

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God our God has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**\*SENDING FORTH SONG: “America the Beautiful”**

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain.  
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee And crown  
thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet whose stern, impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw.  
Confirm thy soul in self-control. Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more  
than self their country loved and mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine till all success be  
nobleness and every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee and crown  
thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

**\*POSTLUDE:** “My Eyes Have Seen the Glory”  
Julia Ward Howe

*SABBATH, SACRIFICE AND OUR SAVIOR*

May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday after Easter

Peace United Church of Christ

Elkader, Iowa

PRELUDE: Patriotic Medley Diane Finley- Pianist

BELL, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONCERNS

**INTRODUCTION TO THE BELL CHOIR MUSIC**

**IN MEMORIAM:** Joan Strauss

Background of “It Is Well With My Soul”

**SONG:** “It Is Well With My Soul” Bell Choir

**IN MEMORIAM:** Jasen “Ned” Burns

Background of “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

**SONG:** “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” Bell Choir

*Remembering the Sacrifice  
of Those Who Served*

**HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY**

**\*SONG:** “God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command” #592

**\*MEMORIAL DAY LITANY:**

L: God of truth, God of Justice, God of peace, we pray today  
for all who suffer as a result of war; for leaders who send  
young people to war, that their judgments may be sound,  
their motives pure, so we lift our hearts to you.

**P: O God of mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: For the military who lay down their lives for others, that the  
love which inspires their sacrifice be fulfilled in the love of  
Christ, so we lift our hearts to you.

**P: O God of mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: For those who have been left behind, that they may live  
on in the strength of the love that they knew, we lift our  
hearts to you.

**P: O God of mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: For the injured and disabled, for the mentally distressed,  
for those whose faith in God and in other people has been  
weakened or destroyed, we lift our hearts to you:

**P: O God of mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: For the homeless and refugees, caught in the ravages of war; for those who are hungry, who have lost their livelihood and security due to conflicts, we lift our hearts to you.

**P: O God of mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: As we remember those who died in war for the cause of peace:

**P: Lord, make us peacemakers.**

L: As we look to the future of our children and grandchildren, of all people everywhere:

**P: Lord, make us peacemakers.**

L: As we think of this war-torn, blood-stained, sorrowful world:

**P: Lord, make us peacemakers. Hear our prayer and come to us in perfect love, driving away our fear; in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

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

*Sabbath, Sacrifice and Our Savior*

#### **THE WORD OF PEACE**

<b>INTRODUCTION TO THE SCRIPTURES:</b>	Pastor Paula
<b>EPISTLE:</b>	Acts 16:9-15 Kristina Bente
<b>GOSPEL:</b>	John 14:23-29 Pastor Paula

**MESSAGE:** "The Spirit Whispers---Remember"

#### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (unison)**

**We believe in God, whom Jesus called Father, Creator of all things, infinite in wisdom, power and love, who prepares a place for us to live and whose will for us is love and blessing.**

**We give our hearts to Jesus Christ, God's beloved Son, who lives with us in love, who heals and redeems, who dies in love and is raised to new life in love so that we may rise to new life.**

**We trust in the Holy Spirit, the divine presence in our lives, who moves us to love in the name of Christ.**

**We devote ourselves to lives of faith, serving the world in compassion and humility.**

**We belong to the body of Christ; we seek God's peace and justice; we trust in the power of forgiveness and mercy; and we live by the promise of Resurrection. AMEN.**

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN.**

#### **CALL FOR THE OFFERING:**

L: On this day, we remember the generosity of Jesus, his willingness to give the ultimate of ultimate sacrifices. Let us give in gratitude and praise.

#### **RECEIVING OF OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY:** "Something Beautiful"

Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither

**\*DOXOLOGY: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above you heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN.**

#### **\*THE BENEDICTION: Psalm 67 in unison**

**May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us; that his way may be made known upon earth, his saving power among all nations.**

**Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

## *WELCOME*

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### Worship Leaders

#### Today-May 25

**Worship:** Pastor Paula

**Reader:** Kristina Bente

**Fellowship:** Farewell Party for  
Anne Franta

**Organist:** Arlene Reimer

**Ushers:** Melissa, Ed Patrick

**Opening/** Gary Kuehl

**Closing**

#### Next Sunday, June 1st

Pastor Paula

Arlene Reimer

**PRAYER LIST:** Bob, Cheryl, Greg Anderson, Gus Augustson, Eli Belser, Betty Buchholz, Jonah Burns and Burns family, Deb Dennler, Wayne and Kim Frentress; Karen Glesne, Linda Glesne, Ruth Grau, Penny Jacobson; Jerry Koons Ruth Olson, Elaine Radloff, Sharon Reichert, Alice Reimer, Father James; Tammy; Jane I.; family of Fred Knoke

**NEEDED:** *The Church History working group is updating the church's history especially from 2016 to the present. They are asking for help especially with pictures and stories of the parsonage and education unit.*

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

9 a.m.-noon-----Monday, Wednesday. Thursday

8 a.m.-10:45 a.m.—Tuesday

### WEEKLY CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Monday:** OFFICE CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

**Tuesday:** Office hours: 9-10:45 a.m.

Clergy Text Study: 11 a.m.

**Wednesday:** Office hours: 9-noon

**Thursday:** Office hours: 9-noon

BULLETIN DEADLINE—8 A.M.

**Friday:** Pastor's Day Off

**Saturday:** Worship Preparation

**NEEDED FOR THE SUMMER:** Because the choirs will not be providing music, special music is needed. Please contact Pastor Paula if you would like to share your musical talent.

### *THANK YOU, ANNE FRANTA!*

*Following worship, all are invited to Herbster Hall to honor our Bell and Chancel Choirs director, Anne Franta. This is Anne's last Sunday as director of our Bell and Chancel Choirs.*

*We have been so blessed with her talent and direction. And now we ask God's blessing on Anne as she retires and pursues other activities.*

*Please don't be a stranger here, Anne. We hope that you will return for a visit and bring us up-to-date on your adventures in retirement!*