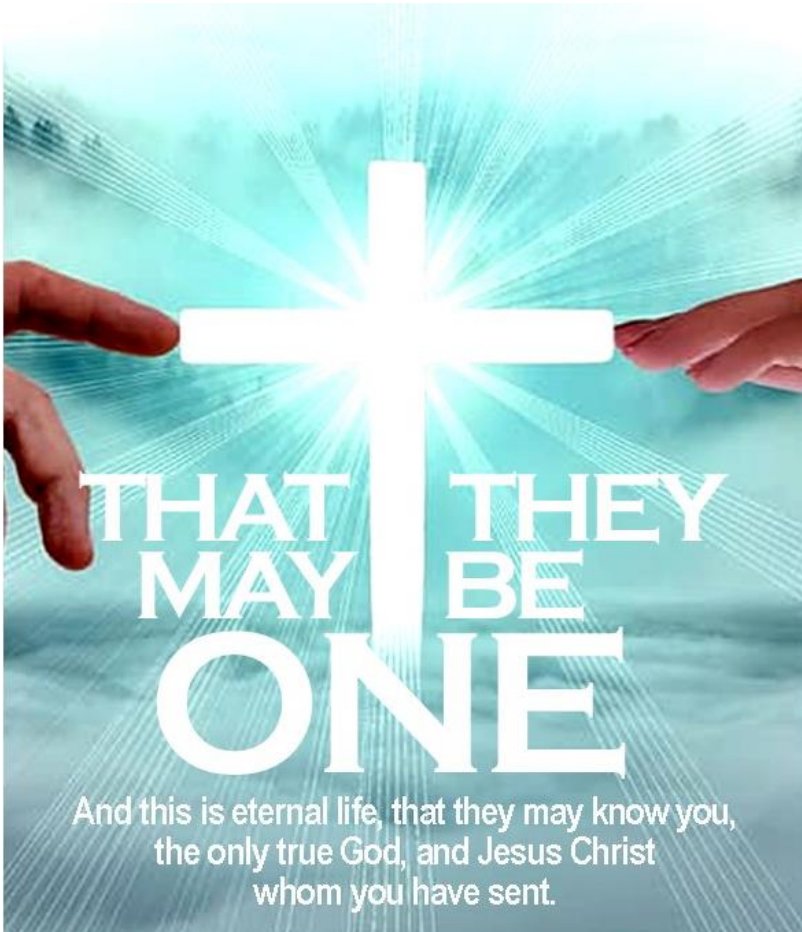




ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



May 21, 2023 | Seventh Sunday of Easter

ORDER OF WORSHIP

(Stand as you are able.)

GATHERING MUSIC

Greeting Announcements Birthdays Anniversaries

PRELUDE: "Pastorale", Corelli

CALL TO WORSHIP **(Stand as you are able.)**

Leader: In awe and wonder, we lift our eyes to the heavens. We raise our songs of joy to the Ruler of all time and space.

**People: Sing praises to God, sing praises;
Shout to God with loud songs of joy.**

Leader: We gather to remember the One who shared our common lot. Jesus Christ, who visited this earth, dwells in heaven.

**People: We celebrate the life and ministry of Jesus.
We rejoice in the hope to which Christ has called us.**

Leader: We open ourselves to baptism with the Holy Spirit. We expect to be empowered as witnesses in today's world.

**People: We seek a spirit of wisdom and revelation.
We are here to be filled with power from on high.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: #494 *"Like a River Glorious"*

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

As Christ ascended to heaven, our spirits are lifted to you this day, O God. Your Spirit fills all the universe. We dwell within your embrace and cannot escape from your watchful care. You are with us here, choosing us as apostles and instructing us in the way we should go. Focus our limited understanding on the person of Jesus, that all he did and taught might come alive in us during this hour. Grant to us convincing proof of your promises as we welcome your winds of change in our lives. Amen. *(Please be seated.)*

RED BAG MOMENT

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #497 *"Near To The Heart of God"*

PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD'S PRAYER

A TIME OF LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: JOHN 17:1-11 #879

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION: *"WHY WE SUFFER"*

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Doxology **(Stand as you are able.)* #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. *(Please be seated.)*
*(**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: #498 *"Peace Like a River"*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Voluntary in G major", Henry Heron

(Please remain seated "quietly" during the postlude.)

