

Peacham Congregational Church

56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862

802-592-3330



“Sermon on the Mount” by Friedrich Karl Hermann von Uhde (1)

Interim Pastor, Nicole Klosterman

We are an Open and Affirming Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

www.peachamchurch.org

Order of Worship
February 1, 2026

Ed Nilson, Guest Lay-Leader

Centering Thought

"In normal life we hardly realize how much more we receive than we give, and life cannot be rich without such gratitude. It is so easy to overestimate the importance of our own achievements compared with what we owe to the help of others." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Letters and Papers from Prison

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "Largo (in the style of Handel)" Otto Barblan (1860-1943)

Responsive Call to Worship

Friends of God, whenever we feel alone in a lonely world, help us remember to pray:

Come Holy Spirit, be our Comforter and fill our hearts with the fire of your love.

As the shadows of darkness fall not only at evening, but with "Breaking News," may you, O God:

Light a candle of hope in our hearts, even as we light candles in our homes to dispel the darkness.

Jesus, you said in the world we will have tribulation, but you also said:

Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world!

We come to worship you this morning and ask you to come and be with us.

"For our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee." Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn #504: "God of Justice, God of Mercy" (vs. 1-3)

Unison Invocation (2)

**There is a quiet light
That shines in every heart.
Though it is always secretly there,
It draws no attention to itself.**

**It is what illuminates our
Minds to see beauty,
Our desire to seek possibilities
And our hearts to love life...**

**This shy inner light
Is what enables us
To recognize and receive
Our very presence here as blessing..**

Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also, with You

One: Now share in a sign of peace with one another.

Joys and Concerns followed by Time of Silence

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Response

***Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O God.
Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen.***

Anthem - "Rain Down" Jamie Cortez/arr. J. Carter

Offering & Mission

Doxology #50: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen***

Unison Prayer of Dedication (3)

O Way-Making God,
You are the source of every mercy and every new beginning,
we give thanks for the gifts gathered here and for the hope you are
stirring among us.
We dedicate these gifts to the work of compassion you entrust to our
care.
Amen.

Hymn #509: "What Does the Lord Require for Praise"

Scripture: Psalm 15; Micah 6:8; Matthew 5:1-12

Message: Mercy Triumphs Over Judgment

Closing Hymn #504: "God of Justice, God of Mercy" (vs. 4 & 5)

Benediction (4)

God is our light, our hope, our all in all:
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Christ is our home, our life, our joy:
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Our worship concludes; our service continues.
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Response #345: "God Be with You Til We Meet Again" (vs. 1)

Postlude: "Two Versets for 'Hostis Herodes impie'" Anthony St. Pierre (1956)

(1) Uhde, Friedrich Karl Hermann von, 1848-1911. Sermon on the Mount, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59030> [retrieved January 27, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fritz_von_Uhde_Bergpredigt.jpg.

(2) from Benedictus by John O'Donohue

(3) Adapted from Rev. Michael Anthony Howard.

(4) Posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways Archive, <http://www.ucc.org/>. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/02/benediction-god-is-our-light.html>.

“The Posie”

by George Herbert (1633)

Note: "Posie" can be translated as "Motto"

Let wits contest,
And with their words and mottos windows fill:
 Less than the least
 Of all Thy mercies, is my motto still.

 This on my ring,
 This by my picture, in my book I write:
 Whether I sing,
 Or say, or dictate, this is my delight.

 Invention rest,
 Comparisons go play, wit use Thy will:
 Less than the least
 Of all God's mercies, is my motto still.

Announcements
February 1, 2026

Ed Nilson is a Lay preacher licensed by the Vermont Diocese of the Episcopal Church. Ed and his wife Lucy live in Derby Line, VT. Ed retired from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (administrative law) and attended seminary at Princeton and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary near Boston.

The next quarterly Council meeting will be held after the service on February 22, 2026.

The Annual Meeting will be held after the service on March 8, 2026.

On the third Sunday of each month, coffee hour is an opportunity to share updates and answer questions about what's happening at the Church. Our next conversation will take place on Sunday, February 15, and will include an update on the Children's Center. If you're unable to attend, questions or comments may be shared at peachammeetinghouse.org/contact.

Our 1st quarter mission is Hunger Free Vermont, a statewide organization dedicated to ending hunger and malnutrition for all Vermonters. The organization lobbies policymakers; expands school meals programs; engages local communities in addressing food insecurity among their neighbors; and trains and educates people about food insecurity and how to spot it and help. If you would like to donate, please indicate so on your check in the memo line.

The Danville Open Door Food Bank is asking for Butter next week (Feb. 8).

Coffee Hour is hosted this week by Nancy Toney.

Join us in the social hall on Feb. 7, 9-11 a.m. for the Winter Carnival Pancake Breakfast. Find more information at facebook.com/PeachamCongregationalChurch.

