



St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

May 11, 2025

Mother's Day &
Service of Holy Communion

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

Bringing Christ's Light into Worship

*Youth Acolyte and
Matthew Westermeyer, Senior 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**

Michelle Daniels, Liturgist

L: Let us praise God for sending Jesus Christ to offer his saving love to us all.

A: We give God all our praises.

L: Let our hearts be filled with joyful celebration for the fulfillment of God's promises.

A: We open our hearts to receive the joy of Christ.

L: Let us move forward with Jesus Christ as our guiding light.

A: The light of Jesus Christ is shining in each of us.

L: Come, let us worship our Risen Christ, whose love and light guide us still.

*Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

No. 86

***Invocation**

A: Ever present God, we are grateful that you meet us right where we are. Speaking our language and giving us the blessed assurance that you are with us. We thank you for the women in our lives who have nurtured and blessed us. Help us all to find your nurture and your blessing. In your name we pray. Amen.

***Prayer of Confession**

L: Life-giving God,

A: Sometimes we fail to find joy in your newness of life through Jesus Christ. Help us to feel the joy of inhaling and exhaling the breath of life in every season. Transform us when we come together as your beloved and diverse creation. Guide us in our praise as we seek your saving love toward a world where there is peace and justice for all. Amen.

Words of Grace

P: Loving God, in Christ we see the fulfillment of your promise to be with us always. Forgive us when we lose faith in your compassion for all creation. Help us to see the great sacrifice of the Risen Christ as an example of your undying love for us all. Knit us together in our relationship with you and all of creation. Hear our prayer, O God. 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.

Prayers for Moms and All Women of Faith *(Note parts for men, women, and all)*

P: God of Generations, we celebrate the lives of the women who fought the good fight and stood up for the Gospel and the truth of Scripture, yesterday and today.

A: Strengthen our voice of proclamation. Give us ears to hear, and hearts to serve you.

Men: God of Life, we give thanks for the bold women among us today who serve with a sense of holy purpose in their vocations as workers, ministers, business people; daughters, mothers, grandmothers'; friends, sisters and mothers. Empower us by faith and bless our vocations at home and in the church.

A: Inspire us to encourage one another in fellowship, laughter, hospitality and sharing.

P: We pray through the stories of faith: Of Miriam, Deborah, Hannah, Ruth, Naomi, Esther; Jesus' mother Mary, Mary Magdalene, Lydia, Priscilla, Martha and Mary, and many others in the Bible, each of who were leaders of faith in their time. May we learn from the stories of their faith and dedication, to believe more deeply, serve more fully, and carry out a diversity of ministries in the name of God,

A: Thank you for the fellowship we have in Christ through God the Creator, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Women: Loving God, we pray for the men throughout the ages who support and encourage women in their journey to use their God-given gifts for your purpose.

We give thanks for Aaron, Isaiah, Boaz, Joseph, Lazarus, James, Thomas, Timothy; and the Apostles who wrote down the message of faith for us. We continue to learn from your disciples who traveled with you, Jesus.

A: Give us courage to work together with no divisions, to proclaim your grace and hope. In your mercy, hear all of our prayers.

P: Protect all women who are in any trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity. Lift up men who lift up women. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, soothe the suffering, guide the addicted, shield the grieving, and all for your love's sake. Continue to bless us all to be a blessing!

A: Thank you for the men who cooked and fed us breakfast to celebrate all the women whose gifts serve the congregation in so many ways. Make us your bold and faithful servants, celebrating the gifts of all people, this day and always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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

The Holy Scriptures

First Reading – Ephesians 4: 1-6, 11-16

Matthew Westermeyer, Reader

¹ I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Choir Anthem

“In Heavenly Love Abiding”

arr by Coggin

The Gospel – John 21:20-25

²⁰ Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” ²¹ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about him?” ²² Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!” ²³ So the rumor spread among the brothers and sisters that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?” ²⁴ This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵ But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Message

“Look at the World”

Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse

***Affirmation of Faith ~ From the Baptismal Service**

P: Hear the words of Jesus: I am the vine; you are the branches. Anyone who abides in me, and I in that person, is the one who bears much fruit. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.¹⁸

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

A: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**A: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**A: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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;
He descended to the dead.*
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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**A: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the universal Christian church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

P: You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are equally citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus alone being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in Christ; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.²⁰

*Hymn

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

No. 628

***Invitation to Generosity**

L: Jesus offers us fullness of life, protecting us and advocating for our needs. We are shepherds too. Stewards of the world and its resources, both locally and globally. What will we give to join Jesus in the work of building beloved community in 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: Gracious God, thank you for your gift of Jesus Christ, who cares for us and protects us.
With these gifts we return to you, help us care for others in our communities and around
the world. Help us to be shepherds of others, for you, as you have been the Good Shepherd
for us. Amen.**

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

P: God loves you!

A: And God also loves you.

P: Lift up your hearts!

A: We lift all we are to God!

P: May we embrace the gifts of God in these simple things.

A: In Christ's words we celebrate our love for one another.

Communion Prayer

P: Divine Gatherer of Your Children,

There is beauty in this celebration of YOU. We gather with Christian friends of all time and space here at this Table. We remember your giving of yourself in the First Supper of Love.

It was on that night of love and betrayal that Jesus took a loaf of bread. After he blessed the bread, he broke the bread, and gave it to his friends. "This is my body," he said to them. "Remember me each time you break and eat the bread."

