



**ST. PETER'S**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

A Shepherd's Look  
at  
**PSALM 23**

**Part 3**

Even though I walk through the valley of darkness /  
Your rod and staff, they comfort me /  
You prepare a table before me



**November 21, 2021**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\*(Stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Greeting      Announcements      Birthdays      Anniversaries*

PRELUDE: “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”,  
Johannes Brahms

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\*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Karen Geduldig)*

Leader: Rejoice in the light of the morning! Give thanks  
for the sun's energy, even through clouds!

**People: God has spoken to us and meets us here.  
We live in covenant with the Eternal One.**

Leader: Gather in the spirit of Jesus, whose name we  
bear! Thank God for truth that lives in spite  
of death!

**People: We celebrate the faithful witness of Jesus  
Christ. We seek to share the good news that  
Christ reigns.**

Leader: The Spirit encounters us here that we might  
learn. The Spirit inspires us that we might serve.

**People: God anoints us for ministry, giving us tasks  
to do. God's word is on our tongues, that the  
world may believe.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE: #561 *“We Gather Together”*

## **\*THE MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION** *(Unison)*

Speak to us, eternal God, through the representatives you anoint to proclaim your Word. Grant that all in authority will speak truthfully, rule justly, and serve selflessly. Find your dwelling place today, not just in this sanctuary, but in our hearts and lives-and not just today, but every day. May we know your grace and peace as we honor your majesty, bowing in awe before the one who was, and is, and is to come. Amen.

### **\*GLORIA PATRI** #623

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.

### **HEBREW LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-11** *(Karen Geduldig)*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #337 *"Pass Me Not"*

*Pastoral Prayer      The Lord's Prayer*

## **A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: MATTHEW 10:16-23 (*Karen Geduldig*)

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

## **A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH MUSIC**

ANTHEM: "Shout to the Lord", arr. Jack Schrader

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## **“A SHEPHERD’S LOOK AT PSALM 23 - PART 3”**

Even though I walk through the valley of darkness /  
Your rod and staff, they comfort me / You prepare a table before me

### **A TIME OF GIVING**

#### **OFFERING INVITATION**

**OFFERTORY:** “The Shadow of Death”, Daniel Jacky

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**\*Doxology #625 unison prayer of dedication**

praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures here below;  
praise God above ye Heavenly host; \*\*  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(\*\*alternate: Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen)*

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

### **A TIME OF GOING OUT**

#### **THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(We offer one another the peace of Christ for the week ahead.)*

**\*HYMN SENDING FORTH #559** “Come, Ye Thankful  
People, Come”

#### **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** “-Praise to the Lord”, the Almighty, A. W. Leupold

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**Everyone is Welcome! Feel at home, for Christ Jesus is our host. If you are visiting for the first time, we are delighted to have you here!**

The Psalmist sings: *“Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing... thanksgiving... and praise.”*  
We pray peace and joy to you, dear friend.

## **WORSHIP TEAM**

Senior Pastor	Pastor Chris Buckingham-Taylor
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Organist/Choir Director	Daniel Jacky
Scripture Reader	Karen Geduldig
Ushers	Gary Thompson, Fred Helyes, Betty Pekare



## **Operation Christmas Child**



I want to thank all of you who participated in packing Christmas Shoeboxes this year. St. Peter's delivered 39 shoeboxes to our local collection site. Next these boxes will be prepared for international shipping. In the bulletin this morning you will find a bookmark to encourage you to pray not only for the child who will receive your gifts, but for all the people involved in its amazing journey. ***Blessings and Peace!*** Linda Gatz

## **ALTAR GUILD NEEDS HELP!**

The Altar Guild urgently needs help for their team. The duties will include Preparation of Sanctuary for church service, Baptisms and Weddings, and Restocking Supplies. Members pair up with the Veteran Altar Guild. Your service would probably be 3 alternating months. If you think this is something you would like to be part of, please contact **Lynn Hollstein at 440-988-8066**. *Thank you in advance for helping our team!*

## **Congregational Meeting December 5, 2021**

Please mark your calendar for our Congregational Meeting that will take place immediately after worship on Dec. 5 to present the budget and vote on nominations. You should have received an email or mail (snail mail) of the minutes from the Congregational Meeting on February 28, 2021.

## **Update on Stewardship Cards and Participation**

The yellow Participation cards and the orange Stewardship Pledge cards are now placed by the bulletins and also in the pews. Please take a moment to fill out and drop into the offering place. *Participation cards should be filled out weekly.* Thank you!

## **Circle Six Announcements!**

Circle Six is pleased to announce the return of **“The Gift of Music” featuring violinist Mary Beth Ions** on Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. Tickets are free and can be picked up in the church office or from any Circle Six member. Donations will be accepted and refreshments will be available in Fellowship Hall afterwards.



Circle Six's **December meeting has been changed** to December 8 at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own boxed dinner and beverage.



## Annual Cookie Sale

Circle Six will be holding it's **Annual Cookie Sale** on Sunday, **December 12** in Fellowship Hall - \$6.00/lb. We are asking all members of Circle Six to bake a minimum of 3 dozen cookies and have them delivered to the church by 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 11. We would also like to invite any member of St. Peter's to volunteer to bake as well – just contact Sally Readinger at 440-222-3414 if you are able to help.

## Update from Sunday School

Don't forget next week's **noisy collection**. It will help to purchase Christmas dinners for needy Amherst families.

