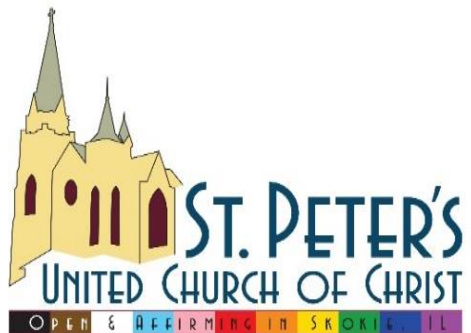


Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
August 4,
2024
10:00 AM**

**Eleventh
Sunday after
Pentecost**





Welcome to Worship!

SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM

In-person Worship. Masks and distance recommended, not required

Livestream on YouTube. Live at 10am then available on our channel after



Ways to Give

Send a Check. Mail to the address below ... this way still works fine!

Use PayPal. <https://www.paypal.me/stpeteruccskokie>

Set up Vanco. <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZCME/home>

Set up your account or log in to give



Open Communion

All Christians and seekers after God are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper with us the **first Sunday of every month** and special Holy Days (Christmas, Maundy Thursday, and Easter). **At-home Communion** participants are invited to provide their own elements and join when Pastor bids you, "take, eat, and drink."



About St. Peter's UCC

We've been in the heart of downtown Skokie since 1867. We are a part of the United Church of Christ, which means we are passionate about our faith and open in our thinking. We believe in a Triune God who **loves everyone**, regardless of gender identity, orientation, race, status, or physical or mental ability, and we **joyously welcome all people** to share worship, membership, marriage, baptism, funeral, and fellowship with us.



Contact, Follow, or Talk to Us

Laura Olson (Office Manager): office@stpeteruccskokie.org

Office hours Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm

Ben Westphal (Music Director): bcwestphal@gmail.com

Facebook/Instagram/YouTube: @stpeteruccskokie

Website: www.stpeteruccskokie.org

Like, follow, or join our email list for up-to-date info about events and activities!



8013 Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL 60077 | 847-673-8166

St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Skokie
Order of Worship for
Sunday, August 4, 2024 at 10:00am
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to worship. The music before the service is intended as a time of silent prayer and preparation.

PRELUDE Meditation on "Let Us Break Bread Together"
by Metzinger

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Reins

Will those who are able please stand up

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: We do not live by bread alone, but by the life-giving word of God's love.

A: **God, give us the bread of life, today and always.**

P: Too long have we lived with hunger, seeking to fill our appetites with food that leaves us wanting.

A: **Too long we have starved ourselves of spiritual food that truly satisfies.**

P: "I am the Bread of Life," Jesus tells us. "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry."

"Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

A: **Come, Holy Spirit. Feed us with your grace and love.**

P: May we love our neighbors, ourselves, and you, so that we may never be hungry again.

A: **Amen.**

RESPONSE "Come Into His Presence"

SSB #15

Come in - to His pres - ence with thanks-giv-ing in your heart and give Him

praise, and give Him praise; Come in - to His pres-ence with thanks-

giv - ing in your heart, yourvoic-es raise, your voic-es raise. Give

glo - ry and hon - or and pow - er un - to

Him, Je - sus, the name a-bove all names.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Please join me in prayer:

