



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

HIGHER LAW

**"...first be reconciled to your
brother or sister, and then
come and offer your gift."**



February 12, 2023 | Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**(Stand as you are able.)*

GATHERING MUSIC

Greeting

Announcements

Birthdays

Anniversaries

PRELUDE: "Jesus, Lead Thou On", Paul Manz

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Happy are those who seek God with their whole heart.
Their eyes are fixed on all that God commands.

**People: We have come to reflect together on God's law.
It is hard to hear, in other places, what God expects.**

Leader: Ready yourselves to receive all that God supplies.
Attune your hearts to God's promises and warnings.

**People: We expect to be challenged as well as encouraged.
We know that our ways are not God's ways.**

Leader: God gives us choices that result in life or death.
We can obey or reject the way of life God intends for us.

**People: We seek to know and follow the way of life.
We want to live according to promises we
have made.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #26 *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

*THE MORNING PRAYER/INVOCATION *(Unison)*

We come to you, gracious God, as people of the flesh whose spirits are underdeveloped and undisciplined. We make decisions without giving consideration to your will for us. We pursue desires that divert our attention away from your call to us. We make gods of our possessions, our work, our hobbies, even our families. We need to experience your presence and power to bring us to obedience. Make yourself known to us, we pray. Amen.

RED BAG MOMENT

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #44 *"Children of the Heavenly Father"*

PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD'S PRAYER

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: MATTHEW 5:21-37 #786

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: "HIGHER LAW"

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*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 #441 *"Take Time To Be Holy"*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Psalm XIX", Marcello

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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
Organist	Allen Cadwallader
Zoom Director	Mary K. Kirsch
Worship Producer	Brian Schieferstein
Handbell Choir Director	Shelley Harmych
Scripture Reader	Shelley Harmych
Ushers	Fred Helyes, Susan Cherry Judy McCurdy, Earl Wiegand

Please join us for **coffee and snacks** immediately following the service downstairs in Fellowship Hall.

Church News

Council Retreat in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, February 18th | 9-12 PM

Council members, please join me for a "Retreat" here at the church. I look forward to seeing everyone this coming Saturday. Thank you for your faithfulness. -*Pastor Chris*

FOOD PANTRY

Good Shepherd Baptist Food Pantry has started the Weekend Children's Backpack Program (with #s doubling last year). We cannot let any child go hungry if it is in our power. Following are some suggestions that would be very helpful with this great need:

Single Serving PB & Jelly *	Peanut Butter Crackers	Small Bag Chips
Canned Soup (Pop top lids)	Individual Cereals	Small Bag Pretzels
Spaghetti-Os (Pop top lids)	Granola Bars	Fruit Cups
Mac & Cheese (Microwavable)	Oatmeal Packages	Jello Cups

We will also still collect 'regular food items' for families in addition to the Backpack Program. Please leave your donations in the drop off boxes at the church. **Al Murphy** will ensure that all items are transported to Good Shepherd Baptist Food Bank.

Thank you to everyone who continually donates.

St. Peter's **Craft Club**

Tuesday, February 28, 6:30-8:00 PM

Craft Club will start meeting on the last Tuesday of the month at the church starting on February 28 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. They will meet in the Fireside Room. All are welcome. Bring your current (or old) craft project to work on, and have some fun fellowship with other crafters! *We can't wait to see you then!*

Coffee Chats with PASTOR CHRIS

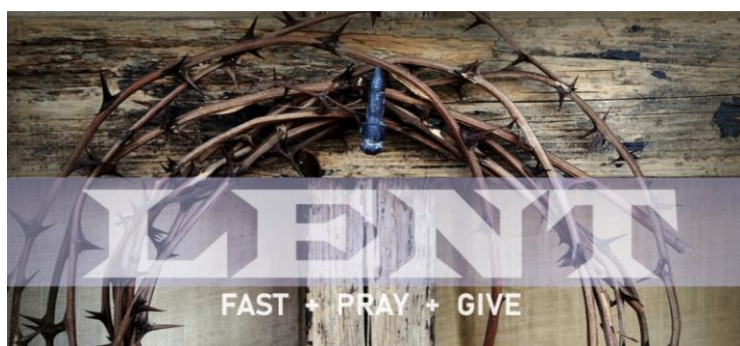
Meet the Pastor | Sandstone Coffee House, Amherst
Wednesday from 9-11:00 a.m.

Circle Six – Mark Your Calendar!

Circle Six is hosting a program titled **“The Mystery of the Shroud of Turin”** *presented by David M. Onyska* on Wed., March 15 at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. A reception will be held afterwards in Fellowship Hall. Tickets are free and donations will be welcome. Tickets can be obtained from Sally Readinger and are also available in the office.

February Sermon Scriptures:

2/5 – Matthew 5:13-20 2/12 – Matthew 5:21-37 2/19 – Matthew 17:1-9
2/22 – Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 Ash Wednesday 7PM 2/26 – Matthew 4:1-11



Ash Wednesday Service, Feb. 22 at 7PM

When we sacrifice things that this world tells us we need, it can remind us that only God can truly satisfy our spiritual hunger. Lent's three pillars are prayer, fasting and almsgiving—meaning that we're called to do more than just abstain from a particular food or activity. It involves not only what we're willing to give up, but what we're willing to take on. When we think about what to give up for Lent, we ought to also think about what sort of commitment to prayer and ability to be charitable that we can hold ourselves to.

St. Peter's Preschool Hours

MWF: 9-12 PM morning class

Tues./Thurs.: 9-12 PM morning & 12:30-3:15 PM afternoon

Wendy Kosakowski, Director, phone: 440-985-1972

We are no longer collecting plastic bags for recycling.
Thanks to those that have contributed to this cause.

Please take a moment to fill out the yellow Participation cards and drop into the offering plate. *Participation cards should be filled out weekly.* Thank you!

Help us continue to move forward in faith by submitting your pledge cards. If you need a card, you can find one on the table by the bulletins or in the church office. Thank you.

YOGA with Mary-K

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM

Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM

Our Wednesday morning, and Thursday evening class will meet in the lower level of St. Peter's Church. Please arrive by 8:25 a.m. for the morning class, and by 5:55 p.m. for the evening class. Enter through the door by the Chapel. Cost is \$10.

“Commitment to the needs
of the world, is a sign of the
presence of God in us.”

-Joan Chittister, *The Breath of the Soul*

Join us LIVE on **Facebook: St. Peter's UCC Amherst, OH**

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

(or call in with phone: 1 929 205 6099)

The service will be posted at a later date to view on our

YouTube channel: St Peters UCC Amherst

NEW! Be sure to check out ***"A minute with Pastor Chris"***
on YouTube! Also, please Subscribe, Like and Share!



----- **This Week's Events** -----

Mon., Feb. 13	Pastor Chris will be out of office in the morning
Tues., Feb. 14	Bible Study 7 PM Zoom
Wed., Feb. 15	YOGA with Mary-K 8:30-9:45 AM Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris, Sandstone 9-11 AM Brownhelm Clergy Meeting 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 6-7 PM Breeze Chapel 7 PM
Thurs., Feb. 16	YOGA with Mary-K 6-7:15 PM Handbell Choir Practice 7:15 PM
Sat., Feb. 18	Council Retreat in Fellowship Hall 9-12 PM
Sun., Feb. 19	Worship Service 10 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

Christine Burman, Church Council President
president@stpetersamherst.org 440-522-8035

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

Please visit our website, **www.stpetersamherst.org**
to make your donation electronically via Breeze or Paypal.
Also, we now have the ability to accept donations by TEXT!
For more detailed information, contact the church office.



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