower Moon** by David Grann  
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A twisting, haunting true-life murder mystery about one of the most monstrous crimes in American history, from the author of *The Wager* and *The Lost City of Z*, "one of the preeminent adventure and true-crime writers working today."—*New York Magazine* • NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • SOON TO BE A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE



# Free Food Distribution

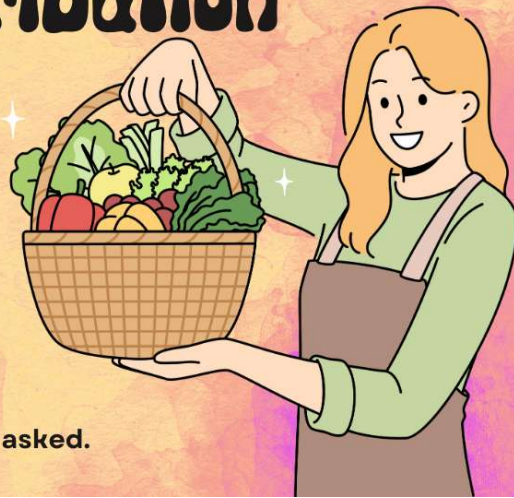
**SEPTEMBER 2ND**

**12:00PM - 2:00PM**

(1st Tuesday of every month)

**St. Peter & St. Paul UCC  
3001 Queen City Ave**

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



## September 14th is Rally Day

Join us as the Sunday School Kids takeover the Morning worship service.

All readings, prayers and songs will be led by the children.

All are welcome to enjoy a light lunch of kid-friendly food after the service

SAVE  
*the*  
DATE

*November 16, 2025*

CELEBRATING 75<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY OF  
ST PETER & ST  
PAUL UCC

*More info to come.*

# AUGUST 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>  Communion	<b>4</b> Church & Ministry - 11:30 am F.H.	<b>5</b> Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	<b>6</b> Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Property - 7pm - Par.	<b>13</b> Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>16</b> Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>23</b>
<b>24/31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Council - 7 pm - Rm. 107	<b>27</b> Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Book Club 5:30 - 7PM F.H.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>30</b>