**A: God of abundance, you long to feed your children,
whenever we are hungry.**

**Yet we often turn away and seek happiness
elsewhere.**

**When we compete with others for status, help us
support one another in love.**

**When we measure our worth by our productivity,
help us rest in the assurance that we are your
children.**

**When we avoid conflict, move us to speak your truth
in love.**

**Return us to your ways, Holy One, that our souls may
be satisfied and our hearts may be at peace. Amen.**

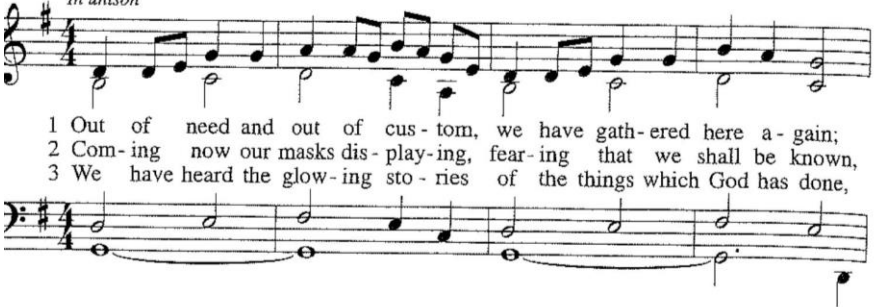
ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: Christ's table is open to all who will join the feast.
Come, eat; be loved and forgiven.

Then share this good food with all who hunger.

A: Glory be to God. Amen.

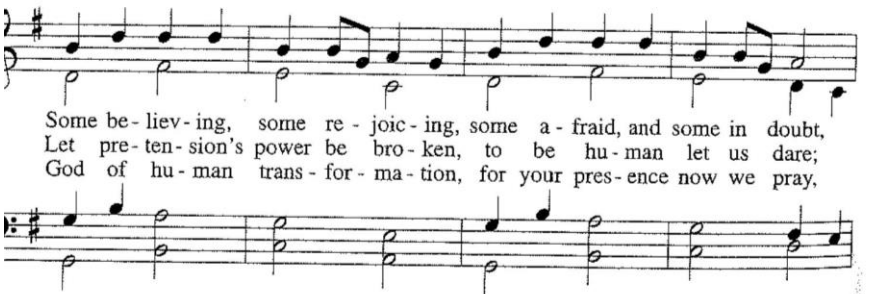
HYMN "Out of Need and Out of Custom" (vv. 1 & 3)

In unison


1 Out of need and out of cus-tom, we have gath-ered here a-gain;
 2 Com-ing now our masks dis-play-ing, fear-ing that we shall be known,
 3 We have heard the glow-ing sto-ries of the things which God has done,



to the gath-'ring we are bring-ing love and laugh-ter, grief and pain.
 fool-ish games for - ev - er play - ing, feel - ing mean-while so a - lone.
 of his pow - er and his glo - ry, of his love in Christ his Son.



Some be-liev-ing, some re-joic-ing, some a-fraid, and some in doubt,
 Let pre-ten-sion's power be bro-ken, to be hu-man let us dare;
 God of hu-man trans-for-ma-tion, for your pres-ence now we pray,



com-ing with our ques-tions voic-ing, we would search these mat-ters out.
 let the truth in love be spo-ken, let us now the quest-ing share.
 lead us ev-er on the jour-ney as we gath-er here to-day.

The congregation may be seated

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Marcia H./Andre G.

1st Scripture

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

MUSICAL MEDITATION “Come Share the Lord”

arr. Eckhardt

Will those who are able please stand up

THE GOSPEL

John 6:24-35

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**A: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil;
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory forever. Amen.**

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

If you donate electronically, feel free to place a yellow "Electronic Giving" card into the plate as it comes around so you can enjoy participating in the physical act of giving.

RESPONSE

“We Are an Offering”

SSB# 11

We lift our voi - ces, — we lift our hands, — we lift our
 lives — up to You, we are an of - fer - ing; — Lord, use our
 voi - ces, — Lord, use our hands, — Lord, use our
 lives, — they are Yours, we are an of - fer - ing. —
 All that we have, — all that we are, —
 all that we hope to be we give to You, we
 give to You. — We lift our
 voi - ces, — we lift our hands, — we lift our
 lives — up to You, we are an of - fer - ing, — we are an of - fer - ing. —

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The congregation may be seated

SERMON

“The Truth Is still the Truth Even When It Disturbs Us”

COMMUNION HYMN “Let Us Break Bread Together”

SSB #18

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

CALL TO COMMUNION

P: People of God, let us receive the grace of God.

