



# **“The Battle Within”**



## Greetings

Welcome to the community of Church of Peace United Church of Christ. We believe that all people are children of God and rejoice that you have chosen to worship God with us today. If you are visiting our community, we wish to extend our faith in Christian fellowship and hope that you will take a moment to visit with us after the service. If you have any questions prior to the service, please ask anyone in the community. We have all been visitors at some time in our life, and we are eager to assist you in any way. May the Holy Spirit fill us and guide us as we worship God together.

September 1, 2024, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am

Gathering Music - Ringing of the Bells - Welcome and Announcements

*We Prepare to Worship God*

Prayer & Prelude

*We Gather Around God's Word*

A Reading from the Song of Solomon 2

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 15)

One: Holy God, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**Many: Those who want to journey with you, who may have missed a turn, and who may struggle with rocky patches and rough terrain.**

One: Holy Savior, who may abide in your life? Who may dwell in thy body?

**Many: Those who seek and search for you and for community with doubts and hopes, joys and fears, smiles and tears.**

One: Holy Spirit, who may abide in you? Who may dwell in your holy place?

**Many: Those who try and those who sometimes give up. Those who are beautifully, wonderfully, and imperfectly human—all of us! Thanks be to God!**

One: Let us join in our Prayer of Invocation

**Loving God, we rejoice to be with you and with one another. You are the God who makes all things new and who redeems our past. In life, we find the fullness of life—from joy beyond measure to despair that consumes. Your presence sustains us through the depths and the plateaus. We acknowledge your sovereignty and express our bold trust that hope is our portion and assigned position in your everlasting and incomparable realm. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn " Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

No. 2

\*Prayer for Transformation and New Life

**Eternal God, may we break from the bonds of unaltered, unexamined, and unimaginative traditions. At the same time, may we be released from the compulsion to discount everything that has been a source of life and faithful formation across generations. Help us to discern what needs to be left in our past with honor, recognition, and gratitude, what needs to be eradicated with lament, repentance, and repair, and what needs to be envisioned, imagined, and created for the future.**

## \*Words of Grace

Pastor: Sisters and Brothers, God renews, redeems, and restores us through continuing creative acts. God has not ended the good work begun in you or in our faith communities. Therefore, accept the power of the Holy Spirit, and receive Christ's courage, counsel, and conviction to do the new things God is calling us to do while holding fast to those things that build, sustain, and encourage.

**Many: We accept Jesus Christ into our hearts! Praise be to God! Amen.**

## \*The Passing of Christ's Peace in Community

Pastoral Prayer a sharing of community and world prayers

### Affirmation of Faith

One: We are not alone; we live in God's world.

**All: We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## *We Engage God's Word*

Scripture Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

### Multigenerational Lesson

Sermon "The Battle Within"

## *We Respond to God's Word*

Offering Invitation (responsive)

One: James 1:17a reminds us that "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above."

**Many: May we receive all the gifts from God with gladness, share the gifts with hospitality and compassion, and celebrate the kingdom of God's abundance with boldness. Amen**

### Offertory

\*Doxology

## The Celebration of Communion

\*Communion Hymn "One Bread, One Body" No. 393

\*Communion Prayer "Together, We Are Blessed By Being Here."

Invitation to the Lord's Table Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Sharing of God's Gifts

*Please come forward for all are welcome to receive the body of Christ-the bread of life, and the cup of the new covenant.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Generous God, as we leave this table we give thanks for the gift of faith. We ask now, bless us and the gifts we share to build your kingdom. Multiply the work of our hands, guide our steps in this world, and align the balance of our resources. In our time, talent, and treasure, may you be glorified in Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

## We Are Sent into the World

\*Closing Hymn "Blessed Quietness" No. 267

\*The Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors")

\*Commissioning & Benediction

Postlude

(\*If you are able, please stand at the pastor's invitation)