The "Faithful Response during Troubled Times" scripture study and discussion group will run Thursday, Feb. 5 - March 5, 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. There will be no meeting on Feb. 26. Food will not be provided, but anyone who would like to bring a snack to share is invited to do so. Please do not arrive earlier than 5:15 p.m.

Upcoming Schedule:

Feb. 8 - John Morris
Feb. 15 - Nicole Klosterman
Feb. 18 - Ash Wednesday
Feb. 22 - Nicole Klosterman

If you would like to light the steeple in honor or memory of a family member or friend, please fill out the form found at peachamchurch.org/church-documents, or contact Patty Gardner at peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com

Information about Peacham Congregational Church

Weekly Worship – Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Interim Pastor.....Nicole Klosterman, (802) 227-4956

Email: peachamchurchpastor@gmail.com

Please contact Nicole to schedule a visit or call

Mon: availability varies Tues: 11 am - 2:30 pm
Thurs: availability varies Fri: 9-11 am

Schedule a pastoral care visit with Nicole by visiting:

calendly.com/peachamchurchpastor/30min

Email: peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com for general inquiries

Church Admin.....Patty Gardner

Collector.....Ann Goss

Sexton.....Jeff Lane

Church Council President & ModeratorJohn Marshall

Treasurer.....Bruce Westcott

AccompanistBruce Westcott

Web Ministry.....Jonathan R. Potter

Deacons: Susan Chandler, Chris Danielson, Carolyn Deasy,
Patty Gardner, Anita Vann, Rick Witt, Bruce Maclean, Deacon Emeritus



1. God of jus - tice, God of mer - cy, make us mer - ci - ful and just!
 2. How can we, as peo - ple cho - sen by your grace for serv - ice here -
 3. You have formed us, God of rain - bows, in your im - age for your will.
 4. Grant all peo - ple work with mean - ing, strength to care for those they love.
 5. So the vi - sion you have plant - ed in each hu - man mind and heart



Help us see all your cre - a - tion as from you a sa - cred trust.
 how en - dure an - oth - er's hard - ship with - out of - fering hope or cheer?
 See - ing our di - verse re - flec - tions, trust - ing you, we mar - vel still;
 Food for ta - ble, truth for tell - ing, chal - leng - es to rise a - bove.
 now be - comes the spark of ac - tion call - ing us to do our part.



And when peo - ple cry in an - guish for their own or oth - ers' pain,
 God, for - give us, we be - seech you, when our love fails to em - power.
 for our col - ors, strengths and tal - ents show what one a - lone would lack,
 But re - mind us, God of jus - tice, this is now our work, our call!
 Keep that vi - sion clear be - fore us: men and wom - en, girls and boys,



WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1983

MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard, 1844; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

HYFRYDOL

87.87D

Written for a Presbyterian Women's meeting in 1983, Huber's text delineates the meaning of Micah 6:8 for our present day.

Words © 1983 Jane Parker Huber
 admin. Westminster/John Knox Press



show us ways to make a dif - f'rence. O dear God, make us hu - mane!
Teach us how to be more faith - ful in this pres - ent cru - cial hour.
call - ing us to work to - geth - er - brown, red, gold - en, white, and black.
Chang - ing life's op - pres - sive sys - tems in - to ones em - pow - 'ring all.
val - ued in re - sponse and wit - ness, shar - ing chal - leng - es and joys.



Let Justice Flow Like Streams

505

1. Let jus - tice flow like streams of spark - ling
2. Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers'
3. So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our

wa - ter, pure, en - a - bling growth, re -
cares we heed, an ev - er - flow - ing
mea - sure true, and jus - tice, right, and

fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1984
MUSIC: Aaron Williams' *New Universal Psalmody*, 1770

Huber's text is based on two passages
from the prophet Amos - 5:24 and 7:7-8.

ST. THOMAS
SM

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admin. Westminster/John Knox Press

What Does the Lord Require for Praise 509

1. What does the Lord re - quire for praise and of - fer - ing?
 2. Peo - ple of earth, give ear! Should you not jus - tice know?
 3. How shall our life ful - fill God's law so hard and high?

What sac - ri - fice, de - sire or trib - ute did you bring?
 Will God your plead-ing hear, while crime and cruel - ty grow?
 Let Christ en - due our will with grace to for - ti - fy.

Do just - ly, love mer - cy, walk hum-bly with your God;
 Do just - ly, love mer - cy, walk hum-bly with your God;
 Then just - ly, in mer - cy, we'll hum-bly walk with God;

do just - ly, love mer - cy, walk hum-bly with your God.
 do just - ly, love mer - cy, walk hum-bly with your God.
 then just - ly, in mer - cy, we'll hum-bly walk with God.

WORDS: Albert F. Bayly, 1949
 MUSIC: Margaret R. Tucker, 1997

Bayly's text restates the message of Micah 6:8. GREACEN is named for Wyn and Tom Greacen, founder and architect of First Congregational Church, Houston, and life-long activists for peace and social justice.

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