



# Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,**

**July 17,**

**2022**

**10:00 AM**

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**Sixth Sunday after  
Pentecost**



AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION IN SKOKIE, IL



# Welcome to Worship!

**SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM**

**In-person Worship.** Following COVID safety protocols

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



**"The Redheaded Preacher" Podcast.** On Soundcloud, includes sermon and scriptures only, posted weekly by Tuesday



## Ways to Give

**Text Your Gift.** 844-997-2346 Super easy after a first-time setup

**PayPal.** [PayPal.me/stpeteruccskokie](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/?x=1&from=paypal-merchant-directory) Uncheck the "Paying for Goods or Services" box to not pass on the fees to St Peter's

**Check or Cash.** Mail to the address below ... this way still works fine

**Vanco GivePlus App.** Contact the church office to set up regular giving



## 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 invite all people to share worship, membership, marriage, baptism, funeral, and fellowship with us.



## Contact, Follow, or Talk to Us

**Rev. Richard Lanford (Pastor):** [revlanford@gmail.com](mailto:revlanford@gmail.com)

In the office Wed-Sat (times vary) and Sundays

**Laura Olson (Office Manager):** [office@stpeteruccskokie.org](mailto:office@stpeteruccskokie.org)

Office hours Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm

**Ben Westphal (Music Director):** [bcwestphal@gmail.com](mailto:bcwestphal@gmail.com)

**Facebook/Instagram/YouTube:** [stpeteruccskokie](https://www.facebook.com/stpeteruccskokie)

**Website:** [www.stpeteruccskokie.org](http://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**

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**St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Skokie  
Order of Worship for Sunday, July 17, 2022 at 10:00am  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

**PRELUDE** "Day by Day and with Each Passing Moment"  
arr. Sandstrom

**THE RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS** Jenn Schneider

*Those who are able please stand.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

P: Come join the band, the sacred parade:

**C: A mystical fusion of ages and stages of faith.**

P: The mortal and eternal in direct encounter – the human soul invites the divine presence:

**C: The probing mind reaching out for a concept of the ultimate, setting the stage for worship. That is why we are here!**

**RESPONSE** "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord" SSB #1 (x2)

**A: Sing hallelujah to the Lord**

**Sing hallelujah to the Lord**

**Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah**

**Sing hallelujah to the Lord**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

P: Near the baptism-water's edge, we are gathered to confess and repent. Come to the font in our hearts, and lift up our sins to our merciful God.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**A: God of our Baptism,  
symbolically, we come to that same river where  
You, Jesus, were baptized,  
and we stand next to You, waiting to be washed.  
But we confess that we often wish to do so  
without going through the messiness of repentance.  
We want Your grace but act as we did before  
receiving it.  
Help us to truly be baptized by Your Good News,  
by hearing it, touching it, tasting it,  
and then reflecting it as the sunrise over the river's  
horizon.  
In Christ's name we pray for mercy and  
transformation! Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *First John 4:9-11*

P: "God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent His only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent His Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another."


We love because God first loved us, and sent Jesus to dispel any doubts. We are forgiven, because our sins are paid for; and we forgive others because God forgave us first. Will the congregation lay hold of this great good news with me, responding joyfully by saying . . .

**C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**


**HYMN**

**“Lift Up Your Heads”**


**SSB #9**



1 Lift up your heads, O might-y gates; be-hold the glo-ri-ous Rul-er waits!  
 2 Fling wide the por-tals of your heart; make it a tem-ple, set a-part  
 3 Re-deem-er, come! I o-pen wide my heart to you; here, Christ, a-bide!  
 4 So come, my Sov-ereign; en-ter in! Let new and no-bler life be-gin;




The Sov-ereign One is draw-ing near; the Sav-ior of the world is here.  
 From earth-ly use for heaven's em-ploy, a-dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
 Let me your in-ner pres-ence feel; your grace and love in me re-veal.  
 Your Ho-ly Spir-it guide us on, un-til the glo-ri-ous crown be won.



*Georg Weissel, a Lutheran pastor, served a church in Königsberg, East Prussia. He wrote some twenty hymns, most of them for the great festivals of the church year. This hymn was written for Advent.*

Tune: TRURO L.M.  
 Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **CALL TO OFFERING**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

The Prophet

Epistle:

Barb Todd

Amos 8:1-12

Colossians 1:15-23

### **VOCAL SOLO** “Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord”

Sung by: Richard Schneider

*Those who are able please stand.*

### **GOSPEL**

Luke 10:38-42

### **RESPONSE**

“Alleluia!”

#495

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Baptized today is Harrison (“Harry”) Bernard Kuras II, son of Harrison and Angela (Washek) Kuras. The sponsors are Lisa Washek and Gregory Sneary. The congregation is participating in this covenant and sacrament, so please participate aloud as indicated below.

### **Welcome**

P: They were bringing children to Jesus that He might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, He was indignant and said to them,

**C: ‘Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say**

**to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall never enter it.'**

P: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying His hands upon them.