A: We will practice self-compassion, feeding our souls with good food.

P: People of God, let us learn to love one another.

A: We will generously love family, friends, and our neighbors.

P: People of God, love God with all your heart.

A: Christ, the bread of life, longs for us to feast with God and with one another.

P: People of God, hunger and thirst for justice.

A: We cannot be satisfied until all of God's children join the table.

P: Be hungry no longer; receive what God has offered.

A: Fill us, Holy Spirit, with the grace we crave, that we may hunger and thirst no more. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

CLOSING PRAYER

A: Generous God, you have fed us well in body and in spirit. Your grace never runs short but meets us in our need. Make us one with all your children, that these gifts and our good works may bring comfort to those who grieve, friendship to those who are lonely, and provision to those who are in need. This we pray, in your blessed name. Amen.

Will those who are able please stand up

CLOSING HYMN

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” SSB #6 (vv. 1-4)

1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
 2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease
 4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given

The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!
 To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
 Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
 By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

The hymn is a cento from a longer poem of eighteen stanzas written by Charles Wesley on the first anniversary of his conversion. The present form of the hymn is one edited by John Wesley for The Wesleyan Hymn Book, 1780.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
 Carl G. Gläser, 1828
 Adapt. in L. Mason's Modern Psalmody, 1839
 Alternate tune: RICHMOND

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Holy Manna” by William Moore

The music after the service is intended as a time of reflection. Pastor will be pleased to greet you at the Sanctuary doors as soon as the postlude has concluded, and our livestream has stopped.

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

GUEST MINISTER	Rev. Terrence Gallagher
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Jenn Schneider
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	Peter Svenson
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Rita McMahan

News in the Pews

Welcome to worship, dear family of God. We pray that God restore to each of us joy in his gift of salvation and a willing spirit to serve him in response (Psalm 51:12).

Please welcome the Reverend Dr. Terrence Gallagher to the pulpit today and again next Sunday! Rev. Gallagher is an ordained minister in the UCC. After pursuing education as an engineer and a 30-year-long career as a chemical industrial manufacturing executive, Rev. Gallagher answered the Call to Ministry in 2007. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit and a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Chicago Theological Seminary. He served as a local church pastor in Michigan for seven years and is the founder of SustainingCreation.org which guides faith groups on an extended journey to discern how God is calling them to respond to the Climate Crisis.

There is no coffee hour today, but there is a special meeting of the Church Council. The purpose of this meeting is to continue work begun on the Local Church Profile for an Interim Search, an essential document that we must complete to launch a search for an interim minister.

Join us later this month for our annual outdoor worship service! Mark your calendars and plan to meet us in Lorel Park on **Sunday, August 25th** for worship lead by Rev. Wayne MacPherson.

We need your rummage! Summer is a great time to get to cleaning out those spots you've put off. You can bring your items to the office during office hours, but please call ahead to let us

know you are coming. You can also drop off during sorting hours, especially if you need help unloading. We do NOT accept furniture or large electronics.

Now that August is here, we've added a day to our rummage sorting schedule! Please join us on *Monday morning from 10am to noon, Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm and Friday from 10am to 2pm*. No experience necessary to help, just take things out of boxes and put them in places. Stay for as long as you are able, newcomers welcome!

Keep Our Sunday School Mission Project Going! When Sunday School is in session our students and their families bring in monthly food donations for our mini pantry. Please keep the collection going during the summer. We will have bins available to receive donations on the last Sunday of each month. You can also leave donations anytime in the collection area just inside the Laramie Avenue entrance. Thank you for your generous support!

We are updating print, electronic media and signage around the church! We are working to update our materials, but this won't happen overnight. A Communications Committee, chaired by Office Manager Laura Olson, is working on this. If you think something might have escaped the Committee's notice, please email Laura at office@stpeteruccskokie.org.

