

St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ

November 1, 2026

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints Day + Totenfest

3001 Queen City Ave + 513.661.3745 + www.spspucc.org

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 at the table in the Narthex.
If you include your name and email, we will keep you updated on upcoming events and special worship services.

In our liturgy, please be mindful of the following:

- Sections with ** indicate please stand, whether in body or in spirit
- Congregation reads text in **BOLD PRINT**

GATHERING FOR PRAYER TIME BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 9:45AM

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS FOR PRAYER – Pastor Jade Kendall

LIVE STREAM BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 10:00AM

PRELUDE – Garrett Woods, Music Director

BRINGING CHRIST'S LIGHT INTO WORSHIP –
Youth Acolyte & Matthew Westermeyer, Senior Acolyte

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD IS GOOD (**ALL THE TIME!**) **–** AND ALL THE TIME (**GOD IS GOOD!**)

****CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVELY)** – Bob Hedspeth, Liturgist
God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble.
We gather in grief and gratitude, remembering those whose lives have shaped our own.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
We bring our sorrow to the God whose mercy endures forever.

Before the throne of God stands a great multitude,
from every nation and people, gathered in the light of everlasting love.
We trust that neither life nor death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Come, let us worship the One who makes all things new.
With thankful hearts and steadfast hope, let us worship God together.

****OPENING HYMN**: "For All The Saints" (No. 637)

****INVOCATION (UNISON)**

Eternal God, Alpha and Omega, you are the beginning and the end, the source of life and the keeper of our days. On this sacred day of remembrance, we bring before you those we have loved and lost. Their names remain with us; their stories are woven into ours. We give thanks for the gifts they shared, and we acknowledge the ache of their absence. Meet us in our remembering. Comfort those who mourn, strengthen those whose hope is weary, and remind us that we are held in a love greater than death. Through Jesus Christ, who promises new life, and by the power of your Holy Spirit, draw us into the hope of your everlasting kingdom. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

****PRAYER OF CONFESSION (RESPONSIVELY)**

Eternal God, source of our life and keeper of our days, we come before you in need of your mercy and grace.
Forgive us, O God, when fear overshadows faith, grief dims our hope, and we forget that we are held in your everlasting love.

We confess that we struggle with loss, cling to what we cannot keep, and sometimes turn away from the sorrow of others.
Meet us in our grief, O God. Teach us to remember with gratitude, to mourn without shame, and to entrust our loved ones to your tender care.

Renew us by your Spirit, that we may live as people of resurrection hope, loving deeply and trusting in your promise of new life.
Forgive us, restore us, and hold us in your grace. May we live in the sure and certain hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

****WORDS OF GRACE**

Hear the Good News: the love of God is everlasting, the grace of Christ is sufficient, and the promise of new life endures beyond the bounds of our understanding. In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and held in a love that neither life nor death can overcome. People of God, take heart. Your grief is met with compassion, your hope is sustained by grace, and your life rests in the hands of the Eternal One.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! 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. AMEN.**

PLEASE BE SEATED.

TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER – Pastor Jade Kendall

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)
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: "Let The Words Of My Mouth" (No. 301)
**LET THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH, AND MY HEART'S MEDITATION
BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU, O GOD.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: "In Heavenly Love Abiding" – arr. Elwood Coggin

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

NEW TESTAMENT: Revelation 7:9-17
After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,

'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-3
Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.'

MESSAGE:
"Tears In Heaven" by Pastor Jade Kendall

****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON)**
Psalm 23 (KJV)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

****HYMN OF REFLECTION**: "Abide With Me" (No. 636)

****INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**
In gratitude for the lives that have touched our own and in hope of the eternal life promised in Christ, let us offer our tithes, gifts, time, talents, and our very selves to God. May all that we give bring comfort to those who grieve, compassion to those in need, and hope to generations yet to come.

****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 (UNISON)**

Gracious and Eternal God, we give you thanks for the lives we remember, the love we have received, and the hope we find in Jesus Christ. Receive these gifts as an offering of our gratitude and faith. Dedicate them to the work of your church, that they may bring comfort to the grieving, care to those in need, and hope to the world. May all we give and all we do bear witness to your enduring love and the promise of new life. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SERVICE OF TOTENFEST

READER: Joel Westermeyer
BELL TOLLING: Bob Hedspeth
CANDLE LIGHTING: Mary Beth Westermeyer

Lord God, all glory be to you, 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.

We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses – patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets and psalmists, disciples and evangelists, martyrs and saints.

We thank you for their lives of faith. For your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live, who followed, obeyed, and adored you – we gratefully honor them.

Our loved ones now resting in you, who guided us, nurtured and cared for us; ancestors who worked and traveled, lived and died so that we might be who we are, where we are – your precious children in this community of believers, called St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ.

We thank you for their example. We praise you for their lives of faith, for all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to die, who counted you their great reward – accept our thankful cry.

We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses – family members and members of this congregation; fellow believers in every country, every denomination, and every age.