### **Address**

P: (the address ends with the words . . . ) Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**C: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's Body.**

### **Questions to the Parents and Sponsors**

#### **Congregational Covenant**

P: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament promise your love, support and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

**C: We promise our love, support, and care.**

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

P: Let us unite with the Church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the Triune God.  
Do you believe in God?

**C: I believe in God.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

**Prayer of Baptism and Over the Water**

**The Baptism and Blessing**

**Introduction to the Congregation**

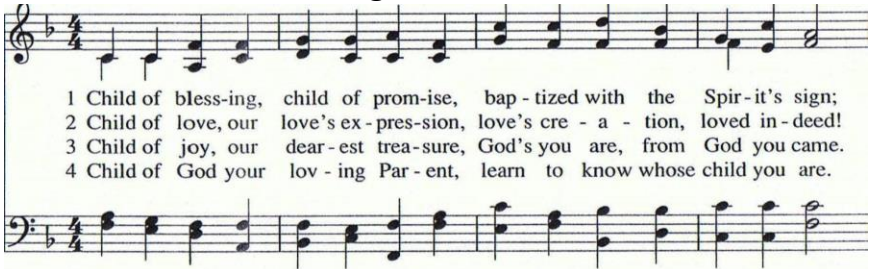
**The Pronouncement**

P: We have all entered into a holy covenant this day.  
May God grant us the grace to keep it. Go in the  
peace of Christ.

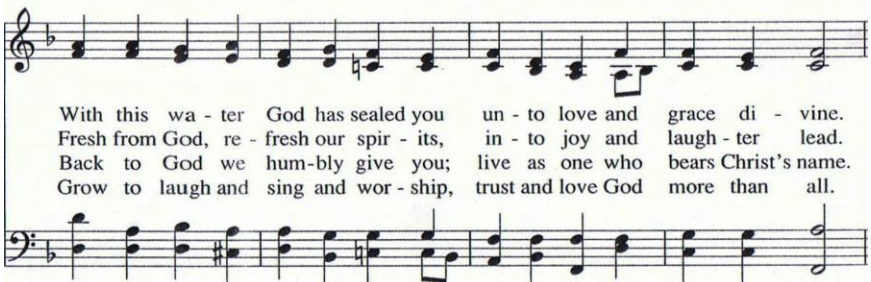
**C: Thanks be to God!**

*Will those who are able please rise to sing*

**HYMN: "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"**



1 Child of blessing, child of promise, bap-tized with the Spir-it's sign;  
2 Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre-a-tion, loved in-deed!  
3 Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came.  
4 Child of God your lov-ing Par-ent, learn to know whose child you are.



With this wa-ter God has sealed you un-to love and grace di-vine.  
Fresh from God, re-fresh our spir-its, in-to joy and laugh-ter lead.  
Back to God we hum-bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.  
Grow to laugh and sing and wor-ship, trust and love God more than all.

**PASTORAL PRAYER 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**

**HOMILY**        “O the Places the Baptized Can Go!”

*Those who are able please stand.*

**HYMN**        “Martha Labored in the Kitchen”

*Sing to the tune of "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

**Martha labored in the kitchen; there was much yet to be done!**

**There was cooking, cleaning, baking — too much work for anyone.**

**For the Lord had come to visit; Jesus sat there as her guest. So much work! She longed to share it, so the meal would be its best.**

**Mary sat and humbly listened to their guest — her Friend and Lord.**

**She just thought of Jesus' teaching — not the need for bread and board.**

**So when Martha came complaining, seeking Mary's help that day.**

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**Jesus turned to her explaining, "Mary chose the better way."**

**God, we see in her distraction — Martha lost sight of her goal;**

**In her grumbling and complaining, she forgot food for the soul.**

**For there's always something pressing — something urgent we must do,**

**Yet for us there's also blessing in the time we spend with you.**

**Were there days when Mary labored, helping others, serving well?**

**Were there times when Martha savored stories Jesus loved to tell?**

**May we worship, pray and study; may we serve you well today!**

**All are needed on the journey as we travel Jesus' way.**

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## **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** “Come Thou Fount of Ev’ry Blessing”

arr. Metsinger

*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.*

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## **FOR WORSHIP TODAY**

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MINISTER	Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Beth Lanford
LIVESTREAM	Jenn Schneider
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Annie Noorts

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# News in the Pews

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**Good Morning!** Welcome to worship! Here may you find rest for your souls, challenge and comfort alike, and inspiration to share Christ's love as you go forth in faith.

**We especially welcome back** Harrison and Angela Kuras and their friends and family as they come for the baptism of Harry!

**The Church Council meets** after worship in the Gym.

**The Memorial Service of Ralph Burmeister** was held here Wednesday; his remains were interred with those of son Ken and next to the grave of wife Carol.

**THIS WEEK RUMMAGE SORTING** is on Tuesday and Thursday evenings (6:30 – 8:30 PM), plus Fridays 10 AM to Noon. Come when you can, leave when you must, all assistance will be needed and appreciated. *Annie is asking folks if other times and days would work as we haven't gotten many volunteers so far. If you can sort on other days or times please contact her!*

**Donations very much needed for our mini food pantry!** Our supply has dwindled AGAIN, any items appreciated. Bring your donations to Sunday service or to the office area during the week and thank you!

