



I HAVE
CHOSEN THE WAY
of faithfulness;
I HAVE
SET MY HEART
on your laws.

Psalm 119:30, NIV

St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024

*Please stand if you are able and comfortable

Congregation reads text in bold print

Bringing Christ's light into Worship

Brody Strahn, Acolyte

Welcome

Rev Paul Burden, Senior Pastor

Prelude

Garrett Woods, Music Director

*Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 62)

Bob Hedspeth, Liturgist

Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

You are our Mighty Rock. We will not be shaken.

Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

You are our hope. We place our trust in you.

Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

You are our refuge. We rest in your abiding love.

*Hymn "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" No 214

*Invocation

God of Many Seasons, we enter into your presence with joy and thanksgiving. We acknowledge all the ways that you meet us as we gather in your name. May our songs and prayers be a sweet sound in your ears. May we demonstrate our trust in you through both praise and lament. May our hearts yearn, our spirits stir, and our souls wait in holy hope and expectation. Amen.

* Call to Confession

We are called to wait on God, and to believe God's promise of life. As we wait and believe, let us confess to God our sins and receive the assurance of God's mercy.

*Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we can be so impatient. We have become used to instant gratification and have forgotten the holiness of the waiting. Help us to rest in your timing. Encourage us to persevere through struggles and storms. Reveal the unfolding of your kingdom before our eyes and empower us to be agents of transformation in the world as you infuse us with new life. Amen.

*Words of Assurance

Beloved, while we wait, we have grace to love fully, pursue liberty, and seek a just world. The Holy One has given us the blueprint and invitation to the path of new life. Follow Jesus with grace and in truth. **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.**

Pastoral Prayer

Silent 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 Thy peace. Amen.

Anthem

"10,000 Reasons" by Lloyd Larson

Choir

The Old Testament – Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The Gospel – Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.’

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow me and I will make you fish for people.’ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Message *“Waiting, Believing”* *Rev Paul Burden*

*Affirmation of Faith – An Affirmation Inspired by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events around us.

I refuse to believe we are bound by racism, war, and injustice.

I believe those around me are my brother and my sister.

I believe in dignity every day and that our brokenness can be healed.

I believe we can overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to it.

This means I seek to reject revenge and retaliation.

I remember, “Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can.”

— drawn from the writings of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Abigail Reichard, a student at Christian Theological Seminary. Posted on **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Worship Resources**, on the Disciples of Christ **Council on Christian Unity** website.

*Hymn *“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”* No 344

*Invitation to the Offering

Our communities and world rely upon the generosity of those who have received the Creator's abundance. Let us offer our gifts in the knowledge that some wait on us to act, to share, and to give.

*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

Eternal God, magnify these gifts that we return in gratitude and for your glory. Amen.

*Hymn *"Jesus Calls Us" No 337*

*Benediction

May the grace of God, the hope of God, and the communion of God rest and abide in you and shine through you as you arise in the world. Amen.

*Benediction Response

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a Shepherd's care enfold 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.

*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: T, W, Th, & Fri. 10:00am – 2:00pm + 513-661-3745

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Altar Flowers

♥ From Tony Ress to celebrate Julie Ress' birthday



Announcements

Our Annual Meeting will be held February 11th, immediately following service in Fellowship Hall.

Congregation and Steering Committees Discussions

Who Are We? Who is God Calling Us To Become?

Discussions will be held on February 18th, March 3rd and March 10th. Please sign up for ONE of the dates on the sign-up sheet outside the Pastor's Office.

Our Sunday morning worship on January 28 will include a brief moment of reflection and remembrance for Jean Genis. Jean passed away in 2020 at the age of 93. She was a dedicated member of St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ. Following the service everyone is invited to join us for a complimentary catered meal in the Fellowship Hall. If you plan to join us for the meal, please add your name to the sign-up sheet outside the Pastor's Study.

Our Lenten Prayer Partner program will be offered this season. If you would like to participate, please add your name to the sign-up sheet outside the Pastor's Study. You will be assigned someone to pray for during the Lenten season, and you will find out who has been praying for you on Easter Sunday.

Shrove Tuesday AKA Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner
February 13
6:00- 8:00 pm

This is actually the day before Lent begins. The day is named for the "shriving" or confessing that was traditional on this day before beginning Lent. This day is also known as Mardi Gras, or "Fat Tuesday," because it was a time for eating the things from which one would abstain during Lent. Pancake suppers are traditional as they were a way of using up some of the ingredients not needed during Lent.

We will honor the tradition by holding our annual pancake supper for the congregation. Sign up outside the Pastor Office.

SAVE THE DATE
Annual Easter Egg Hunt
March 23
2:00-3:30

Small individually wrapped candy and monetary donations would be greatly appreciated

Also just a reminder to please make sure you sign the Kindred Hearts attendance book.

JANUARY 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 HAPPY new YEAR	2 Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	3 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	4	5	6
7	8 Church & Ministry - 10 am F.H.	9 Property - 7pm - Par.	10 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	11	12	13
14	15 Jack Kohlmeyer Memorial 10:00am - Visitation 11:00am - Service	16	17 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	18	19	20 Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
21	22	23 Council - 7 pm - Rm. 107	24 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Book Club 5:30 - 7PM F.H. Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	25	26	27
28 Jean Genis Memorial Lunch 11:00am	29	30	31 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.			
NOTES:						