

BE OPENED, BE HEALED
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Peace United Church of Christ

Elkader. Iowa 52043

PRELUDE:

"A Quiet Place" by John M. Rasley

CANDLELIGHTING, BELL RINGING, ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION:

L: Gentle God,

P: the wounds we have suffered in life may or may not have closed over, may or may not have healed.

L: Like clutching fists, our spirits often close around our fears, our minds close to your truth, our hearts close to your grace. our lives close to and are closed from others.

P: Thanks be to you, O God, for forgiveness!

THEME:

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

L: We are called here this morning to learn of Christ's healing love, a love that heals mind, body and soul.

P: May you help us, O Lord, to be open to learning your lessons of compassion for others and ourselves.

L: Every day, there are many ways in which we can offer help and healing to others. But first, we need to accept help and healing for ourselves so that we can be wounded healers for others.

P: Come, let us worship the One who serves us and prepares us for service, the One who has helped, heals and will heal us.

OPENING SONG:

"We Come to You for Healing, Lord" Chancel Choir

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

L: In gratitude for this time of worship and fellowship, this time when we come to be nourished for the journey of life, let us arise and greet each other in peace.

(passing of the peace—then please be seated)

SILENT GATHERING OF THOUGHTS

**THE WORD THAT HEALS ALL
INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORD**

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Sue Stott

EPISTLE READING:

James 2:1-10, 14-17 Sue Stott

EPISTLE RESPONSE IN SONG:

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” #498

GOSPEL:

Mark 7:24-37 Pastor Paula

MESSAGE: “Who is Jesus? Perfect or Real?”

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH IN SERVICE:

(please note that at times men and women speak separate parts)

L: They trusted Jesus—all these men and women.

MEN: THEY WANTED TO GET WELL, THEY NEEDED TO GET WELL AND THEY BELIEVED THAT JESUS WISHED THEM WELL AND

Women: he could make them whole in their minds, bodies and souls.

MEN: WHILE SOME HAD LET THEM DOWN,

Women: others opened doors,

MEN: AND ROOFS.....

Women: and journeyed miles to make his healing touch and word available to them.

L: There must have been something about Jesus that removed their doubts and fired their faith. They believed.

P: We also believe. AMEN!

PRAYER PREPARATION SONG:

“Here, Savior, In This Quiet Place” #555

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 for ever and ever. AMEN.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY:

L: James 2:8 says, “You do well when you complete the Royal Rule of the Scriptures: “love others as you love yourself.” So, let us do well in sharing our resources, gifts and time within and beyond our faith community asking that our Lord receive and multiply our offerings.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY:

“Our Best” Grant Colfax Tullar

***THE DOXOLOGY:**

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

AMEN.

***BENEDICTION:**

L: Let us go into the world,

**P; as agents of healing, appreciating the wonder of creation in all forms,
expressions and ways.**

L: Let us go into the world,

**P: boldly embracing the fullness of humanity, welcoming the stranger, considering
all people as friends.**

L: Let us go into the world in peace and centered in you, O Lord!

P: AMEN!

***SENDING FORTH SONG:**

“When Peace Like a River”

#438

***POSTLUDE:**

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

by B.F. White

WELCOME

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Worship Leaders

Today-Sept. 8th

Worship: Pastor Paula

Reader: Sue Stott

Fellowship: Cookie Cupboard

Organist: Laura Moser

Ushers: Kristina Miller

**Opening/
Closing** Sue Stott

Next Sunday, Sept. 15th

Pastor Paula

John Gnagy

Cookie Cupboard

Laura Moser

Steve, Ann, McCorkindale

John, Sue Gnagy

PRAYER LIST: Bob, Cheryl, Dr. Cranston, Greg Anderson, Gus Augustson, Dave & Diane B-H, Terry Baumgartner, Eli Belser, Betty Buchholz, Jonah Burns and Burns' family, Cheryl, Deb Dennler, Steve Doepcke, Wayne Frentress, Dennis Glesne, Karen Glesne, Linda Glesne, Penny Jacobson, Karla, Ruth Grau, Gerry Kramer, Gary & Nancy Kuehl, Louise, Marlene Marmann, Marilyn Nielsen, Ruth and Jenny Olson, Pat, Lucena Phelps, Sharon Reichert, Peyton Rentschler, Harry Robbins, Joan Strauss, Teena, Father James (Pastor Paula's oblate director), family of Jane Wood, Ken Seney's sister who has passed away

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

9 a.m.-noon—Mon. Wed. Thur. Fri.

8-11 a.m.----- Tues.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Monday: 5:30 p.m. Council Mtg.

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir; 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
5 p.m. Deadline for Bulletin

Thursday: Herbster Hall in use from 3:15-5 p.m.??

Friday: Pastor's Day Off

Saturday: Worship Preparation

REMEMBER!

Those in charge of opening/closing, please plug in coffee pots! Thank you!

OPENING FOR CHURCH SECRETARY:

Peace UCC is currently seeking a part time church secretary. In the September TIDINGS, a job description is included.

MENTAL HEALTH FOR SENIOR CITIZENS: Information on the out patient mental health program for seniors 65 and older at the Regional Medical Center in Manchester, Iowa is available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.

Adult Education Opportunities

Also on the table at the rear of the sanctuary, there is a sign-up for various ideas for adult education. Please sign up if interested and add ideas. There will be a meeting after worship soon to make choices and set up dates and times!