



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MISSING CHILD ALERT MISSING CHILD ALERT MISSING CHILD ALERT
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AMBER
ALERT

**HAVE YOU
SEEN
ME?**

NAME: Jesus
FROM: Nazareth
DOB: Dec. 25
HAIR: Brown
SEX: Male
AGE: 12
EYES: Brown



First Sunday after Christmas
December 26, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**(Stand as you are able.)*

GATHERING MUSIC

Greeting Announcements Birthdays Anniversaries

PRELUDE: “Praeludium in C Major”, Dietrich Buxtehude

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Men and women, old and young, together:
Praise God and exalt the Author of Life.

**People: Praise God in the highest heavens.
Praise God, all dwellers on the earth.**

Leader: God commanded, and we were created.
God sustains us and enables us to grow.

**People: Praise God, all who seek to live in
faithfulness. Glorify God’s name and join
the loving community.**

Leader: Know that we are chosen by God, holy and
beloved. We are called into one body, the church
of Jesus Christ.

**People: Let us draw close to God and to one another.
Let us join with all creation to worship God.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #155 “Once in Royal David’s City”

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

Height and breadth, length and depth, the whole universe proclaims your glory, faithful God. Your wisdom fills the universe with possibilities we have not tapped. Your Word comes to us filled with riches we have not mined. *Within ourselves is the potential for greatness as yet unrealized.* Confront us here with your eternal claim on us that we may become the kind, compassionate, and *patient* people you intend for us to be. 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: PSALM 148

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above
the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded
and they were created.

He established them forever and ever; he fixed their
bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all
deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling
his command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Prayer

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #157 *"Away in a Manger"*

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: LUKE 2:41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. *When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days* they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and

came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "REAL HOME"

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

**OFFERTORY: Variations on "Puer Nobis Nacitur"
(For Us a Son Was Born), Christ Rakich**

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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 #167 "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Go Tell It on the Mountain", arr. Dan Forest

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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	Judy McCurdy
Ushers	Judy McCurdy, Fred Helyes, Geoff Gatz, Linda Gatz



ALTAR GUILD STILL 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!*

Altar Flowers Signup

The signup sheet for Altar Flowers will be available in the book on the table at the back of the church (the green binder), ready for signup in 2022. If you need help, there is an information sheet, "Altar Guild Flower Process", that explains the procedure.

Questions? Please call Lynn Hollstein at **440-988-8066**.

Please note: Altar Guild has silk flower arrangements available to use in place of fresh flowers. A donation would be appreciated. Thank you!

Update from Sunday School

We were able to donate 12 Christmas hams with the trimmings to Amherst High School this past week thanks to your noisy collection donations as well as donations of actual goods. Many thanks to those that helped pack and deliver: Carol and Allan Murphy, Linda Gatz, and Lynda Helyes. Many hands make light work! Our December and January noisy collection will go toward our local "sleep in heavenly peace" which is called "Good Knights". They build beds for children that don't have one, as well as buy bedding for those beds.

Our Gingerbread Bash was a huge success! We had 12 families registered, with a total of 23 children for the in person event on December 5. We also had 8 families participate virtually!

Thank you! Jessie Kubuske, Director of Christian Education



Caring for Us



Caring for Others



Praising God

Stewardship Cards and Participation Cards

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 plate. *Participation cards should be filled out weekly.* Thank you.

If anyone has church keys that you no longer need, please return them to the church office. Thank you!



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!

He answered them, "Whoever has two shirts should share with the person who doesn't have any. Whoever has food should share it too." Luke 3:11

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!

Friends of St. Peters,

COVID protocol update:

With the coronavirus still around, while in the building, masks are still encouraged, especially when you are in close proximity to another person who is not in your personal "circle."

Hand sanitizer can be found in the pews for your convenience.

Let us continue to care for ourselves and each other by doing our part to keep Covid at bay.

Mary-K Kirsch
Council President

Wednesday Worship Service: Breeze Chapel

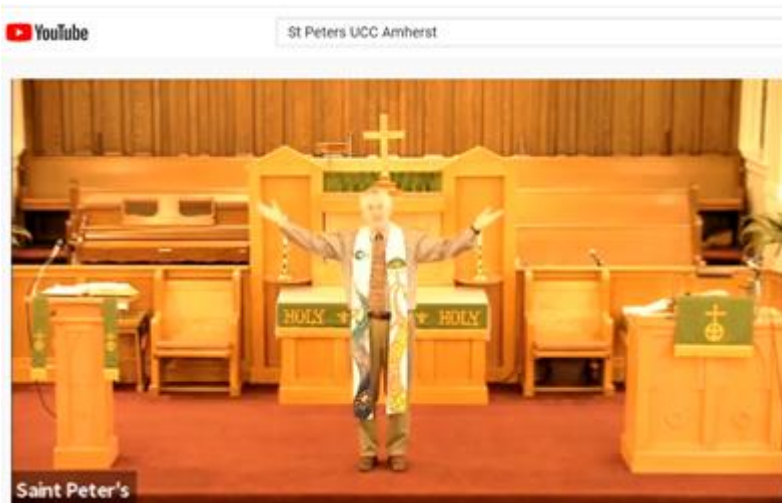
Wednesdays from 7-7:30 p.m. in person in St. Peter's Chapel. If you can't make our Sunday worship *or* if you need an inspiring pick-me-up, come for a 30-minute intimate service. Please enter by the door to the Chapel that faces the parking lot. *All are welcome!*




The landscape frozen white,
the earth in stillness holds its breath,
waiting for God's footprints.

*The Word was made flesh,
and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory).*

JOHN 1:14



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=aEJEcGhWUHh2dTV4eGJBSDZlUWgwdz09>

OR Call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205



This Week's Events

Mon., Dec. 27	Spiritual Life 1-4:00 PM
Tue., Dec. 28	Bible Study 7:00 PM Zoom
Wed., Dec. 29	Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris 9-11:00 AM Arabica Coffee in Amherst Breeze Chapel Service 7:00 PM
Thurs., Dec. 30	Choir 6:30 PM & Handbell Choir 7:30 PM
Fri., Dec. 31	New Year's Eve
Sat., Jan. 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY!
Sun., Jan. 2	Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Communion

How To Reach Us

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

Phone: 440-988-4965

Chris Buckingham-Taylor, Pastor
pastor@stpetersamherst.org 920-650-0761

Mary-K Kirsch, Church Council President
president@stpetersamherst.org 216-559-6160

Kaye Oswald, Church Office, Administrative Secretary
admin.ofc@stpetersamherst.org 440-988-4965

Please visit our website, **www.stpetersamherst.org**
to make your donation electronically via Breeze or Paypal. If you
would like more detailed information, contact the church office.



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