And after supper, Jesus took the cup filled with the fruit of the vine. He spoke to his followers, "This is the cup of the new covenant. As often as you drink from this cup, do this in remembrance of me."

Holy Spirit, Breath of Healing, encircle these elements tonight. Surround us with your care, pour your peace that passes all understanding on us. This is the sacramental meal of Christ for all God's children. No matter where you are on the path of life, each of you are welcome at this table.

Communion Anthem

"Out of Love, He Broke the Bread"

by Harlan

Distribution of Communion

P: Come. Find your place at this table, you who need hope, you who are seeking for peace. Christ is Risen! Join in the meal of love with all Christians. Our God has given Christ Jesus, for us!

Prayer of Gratitude

A: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and you have nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

***Benediction**

P: Today you have received the gift of Christ’s protective, unceasing love for you. Because you are beloved, may all that you do and all that you are be a reflection of that love.

A: We will reach out, fight for the powerless, help the weak, and provide for the needy, because Jesus provides for us. Amen.

*Benediction Response

**Up from the grave he arose, (he arose)
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes; (o'er his foes)
he arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever with his saints to reign.
He arose! (he arose) He arose! (he arose) Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

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 9-12pm + 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
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Announcements



On June 8th we will honor 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 by June 1st.

Paddle Party Fundraiser

at Jim and Jack's Restaurant

3456 River Rd, Cincinnati OH 45204

on Thursday, May 22 ~ Paddle sales start 6:00, Bidding starts at 7:00

We invite you to join us in making this fundraising event a success by donating a complete basket or contributing items to help create baskets. If you prefer, a monetary donation is also fantastic, and we can do the shopping and complete a basket. Types of baskets that shine at this event include gardening items, gift cards to stores and restaurants, lottery tickets, tech gadgets, concert and movie tickets, chocolates, wine, board games, and sports paraphernalia or tickets—to name a few!

We pray that you will support this effort with both items to auction and your attendance, so save the date. Let's make this a fun and rewarding experience for us and the church!

Please share with your friends, it's a fun time for all!



ST. PETER & ST. PAUL UCC MONTHLY COMMUNITY MEAL

- FREE MEAL
- A FOOD BAG TO TAKE HOME
- CLOTHING AND HOUSEWARE DONATIONS
- ALL ARE WELCOME
- NO DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED



MAY 17TH | 10:30AM - 12:00PM
(3RD SATURDAY EVERY MONTH)

BITS 'N PIECES 2.0

COME CRAFT WITH US



Looking for a fun and relaxing way to connect with others? Join our crafting group every Friday from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM—whether you're a pro or a total beginner, we'd love to have you! Interested in knitting or crocheting? Don't worry if you've never picked up a needle or hook before—we'll teach you!



ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

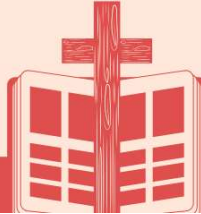
LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Exodus: Liberating Love - by Tim Chester

Come learn more with us!

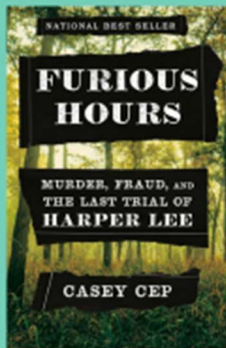
Exodus is the story of a bush on fire that never burns up, an unarmed shepherd facing the most powerful man on earth, a nation walking through a sea, storms, earthquakes and more. But, as these eight studies show, it is supremely the story of the God who reveals himself, triumphs over his enemies, and rescues, guides, rules, forgives and lives with his people and who in all this points forward to a still greater, more thrilling act of liberation.

**8 WEEK SERIES
EVERY WEDNESDAY
APRIL 30TH - JUNE 18TH
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM**



**A nurturing group that
uplifts and supports women
in their journey of faith.**

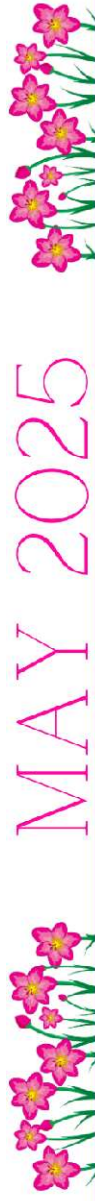
Monthly Book Club



**MAY 28TH
5:30 - 7:30 PM
(4TH WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH)**

**ST. PETER & ST. PAUL UCC
3001 QUEEN CITY AVE.**

MAY 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5 Church & Ministry - 11:am F.H.	6 Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	7 Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Bells - 5:30 - 6:30 - Fellowship Hall Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	8	9 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	10
11 <i>Mother's Day</i> Mother's Day Breakfast - 8:30 am F.H. Communion	12	13 Property - 7pm - Par.	14 Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Bells - 5:30 - 6:30 - Fellowship Hall Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	15	16 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	17 Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
18	19	20	21 Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Bells - 5:30 - 6:30 - Fellowship Hall Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	22 Paddle Party Fundraiser - 6 pm - Jim and Jack's Restaurant	23 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	24
25	26 HAPPY ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ MEMORIAL DAY ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	27 Council - 7 pm - Rm. 107	28 Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Book Club 5:30 - 7PM F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	29	30	31