



ST. PETER'S United Church of Christ

310 North Meadow Street (Grant Park, IL 60940)

Sunday School--9:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Church Office – (815) 465-6191

Parsonage phone – (815) 466-4048 Pastor's Cell – (567) 249-5130

Website: www.stpetersgp.org

Email: stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net

Facebook: St. Peters UCC Grant Park

February 4th, 2024

* In the way you are able, whether in body or in spirit, please rise.

Welcome & Announcements

Kevin Mussman

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude

“Let All Things Now Living” (*Purifoy*)

Lighting of the Candles

Tyler Couwenhoven

*Call to Worship

Kevin Mussman

Leader: The word of God came to Jonah.

People: **The word of God comes to us:**

Leader: Go, despite your fears!

People: **Speak the truth of God.**

Leader: Love your neighbor and your enemy.

People: **Forgive as you have been forgiven.**

Leader: Receive grace upon grace which overflows from
the fullness of God.

People: **Our God is amazing, full of compassion and mercy.**

*Prayer of Invocation

*Opening Worship

“He Has Made Me Glad”

#657

“Awesome God”

#658

Scripture Reading

2 Chronicles 7:11-16

Kevin Mussman

Children’s Sermon

Adult Choir

“Open My Eyes” (*Nolan*)

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn**

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

#382

Observance of the Lord’s Supper

Worshipping God with our Offerings

Offertory

“Air Baroque” (*Stanley*)

Doxology

#34

Scripture Reading

Jonah 3

Sermon

“Fish Stories: The Amazing Compassion of God”

***Closing Hymn**

“God Really Loves Us”

Insert/Screen

***Closing Prayer & Benediction**

***Postlude**

“Little Postlude in C” (*Bach*)

We at St. Peter’s are praying for:

Gene Sievers, Carter Fortin, Linda Havelly, Taylor Cleary, Joy Currier, Heather Phillips, Sandy Erickson, Dorothy Kutemeier, Judy Schneider, Delores Schimmin, Pamela Nolan, Katheryn Hickey-Scott, Ann Wessman, Roger Sturm, Kristopher Meyer, Bill Riley, Larry Erickson, Jeff Jones, Craig Schneider, Dean Lohrbach, Jackqueline Dupuis, Tom Kastner, Margaret Kastner, Kim Woolley, and the family of Ethel Zimmerman

***The flowers on the altar are placed in loving memory of Mildred Katz by her family. Mildred would have celebrated her birthday this past week.

***Congratulations to Tyler, Tiffanie, and Aria on the birth of Ivy Lee’ Ann Schroeder on Wednesday, January 31st, weighing 6 lbs 1 oz and 20.5” long. The flower on the altar is in Ivy’s honor.

Announcements

Fusion Events (Youth Group for 6th-12th graders): Thank you to all who helped with the Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build! The spaghetti dinner is this Saturday at 5:30 p.m. For more details, visit our Facebook page or go to our church website at www.stpetersgp.org, (Under Ministries Section). You can also contact Josh (815) 693-5341 or Neal (815) 549-5911.

Zion UCC in Dyer: Zion is having their annual homemade sausage sale. A 5 lb package is \$25. All orders need to be preordered by February 18th with pickup February 25th from noon to 3 p.m. Please call 219-384-0794 to make an order.

Coffee Hour: We are looking for someone to provide refreshments during the coffee hour on February 11th, 18th, and 25th. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

Church Life Trip to the Shrine: The Church Life committee is hosting a trip on Friday, March 22nd, for lunch and a trip to the Shrine of Christ's Passion in St. John, Indiana. We will meet at St. Peter's UCC at 10 a.m. and depart around 10:15 a.m. for lunch at Teibel's Family Restaurant in Schererville. Following lunch, we will travel down the road to visit the Shrine of Christ's Passion Prayer Trail, gift shop, and grounds. The first 14 people signed up may ride together in the new church bus, while others may carpool together if needed. While there is no cost for the tour at the Shrine, they do accept donations toward their ministry. Each person will be responsible for paying for their own lunch, and depending on how many sign up to ride the bus, approximately \$10-\$20 a person to help with the cost of fuel. If you'd like to sign up, please contact the church office at 815-465-6191, email the office at stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net, contact Lou Ann Hamann, or sign up on the sign-up sheet on the table outside the sanctuary doors leading toward the church office.

Occasionally I am asked, “What can I (we) do to strengthen our faith and help the church grow?” I’ve been praying about this lately and here is my reply:

THE CHURCH: BE ALL IN

Be the Church: There are many ways you can “be” the church. First, make a commitment to be more active in worship. If you normally come once a month, start with twice a month. If once a year, try once a month. The more you’re present, the more exposure you and your family has to the Truth of God’s Word.

Serve the Church: Serving the church doesn’t always mean having to be a council member or a committee member (though we always could use more). It can be helping with one specific event, signing up to be a lay reader, watering the flowers once a week, etc. What interests you? Step up, step in, and obey Christ’s teachings to serve one another.

Love the Church: Let’s be honest. We could all give a little more (financially, of our time, and of our resources). When we put the love of our church ahead of everything (except our love for God), we learn to prioritize our schedules and our giving. Take time to visit an older or struggling member. Send a text, a card, or make a phone call to encourage someone.

As the body of Christ, we worship together, we grow together, and we love together. It is OUR responsibility to build up one another, to raise our children in the Christian faith, and to support the ministries and functions of our local church body.

It takes all of us to be ALL in.

God Really Loves Us (Crowder)

I've got a friend
Closer than a brother
There is no judgement
Oh, how He loves me
I've got a friend

And He is my strength
He is my portion
With me in the valley
With me in the fire
With me in the storm

Let all my life testify - Hallelujah
We are not alone
God really loves us
God really loves us
Hallelujah - Oh, praise my soul
God really loves us
God really loves us

His mercy's enough
His grace is sufficient
So come if you're needing
Forgiveness or healing
His mercy's enough

Oh, and this is our hope
The cross, it has spoken
Death is no more
Christ is the Lord
Oh, this is our hope, yeah

Hallelujah - We are not alone
God really loves us
God really loves us
Hallelujah - Oh, praise my soul
God really loves us (yes, He does)
God really loves us

And oh-oh, oh-oh
Sing oh-oh, oh-oh -Scream (oh-oh)
What a Father -What a Friend
What a Savior He is
What a Father =What a Friend
What a Savior He is

Hallelujah - We are not alone
God really loves us
God really loves us
Hallelujah -Oh, praise my soul
God really loves us
Oh, God really loves us

What a Father - What a Friend
What a Savior He is
What a Father - What a Friend
What a Savior He is (oh)
What a Father - What a Friend
What a Savior He is
What a Father - What a Friend
What a Savior He is

CCLI #20454163