

Pastors:
Rev. Phil Richards: (518) 791-1123 pastorphils@gmail.com
Rev. Leigh McCaffrey: (518) 247-8886 fivechurchesumc@gmail.com

Musician:
Steve Woodruff: Virtual Organist

Prayer List

Howard Bell; Abbie Breen; Rob Butts; Carol; Katie Davis; Denise; Nancy Fegan; Dan Ferris;
Jerry; Susanne & Eucky Jones; Bonnie Mahnk; Howard Newton; Roy Perry; Sherrie & Julia;
Anne Stevensen; Jane Way

Announcements for the Week of 8/2 – 8/8

- 8/2: Worship at 9 am followed by Coffee Hour
Peru Town Concerts 6 pm - 8 pm in Heyworth Mason Park (Rain Location at PCC)
- 8/3: AA 7:30 pm
- 8/4: RSVP Osteo Exercise Group 9:30 am to 10:30 am
- 8/5: Knit Wits 1:30 pm
Christian Ed Planning Meeting 6:30 pm
- 8/6: RSVP Osteo Exercise Group 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Looking Ahead to Next Week

- 8/10: Men’s Breakfast at Rulfs 7:30 am
Music Team 10:30 am in the office
- 8/12: Church Council Meeting 7pm
- 8/14: Plattsburgh Cares 10:30 am at St. Joseph’s Outreach Center

www.perucommunitychurch.com
office@perucommunitychurch.com
(518) 643-8641

CENTERING MUSIC/PRELUDE

PASTOR’S GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
Leader: Come, all who hunger—for hope, for justice, for peace, for love.
People: We come, trusting that God's welcome is wider than we can imagine.
Leader: Bring your joys and your burdens, your questions and your faith.
People: We come just as we are, knowing we are embraced by grace.
Leader: Christ calls us to gather, to share, and to become a community where there is enough for everyone.
People: We open our hearts to God's transforming love.
Leader: Let us worship the One who feeds our spirits, nourishes our lives, and calls us to feed the world.
All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN** “Draw Us In the Spirit’s Tether” (vs. 1&2) # 504

OPENING PRAYER (to be said by all)
Loving God, In a world that so often tells us there is not enough, you invite us into the abundance of your grace. You gather us from busy lives and anxious hearts and welcome us to your table of love.
Open our eyes to see the gifts already among us. Open our hands to share freely. Open our hearts to those who hunger—for food, for friendship, for justice, for hope, and for peace. May this time of worship renew our spirits and remind us that your love is never exhausted, your compassion never runs dry, and your vision for the world is one where everyone has enough. As we worship today, shape us into people who reflect your generosity wherever we go. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 17: 1-7, 15

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 14: 13-21

RESPONSE
One: May God grant us wisdom and courage for interpretation.
All: Thanks be to God.

JOYS AND CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

This is Christ's table.It is not the table of one church, one denomination, or one way of believing. It is a table of grace.Jesus welcomed the faithful and the doubtful, the joyful and the grieving, the saints and the seekers. All who hunger for love, hope, justice, and peace are welcome here. Come, for there is enough.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: God is with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Holy One.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Source of Life.
People: It is good and beautiful to give our thanks and praise.
Generous and loving God,
From the beginning you called creation into being, filling the earth with beauty, diversity, and possibility. You breathed life into all that exists and declared it good.
Again and again, when fear, violence, and scarcity threatened your creation, you called prophets, poets, and dreamers to remind us that another way was possible—a way of justice, compassion, reconciliation, and peace.
In Jesus, your love took flesh among us. He healed the broken, welcomed the excluded, challenged systems of injustice, and gathered people around open tables where everyone belonged.
When the crowds were hungry, he did not send them away. He blessed what was available, shared it freely, and revealed that generosity creates abundance.
So with all creation and all who have gone before us, we sing:
Holy, holy, holy are you, God of abundant love.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of love.
Hosanna in the highest!
On the night before his death, Jesus gathered with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,
 "Take and eat. This is my life, shared with you. Whenever you do this, remember me."
Then he took the cup, blessed it, and shared it, saying,
 "Drink from this, all of you. This cup is the promise of God's enduring love. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

As we eat this bread and drink this cup, we remember Christ's life, celebrate Christ's presence among us, and commit ourselves to Christ's way of compassion and justice.
People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ lives among us still. Pour out your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup.May they become for us signs of your living presence.
May this meal nourish us to become bread for the hungry, hope for the discouraged, welcome for the stranger, and companions for all who seek belonging.
Send us into the world to practice generosity, resist fear, care for creation, and build communities where everyone has enough.
We pray in the spirit of Jesus, who taught us to say:
 Our Father...

BREAKING THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body.The bread we break is a sharing in the life of Christ.The cup we share is a celebration of God's covenant of love.These are the gifts of God for the people of God.Come, for all is ready.

(Peru Community Church practices an open table. All people of all ages and stages are welcome to come forward to receive the elements. We offer bread, grape juice, and gluten-free crackers. Please bring your offering forward with you to place in the plates at the front during this time.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(to be said by all)*

Generous God, everything we have is a gift, and today we return a portion of those gifts with grateful hearts.
Bless these offerings and bless those who have given them. Use them to feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, welcome the stranger, care for creation, seek justice, and share your love in this community and throughout the world.
Multiply these gifts, just as love has always multiplied in your kingdom, so that what seems small in our hands becomes a blessing for many.
May we offer not only our resources, but our time, our compassion, our courage, and our lives in service to your dream for the world.
In the spirit of Christ we pray. Amen.

<u>HYMN</u>	“Lord of All Good”	(v. 1&2)	# 375
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BLESSING