Thank you to everyone who participated in last Sunday's Fourth Sunday Coffee & Conversation. These special coffee hour conversations aim to inform and engage members of the congregation in the ongoing work of being a vital congregation during a transitional period. They also provide an opportunity to update all members and friends on steps the Council has and will take to secure an interim pastor.

Our People

Please keep the St. Peter's extended family in your thoughts and prayers.

Jane Abramchik is continuing her recovery at home. Please keep Jane in your prayers as well as her husband Paul as he works to coordinate home-based care for Jane's healing. Also in our prayers: Jen's mom Dorene Schurman remains in hospice care in Ohio. Sharon Johnson's daughter Donna is in treatment for cancer.

May we also remember and pray for the safe travels of members and friends enjoying the blessings of summer travel. Welcome back to Peter and Christine Svenson and family and prayers for safe travels for others, including Peggy and Chad going to the Eagle Cap Wilderness in the Willowa Mountains of Oregon.

If you are aware of others to include in our shared prayers, please let a church officer, an Elder, or the office know!

Having birthdays this week are Richard Hook, Erik Altmayer, Richard Steegmueller, Arthur Svenson, Kathy Zipperer, Marlene Russell, and Kim (Loach) Bruhn. **Happy Anniversary** to Gene & Leslie (Todd) Kiesel! God's blessings to all on their special days!

According to the schedule, barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector will be Rita McMahon and the Nursery Attendant will be Annie Noorts.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Peggy Reins
VICE-PRESIDENT	Ann Herren
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Annie Noorts
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Maria Altmayer

Regular Reminders!

Let us know you were here! Please sign the attendance sheet in the black pew pads and when you think your pew is ready, please pass the pad towards the center aisle of the church.

Pantry Donations – our generous donation from Jewel Foods is just about gone - we need more donations!

We are always grateful for any and all offerings to the church. No amount is too small! So many thanks to everyone who's been keeping us going with your donations! See inside the bulletin's front cover for details on how to donate.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

MISSION MOMENTS

August 4, 2024

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

“Bread of Life”

John 6:24–35

A Communion litany based on John 6:24-35

One voice: In the beginning, the Holy Three danced in the chaos just before creation. Out of their dance was formed All-That-Is, and they looked at it and blessed it, calling it very, very good.

Many voices: One of the parts of that creation was humanity. That’s all of us! Created in God’s image, we sometimes believed that we, alone, were All-That-Is, and our arrogance drove us from the beauty and peace that The Holy Three wished for us.

One voice: Many voices called throughout time, for humanity to return to our place in All-That-Is. But we did not always listen. When the time was right, one part of the Holy Three, that part called Christ Jesus, came to speak so we could hear.

Many voices: Jesus said, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. And the people replied, Teacher, give us this bread always.

One voice: And so, on the night before Jesus was killed by those who were threatened by his message of love and care for All-That-Is, he gathered with his closest friends and chosen family, and he gave them bread, saying “This is my body, the living bread that gives life to the world.” After they ate, he passed them a cup and said “This is the cup of new life, that you might believe in the one whom the Holy Three has sent.” Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Many voices: And so they ate and drank. And so we eat and drink and remember and rejoice.

One voice: Let us pray. Brother Jesus, we thank you that you have given us the bread that is your body, the cup that is the source of life. We eat and drink today in the strong name of the Holy Three - Creator, the Christ and the Redeemer. Amen.

August 4, 2024

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Please join me in the spirit of prayer. Let us pray.

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept you Word. Silence in us any voices but your own, so that we may hear your Word and also do it; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Our first reading is ...

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him."

Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more.

Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and in broad daylight. David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

This ends our first reading. Our worship continues with a MUSICAL MEDITATION.

(reader can sit down)

Thank you, Ben

**Will those who are able please stand up for reading of THE GOSPEL
John 6:24-35**

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?"

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave

you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

This ends our reading of the Scriptures for this morning's service. May God grant us a wise and generous understanding of this God's Holy Word.