We also need donations for the Christmas dinners. Baskets will be in front of the lectern and pulpit. Items such as scalloped potatoes, canned vegetables, canned gravy, and anything nonperishable that would work well for Christmas dinner.

Anyone that would like to help pack the boxes for the Thanksgiving dinners, please be in the church kitchen at 10 a.m., Monday, November 22.

**Thank you!** Jessie Kubuske, Director of Christian Education

## Wednesday Worship Service: Breeze Chapel

Wednesdays from 7-7:30 p.m. in person in St. Peter's Chapel. If you can't make our Sunday worship *or* if you need an inspiring pick-me-up, come for a 30-minute intimate service. Please enter by the door to the Chapel that faces the parking lot. *All are welcome!*





## FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is currently in the need of the following items:

Canned Meat (Tuna, Chicken)	Kleenex	Paper Towels
Canned Soup (Pop top lids)	Spaghetti Sauce	Pasta
Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)	Peanut Butter	Jelly
Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)	Oatmeal Cereal	

Please leave your donations in the drop of boxes at the church.  
Thank you to Pam Miskov and for *your* generous donations!

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Coffee  Chats  
with PASTOR CHRIS

Meet the Pastor at Arabica's  
254 Park Ave., Amherst  
**Every Wednesday from 9-11:00 a.m.**

*Everyone is welcome!*

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*Grant that all in authority will speak truthfully,  
rule justly, and serve selflessly.*



## **Hanging of The Greens**

Today is our **Hanging of The Greens** after the worship service. Please join us in decorating for the Advent Season!

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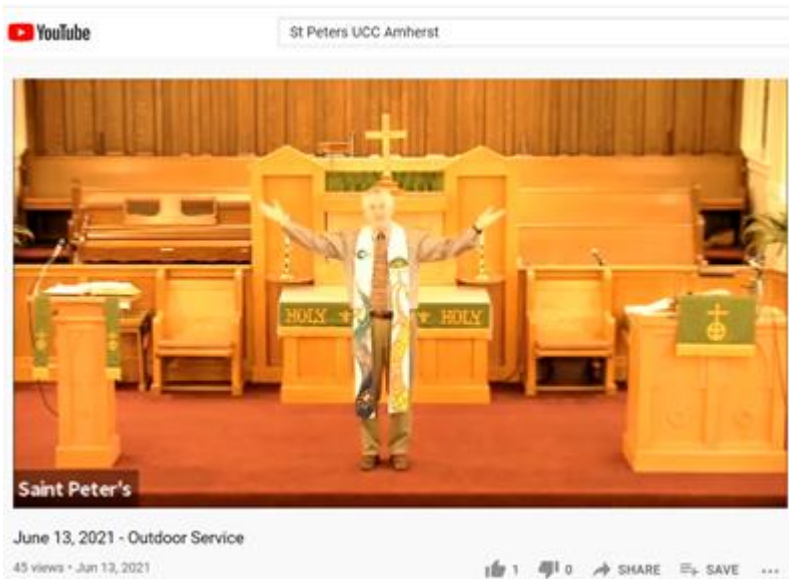
### **Friends of St. Peters,**

You will notice some changes in the sanctuary this week—the blue tape and pew ropes are gone and hymnals and Bibles are back! As a precaution, masks are still encouraged, especially when you are in close proximity to another person. Hand sanitizer can be found in the pews. We want to continue to protect the vulnerable as we *care for us and care for others*.


As we begin to return to a more “normal” service, beginning in November we will no longer be emailing pdfs of the Sunday hymns with the bulletin. If you would like to continue to sing along on Zoom you can request a church hymnal to be delivered to you, or you can pick one up in the church office! However, you chose to obtain a copy, please take this opportunity to connect with and get to know Pastor Chris!

Looking forward to seeing you in person or Live on Zoom!

Mary-K Kirsch  
Council President



## St. Peter's is on YouTube!

Please be sure to visit our YouTube channel ~ **St Peters UCC Amherst** ~ and be sure to click the SUBSCRIBE button. Then share our channel with your friends! The more subscribers we have, the greater our visibility on YouTube and the more we share the good news! 

## Sunday Morning Zoom Worship

For our Zoom worship you will join one another through a free video and audio conference application. Download the Zoom app to your smartphone, computer, or tablet and use the meeting login below:

**Join from Zoom app:**

**Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205**

**Join Zoom Meeting from computer:**

<https://zoom.us/j/5244113917?pwd=aEJEcGhWUUh2dTV4eGJBSDZlUWgwzd09>

**OR Call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099**

**Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205**



## This Week's Events

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Mon., Nov. 22	Spiritual Life 1-4:00 PM
Tue., Nov. 23	Bible Study 7:00 PM Zoom
Wed., Nov. 24	Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris 9-11:00 AM Arabica Coffee in Amherst Breeze Chapel 7:00 PM
Thurs., Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Day Office Closed
Fri., Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Holiday Office Closed
Sun., Nov. 28	Sunday Service 10:00 AM

## How To Reach Us

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**Office Hours:** Mon.–Fri. 8:30-12:30 PM and 1-2:30 PM  
Afternoons available by appointment with Pastor Chris

**Address:** 582 Church St. Amherst OH 44001

**Website:** [www.stpetersamherst.org](http://www.stpetersamherst.org)

**Phone:** 440-988-4965

Chris Buckingham-Taylor, Pastor  
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Mary-K Kirsch, Church Council President  
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Kaye Oswald, Church Office, Administrative Secretary  
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would like more detailed information, contact the church office.



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