



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD
WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD. HE WAS IN THE
BEGINNING WITH GOD. ALL THINGS CAME INTO BEING THROUGH
HIM, AND WITHOUT HIM NOT ONE THING CAME INTO BEING.

WHAT HAS COME INTO BEING IN HIM WAS LIFE, AND

THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE.



**AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH
AND LIVED AMONG US,**

AND WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY, THE GLORY AS OF
A FATHER'S ONLY SON, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.

Jesus

Second Sunday after Christmas

January 2, 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**(Stand as you are able.)*

GATHERING MUSIC

Greeting Announcements Birthdays Anniversaries

PRELUDE: “Adagio”, Alec Rowley

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: True light is entering our world through Jesus Christ. Sing for joy and praise God, all people.

People: **God’s Word makes the winds blow and water flow. Jesus Christ is God’s Word to us and for us.**

Leader: Receive the Word, and believe the good news. Know you are children of God, born of the Spirit.

People: **The Word became flesh to dwell with humanity. Grace and forgiveness are lavished upon us.**

Leader: Be radiant in appreciation of God’s goodness. Hear the Word of God and declare it to others.

People: **In Christ we have obtained an inheritance. Spiritual blessings are abundantly available to us.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #145 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*THE MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION *(Unison)*

From near and far, we come to worship. Amid our joys and sorrows, we come to praise. In our strength and in our weakness, we gather for refreshment and renewal. You have called us together like a shepherd keeps a flock. As a gardener waters growing plants, you care for us and provide for our growth. Praise be to you, O God, for your protecting love and freeing grace. Shine upon us here that we may know your truth and receive it into our lives. 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.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #140 *"A Communion Hymn for Christmas"*

Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Prayer

HEBREW LESSON: Jeremiah 3:7-14

And I thought, "After she has done all this she will return to me"; but she did not return, and her false sister Judah saw it. She saw that for all the adulteries of that faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce; yet her false sister Judah did not fear, but she too went and played the whore. Because she took her whoredom so lightly, she polluted the land, committing adultery with stone and tree. Yet for all this her false sister Judah did not return to me with her whole heart, but only in pretense, says the Lord. Then the Lord said to me: Faithless Israel has shown herself less guilty than false Judah.

Go, and proclaim these words toward the north, and say: Return, faithless Israel, says the Lord. I will not look on you in anger, for I am merciful, says the Lord; I will not be angry forever. Only acknowledge your guilt, that you have rebelled against the Lord your God, and scattered your favors among strangers under every green tree, and have not obeyed my voice, says the Lord. Return, O faithless children, says the Lord, for I am your master; I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion.

A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH MUSIC

Handbell Choir: “The Tallis Canon”, Douglas E. Wagner

(Based on the tune by Thomas Tallis) Lorenz Publishing. MCMXCII. Used by/with permission CCLI No. 20182679 streaming. Used by/with permission One License # A-724594.

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: JOHN 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to

become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "ALWAYS"

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY: "A Memory", James R. Gillette

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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 TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

SHARING THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

A TIME OF GOING OUT

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*HYMN SENDING FORTH #151 *“Good Christian Men,
Rejoice”*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Prélude”, Theodore Dubois

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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	Neil Wasilk
Ushers	Geoff Gatz, Linda Gatz



Church News

Men's Fellowship Update

Please note that the Men's Fellowship will not be meeting in the month of January. Please stay tuned.

"Tearing Down" the Greens

Sunday, January 9 we will be tearing down the Greens after worship. We'd appreciate any help we can get. *Thank you!*

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

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.

Thank you! Jessie Kubuske, Director of Christian Education

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.

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!*



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

Everyone is welcome!

**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!

*“From his fullness
we have all received,
grace upon grace.”*



A Note from Ida Horvatic's daughter, Tina

Ida has been battling stomach cancer. Radiation treatments in July and August did not show improvement. Treatments were stopped in September. The tumor is large and is blocking food from reaching stomach correctly. She is now in O'Neill Healthcare, 38600 Center Ridge Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039. She is in a regular room, but under hospice care. **Room phone is 440-242-8778.** Cards or calls would be appreciated. Thank you.

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



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=aEJEcGhWUUh2dTV4eGJBSDZIUWgwdz09>

OR Call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 524 411 3917 | Passcode: 379205

What's Happening

This Week's Events

- Mon., Jan. 3 Spiritual Life 1-4:00 PM
 Boy Scouts 6-8:30 PM
- Tue., Jan. 4 Preschool Returns
 Bible Study 7:00 PM Zoom
- Wed., Jan. 5 Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris 9-11:00 AM
 Arabica Coffee in Amherst
 Breeze Chapel 7:00 PM
- Thurs., Jan. 6 Compassionate Care 10:30 AM
 Girl Scouts 5:30-7:00 PM
 Choir 6:30 PM & Handbell Choir 7:30 PM
- Sun., Jan. 9 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM

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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