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Rev. Stephen Stepp

Patricia Siekierke

Rob Giese/Brenda Post

Victor Abitz

Jean Stepp

All People



Minister

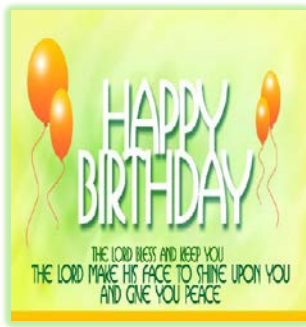
Organist

AV Tech

Custodian

Liturgist

Disciples



September 1<sup>st</sup> – Stevie Lea Immel, Carol LaBrasseur, Thomas Whittaker, Ronald Zimpher  
 September 2<sup>nd</sup> - Vicki Giebel  
 September 4<sup>th</sup> – Bill Guentherm, Sue Springborn  
 September 5<sup>th</sup> – Brenda Klapperich, Cheri Welch  
 September 7<sup>th</sup> – Debra Baker, Ralph Kollmorgan, Karen Nett  
 September 8<sup>th</sup> – Eli Guastafson



**CROP WALK SIGN UP & SPONSOR @ TABLE IN OUR LOBBY**

## Food Pantry Needs:

Shampoo, Deodorant, Bodywash, Mac & Cheese, Pasta Sauce, Cereal, Pancake Syrup, Hamburger Helper, Peanut butter & Jelly, Canned Chicken, Instant Mashed Potato's, Cleaning Supplies, Juice, Shelf Stable Milk and 1 LB tubes of Hamburger or Turkey

Ladies of Peace return Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 11:30 am

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**  
 As a Sunday School teacher for this year.  
 Flexible schedule, contact Heather Reader-Schubert ASAP at [SundaySchool@churchofpeaceuccfdl.org](mailto:SundaySchool@churchofpeaceuccfdl.org)

### THIS WEEK AT CHURCH OF PEACE

Sun	M	Tues	W	Th	F	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9:00am Communion Worship Service Social Hour host: Marthas	<u>Labor Day</u> Office closed  <u>No Loaves and Fishes</u>	11:30 LOP meeting  6:30 Stewardship	Loaves & Fishes			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00am Worship Service 10:00 Sunday School Social Hour host: Hospitality	Loaves & Fishes	6:00 Marthas Meeting  6:30 Council Meeting	Loaves & Fishes			



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WELCOME TO  
CHURCH OF PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Church office phone: 921-8215

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.  
Pastor Steve Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.  
or call for an appointment.

Website: [uccchurchofpeace.com](http://uccchurchofpeace.com) Facebook: Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac

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Elise Sonnenberg	Del Weigel	Deb Abitz	Dixie & Dave Borchert
Evelyn Stepp	Diana Candlish	Greg Baker	Janet & Eugene Willis
Doris Kastorff	Ernest Oelke	Ralph	Bob and Shirley Hanke
Janelle Anderson	Leo Lefeber	Oliver Poirier	Margaret Houk
Al Pahnke	Wayne Katerski	Bailey Gehrt	Jim & Kathy Stephany
Marilyn Peters	Sharon Hensen	Edna Karl	Eli & Barb Gustafson
Helen Oelke	Ruth Pedix	Donna Blaine	Donna Birkholz
Christine Weimer	Amy Mitchell	Evelyn Yantz	Rev. James Martin
Pat Grose	Amy Jo	Susan Snider	Mary Jean Nicholson
Nicole Schendel	Jason & Jennifer	John	Nancy Schaefer
Marvin Oelke	Debra Rammer	Deb Baker	Lee & Lita Treleven
Alexis Hayes	Sister Julia	Ron Adelmeyer	
Joyce Breitenfeld	Rev. James Klein	Carol Kryzyanowski	
The family of Robert Snyder		The family of Charles Bebow	

p.s. Magnificent God, strengthen us when we are vulnerable to temptation!

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CHURCH OF PEACE – FACTS AND FIGURES  
OFFERINGS LAST WEEK:

General Fund: \$2,272.00;  
Mission - Giving (OCWM): \$5.00;  
Repair Fund: \$10.00 E-giving: \$40.00;  
Investing in the Future: \$280.00;  
Attendance Sunday, August 25: 87 Last year: 68

90+ Birthday Card Shower  
Septmber 4<sup>th</sup> - William Guenther  
142 Southlake Circle,  
Fond Du Lac 54935

September 7<sup>th</sup> – Ralph Kollmorgan  
477 Russell St. Fond Du Lac 54935

September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Dwaine Loest  
226 18<sup>th</sup> St.  
Fond Du Lac 54935

**A BIG DAY!!**

On Sunday,  
September 15,  
we are going to have a  
**TAILGATE POTLUCK**  
following our  
**2024 CROP WALK**  
which will begin right after  
our regular  
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at 9:00 am.  
We will also have the  
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