We thank you for their example. We praise you for their lives of faith. For this, your name we bless and humbly pray anew, that we, like them, may live and die in you. We celebrate the gift of life and remember the members and friends of St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ that have now entered the Church Triumphant:

Members of St. Peter & St. Paul United Church of Christ

Judith "Judy" Ann Graham
March 11, 1941–August 25, 2024
(aged 83 years)

Barbara Jean Ciers
March 21, 1941–December 7, 2025
(aged 84 years)

Joan Marie Moritz
December 31, 1934–December 9, 2025
(aged 90 years)

Elizabeth "Liz" LaVerne Zeek
September 24, 1938–June 23, 2026
(aged 87 years)

Glenda "Carroll" Frank
June 10, 1935–July 19, 2026
(aged 91 years)

Rev. Robert "Bob" John Keely
August 27, 1940–September 5, 2026
(aged 86 years)

Andrew "Andy" Herman Hitz
November 15, 1951–September 30, 2026
(aged 74 years)

Friends of St. Peter & St. Paul United Church of Christ

Don Kenneth Schmidt
June 26, 1947–August 8, 2017
(aged 70 years)

Rita Ann Schmidt
July 30, 1948–May 29, 2024
(aged 75 years)

Joyce Loraine Black
August 5, 1942–March 22, 2026
(aged 83 years)

Beverly Anne Birkofer
April 4, 1937–July 29, 2026
(aged 89 years)

Robert Emmet Seery
June 9, 1939–October 12, 2026
(aged 87 years)

Robert "Bob" Charles Blaut
May 13, 1971–October 18, 2026
(aged 55 years)

Candle Lighting Ceremony – A Time Of Reflection & Remembrance

During this time in our Totenfest service, we invite members of the congregation to come forward and light a candle in memory of loved ones who have gone before us. As we light each candle, we remember the lives they touched, the love they shared, and the ways they continue to live on in our hearts. May these lights be a symbol of our remembrance, our gratitude, and the hope we share in God's eternal love.

"WE REMEMBER THEM" -- by Rev. Sylvan Kamens and Rabbi Jack Riemer
(military chaplains who served during WWII)

At the rising of the sun and at its going down, we remember them.
At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember them.
At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.
At the beginning of the year and when it ends, we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.
When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joy we crave to share, we remember them.
When we have decisions that are difficult to make, we remember them.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs, we remember them.
As long as we live, they too will live; for they are now a part of us as we remember them.

****CLOSING HYMN**: "In The Bulb There Is A Flower" (No. 638)

****BENEDICTION**

****BENEDICTION RESPONSE**:
"The Lord Bless You And Keep You" (No. 446)
THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU.
THE LORD LIFT HIS COUNTENANCE UPON YOU,
AND GIVE YOU PEACE, AND GIVE YOU PEACE.
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON YOU
AND BE GRACIOUS, AND BE GRACIOUS;
THE LORD BE GRACIOUS, GRACIOUS UNTO YOU.
AMEN, AMEN, AMEN, AMEN, AMEN, AMEN, AMEN.

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH US TODAY AT
ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

In case of pastoral care emergency, please text/call
PASTOR JADE KENDALL
pastorjadespsp@gmail.com + 513.478.0867

If you are in need of pastoral care or would like to submit a prayer request, please email:
PastoralCareSPSP@gmail.com
We would love to connect with you and include your
joy or concern in our church family prayer chain.

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



11/03 – NANCY DORNETTE

11/07 – JO ANN IIAMES

11/14 – MIKE MILLER

11/15 – CAROL KLARE

11/16 – GLENN FRANK

11/20 – JENNIFER MILLER

11/22 – SUE LALOSH



11/08 – AARON WESTERMEYER &
HOPE KARNES



Washington UCC
Cincinnati's urban core

GIFTS TO THE MANGER

PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO
ST. PETER & ST. PAUL BY
<u>SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29</u>

The Christ Child was born into poverty and gifted by the Magi. What better way to celebrate Jesus' birth than to do the same for children in our neighborhood.

The Gifts to the Manger program provides new toys, clothing, socks, underwear, hats and gloves for about 100 low-income families representing 300 children.

Ways your church can bless these children:

- Pray for our families and this ministry of Washington UCC
- Collect gifts for the children
- Donate money. Washington will do the shopping for you.
- Volunteer on Dec. 12 and/or 13 to distribute the gifts. It's a beautiful display of God's abundant love poured out for God's beloved children. Housing provided for overnight guests.

www.washingtonucc.org/gifts-manger
Contact Pastor Melissa - melissa@washingtonucc.org

PLEASE SEE BOBBIE MORGAN FOR DETAILS!!!!

NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Totenfest Service  Communion	**2** Church & Ministry - 11:30 am - Annex	**3** Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	**4** Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm - Annex Bells - 5:30 - 6:30 pm - F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	**5** Mens Bible Study - 6:30-8 pm - Annex	**6** Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 am - Annex	**7**
8	**9**	**10** Property - 7pm - Annex	**11** Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm - Annex Bells - 5:30 - 6:30 pm - F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	**12** Mens Bible Study - 6:30-8 pm - Annex	**13** Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 am - Annex	**14**
15	**16**	**17** Stewadrship Meeting- 7 pm - Annex	**18** Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm - Annex Bells - 5:30 - 6:30 pm - F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	**19** Mens Bible Study - 6:30-8 pm - Annex	**20** Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 am - Annex	**21** Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
22	**23**	**34** Council - 7 pm - Annex	**25** Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm - Annex Bells - 5:30 - 6:30 pm - F.H. Book Club 5:30 - 7PM F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	**26** Mens Bible Study - 6:30-8 pm - Annex 	**27** Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 am - Annex	**28**
29 Advent Luncheon Communion	**30**		**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**