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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	Sally Readinger
Ushers	Fred Helyes, Gary Thompson, Earl Wiegand, Karen Geduldig

Church News



Flowers on the Altar

May 22nd will be two years since the passing of Crystal Diaz. She is deeply missed. Flowers on the altar are given *in loving memory* from her beloved husband, Art Diaz and his family. May God comfort the hearts of



family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.



Boy Scouts Distributing Flowers May 24th

The Boy Scout will be in the back parking lot on Wednesday, May 24th around 6-6:30 PM and do a quick sorting. Flowers can be picked up by 7:30 PM.

Kobiakov Updates

On Sunday at church I announced that Anton and Nataliia will be celebrating their 20th Wedding Anniversary on June 13th. I suggested that it would be nice to shower them with cards and notes and that they could be dropped off in the church office.

Hlib's girlfriend, Milana, will be representing the Ukrainian Church in Lorain at this year's International Festival. On June 20th she will be part of the Sacred Music Concert held at St. Peter's Church in Lorain at 7:00p.m. The church is on one level and has plenty of parking in front and behind the building. Geoff and I have attended the concert before and the music has been great. There is no cost and it is a nice way to show your support for the Ukrainians. *Thanks, Linda*



Please help our partnership with Good Shepherd Baptist Food Pantry with the Weekend Children's Backpack Program. We cannot let any child go hungry. Following are suggested food items:

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. Pam Miskov will make sure donations are delivered. *Thanks Pam and to everyone who donates.*



JOIN US! Tuesday, June 27, 6:30-8:00 PM

Everyone is welcome to join us at Craft Club. Our meeting is always the last Tuesday of the month, at the church, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Please bring your current (or old) craft project to work on, and come have some fun fellowship with other crafters! *We can't wait to see you!*

Strengthen the Church Offering | May 28, 2023

The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ. Thank you for your support!

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 28

MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 29

The office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Vacations

I will be out next week Monday, May 22, returning Friday, May 26th. Christine Burman will be in the office morning hours. You can also contact Pastor Chris on his mobile 1-920-650-0761 in case of an emergency. *Thanks, Kaye*

Starting **Monday, Memorial Day through June 3rd**, Pastor Chris will be off for a well-deserved vacation. Physical rest is good for the soul and enables you to recharge. Enjoy your time off Pastor Chris and thank you for all you do!



RUMMAGE SALE UPDATE!

Starting in June donated items for the Rummage Sale can be brought to the church during business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:30-2:30 PM and Sunday mornings. Please put items on the long tables at the front of the Fellowship Hall. Please, no clothing or shoes. If you need to bring your items in through the elevator, please call the church office at (440) 988-4965 and Kaye will let you in.

If you're interested in helping, please contact Sue Conkle (440) 537-1749 or Mary-K Kirsch (216) 559-6160.

YOGA with Mary-K

St. Peter's UCC, enter Chapel door to the lower level | Cost: \$10

Wednesday Mornings | 8:30-9:45 AM (arrive by 8:25 AM)

Thursday Evenings | 6:00-7:15 PM (arrive by 5:55 PM)

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!

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., May 22 Spiritual Life Visitations
Tues., May 23 Bible Study 7 PM Zoom
Wed., May 24 YOGA with Mary-K 8:30-9:45 AM
Coffee Chats with Pastor Chris, Sandstone 9-11 AM
Boy Scouts -flowers | back parking lot | after 6 PM
Breeze Chapel 7 PM
Thurs., May 25 YOGA with Mary-K 6-7:15 PM | No Handbell practice
Sun., May 28 Worship Service 10 AM - Strengthen the Church

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.

