

Worship Leaders

Today

Worship Pastor Paula
Acolytes: Cooper, Maddie Burns
Reader: Ann McCorkindale
Fellowship: Cookie Cupboard
Organist: Laura Moser
Usher(s): Sue Stott
Opening/ Carl, Laura Moser

Next Week

Pastor Paula
Carter Miller
Sue Stott
Mary Webber
Laura Moser
Ed, Melissa Patrick
Sue Stott

Closing:

PRAYER LIST: *Greg Anderson, Gus Auguston, Diane B-H, Inge Baumgartner, Eli Belser, Linda Cranston, Wayne F. Karen Glesne, Linda Glesne, Penny Jacobson, Ruth Krall, Nancy Kuehl, Marlene Marmann, Marilyn Nielsen, Ruth & Jenny Olson, Floyd Possehl, Rachel, Sharon Reichert, Harry & Gloria Robbins, Joan Strauss*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Church office open: Mon. Wed. & Thur. 9 a.m.-noon
Pastor Paula in office unless emergencies arise; Tues:
Office open 9 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Pastor Paula at clergy
text study—11 a.m. **Debbie's office hours:** Mon:
3:30-4:30 p.m. Wed & Thur: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Schedule of church activities:

Tuesday: 2 p.m. THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW
study

Wednesday: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Bell Choir; Children Bible
Study; 6:30-7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir:
Confirmation meets the 1st, 2nd and 3 Wed.

Thursday: 9 a.m. BULLETIN DEADLINE to Pastor Paula
1:30 p.m. Care Center worship
5-7 p.m. Grace Cafe

Friday: Pastor's Day off **Saturday:** Worship Prep

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Nov. 19th—Celebration of 100th
anniversary of the church building 3 p.m. Ecumenical
Thanksgiving service, First Cong. Church.

Nov. 26th—Hanging of the Greens and Potluck!

TENDING GOD'S LIGHT

Peace United Church of Christ Elkader, Iowa
November 12th, 2023 24th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE: "Patriotic Medley"

BELL RINGING:

HONORING VETERANS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONCERNS, JOYS

SILENT MEDITATION:

CONFESSION:

L: The grace of God be with you. **P: And also with you.**
L: May you help us trust in your tender mercy, O God, and
make peace with ourselves and with you.

**P: God of love and light in the darkness, we set before
you all that we are, all that we have done and not done.
By your grace given to us in Jesus, may you open our
eyes, forgive us, strengthen us to repent and return to
the way of life in your kingdom. In Jesus' name and for
his sake, we pray for your grace. AMEN.**

***GATHERING SONG:**

"Unite and Join Your Cheerful Songs" #617

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: God of love and light in the darkness, you provide
everything for us.

P: We come to the feast through our worship today!

L: God of love and light in the darkness, you are faithful and
steadfast.

P: You have married the world. We come to celebrate!

L: And what about those who don't have enough light?

**P: We will share our light, so that all may come. May you
fill our lamps with the oil of your love, God, fill our
lamps to overflowing so we may share your light with
others. AMEN.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE:** (please be seated)

THE WORD OF GOD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

FIRST READING: I.Thessalonians 4:13-18-THE MESSAGE

Ann McCorkindale

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13—THE MESSAGE Rev. Paula

GOSPEL RESPONSE:

“Keep Your Lamps!” by Andre Thomas Chancel Choir

MESSAGE: “The Light Under the Closed Door”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (unison)

We believe in God, maker of all that is and is to come.

We follow Christ, the Light of God, who as our Bridegroom promised God's faithful love to us, Christ who died and rose and leads us in grace into the celebration of life.

We live by the grace of the Holy Spirit, God's loving flame within us, whose warmth gives us life, whose light guides us. In prayerful listening, we open ourselves to that inner guidance in union with all the saints, forgiven sinners like us; may we bear witness to God's faithful love and the forgiveness of sin, to the present reality of resurrection and the mystery of eternal life.

By God's grace, in the name of Christ, we promise to walk in the way of love.

SONG: “O Jesus, I Have Promised” #493

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN.

CALL TO OFFERING: (unison)

Gracious God of love and light, we give you our gifts as symbols of our lives. May you receive them with love, bless them with grace and use them according to your will. Guide us by your light, shape us by your Word, send us into the world to serve others for the sake of the healing of the world in the name and the Spirit of Christ.

AMEN.

OFFERING:

OFFERTORY: “That's My Song” Lloyd Stone (#591)
(Tune: Finlandia)

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above you heavenly host; praise Father, Son & Holy Ghost. AMEN.

*BENEDICTION: (unison)

May the oil of your peace fill our hearts; the lamp of your grace lead our steps; the light of your love shine in our lives. May we go forth to be a source of light for others who wait for you in the dark. AMEN.

***SENDING SONG:** “This Little Light” #524

***POSTLUDE:** “National Hymn” George William Warren

WELCOME

*Peace United Church of Christ 301 N. Main St.
Box 268 Elkader, Iowa 52043*

Phone: (563-245-2126 Email: peaceucc@alpinecom.net)

Website: www.peacechurchelkader.org

Facebook: facebook.com/peacechurchelkader

Rev. Paula Anderson paula2651@alpinecom.net

Home: (563)-245-8022 Cell: 618-292-5105 (no texting)

The Stephen Ministers have been reading a book, **HOLY MOMENTS** on how our Savior walks among us. As a congregation, let us keep track of every kindness we see or do ourselves. Three Holy Moments a day through the month can enhance our relationships as 'peaceful' people. Even children and youth can do this. They can write or draw someone doing something kind or something kind that that they have done for someone else. Then they can put that in the offering plate.

Only 3 Holy Moments a day can help us pay attention to the goodness we can share as we realize that our Savior is always among us.

You are invited to take this paper home and in the next week, record at least three Holy Moments!