**Tomorrow** is the deadline for articles for the August newsletter.

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**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.

**KITCHEN MONTH:** Speaking of offerings, July has 5 Saturdays and so we are in line for the honor of being the feeding partners with the Community Kitchen of A Just Harvest for Saturday July 30. So far, we are still in the COVID protocol of asking for cash contributions adding up to a grand total of \$500, which the Kitchen staff uses to both buy the groceries for, and prepare to serve, the meal in our place. We have received a gift of \$250 to get us started with such short notice, so we're asking for 'only' an accumulation of \$250 more to complete our promised partnership. Make checks payable to St. Peter's but mark the check / envelope "Kitchen." Thank you!!

**Pastor Richard will leave on a 14-day vacation starting this Wednesday, July 20th, returning on August 3rd.** Lay liturgists are scheduled to be, based on the Lector schedule, David Iannotti (24th) and Karen Christianson (31st) if available. Pastor will leave a list of clergy who said they will be available if a pastoral emergency arises while he's gone. The Guest Preachers will be the Revs. Dr. Penny Taylor and Bill Reissl, who will feature a dialogue sermon called "Do Not Bother Me." They are a clergy couple in the United Church of Christ, clinical social workers, and co-founders of the Center to Awaken Kindness providing family therapy to individuals and couples. The Guest Preacher on July 31st is the Rev. Roger Dart, who has preached here before, is a member of Trinity UCC in Deerfield, and is the current volunteer leader of the Illinois Conference Disaster Recovery Team.

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# Our People

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**HOSPITALIZED:** Judy Paige had a stroke of some magnitude over the weekend in Mundelein and was hospitalized with some lack of feeling in her hand. She has been discharged with an order for physical therapy and prayers from Saint Peter's. Dorothy Panzke is back home at last! After a rehab stint at Elevate Care Irving Park, she went home Sunday afternoon. She will receive visits for on-going physical therapy. Please continue to pray for their continued recovery.

**Happy birthday and anniversaries!** Having a birthday this week is A. J. Tarzian; having wedding anniversaries all on July 17th are the Brzozowskis, Eric and Lisa Martinek, and Gail (Dennis) and John Balling. May God shine on their celebrations!

The liturgy for the Sacrament of Baptism is from The Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ. Our Call to Confession is reprinted by permission of the publisher from Touch Holiness, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright 1990 by The Pilgrim Press. Copyright 2012 Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Our Prayer of Confession was written by the Rev. Stephen Fearing, a Presbyterian Pastor in Kentucky.

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## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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PRESIDENT	Jenn Schneider
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Paige
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Carolyn Kuechler
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Maria Altmayer

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## *Regular Reminders!*

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**Pastor's Podcast is now on all the Podcast platforms-** iTunes, Stitcher, Overcast, Spotify, Podcast Addict, Amazon Music and more. Just look up "The Redheaded Preacher" on your podcast catcher or music streaming service then hit subscribe and you'll get the newest editions weekly! You can also get it via the church's webpage link. Give us a 5-star rating and review if you can, it helps us grow so much.

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UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

## MISSION MOMENTS

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**July 17, 2022**

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Luke 10:38-42**

**Word and Work**

In today's scripture, two sisters welcome Jesus into their home. Martha bustles about, working in the kitchen and at the table. Mary serves in another way, by deeply listening and learning, growing in her faith and understanding. Within each of us there is both a Mary and a Martha. At times we are ready to work and act, and at times we yearn to learn and grow.

To tend to your inner Mary, put a book or two from The Pilgrim Press on your summer reading list. The United Church of Christ's Pilgrim Press is a bold voice with a rich heritage. The oldest English language publishing tradition in North America, The Pilgrim Press publishes books that nurture spiritual growth, cultivate religious leadership, and provoke the soul for the sake of a just world.

A Pilgrim Press classic, *Water Bugs and Dragonflies*, will be released in a 50th anniversary edition this summer. This gentle guide to talking to children about death, and the mystery of what happens afterwards, includes additional reflections by author Doris Stickney.

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You may also want to check out *Intentional Leadership* by Sarah B. Drummond. Drummond serves as Founding Dean of Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School, and she writes and teaches extensively about leadership and ministry in formation.

Also, look for *Fat Church*, coming out this summer from The Pilgrim Press. We are all made in the image of God, or the *imago dei*. This book is a critique of how the church participates in fat shaming and diet culture in ways that contradict our foundational belief in *imago dei*.

We are all pilgrims, striving after insight in life and faith. There is within each of us a Mary, wanting only to learn and grow. The Pilgrim Press is a daring adventurer and trusted companion along the way, bearing testimony that there is “more truth and light yet to break forth.”

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**Amos 8:1-12**

This is what the Lord God showed me—a basket of summer fruit.

He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit."

Then the LORD said to me, "The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day," says the Lord God; "the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!"

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances,

buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals,

and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:

Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day.

The time is surely coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it.

**Colossians 1:15-23**

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him — provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

**Luke 10:38-42**

Now as Jesus and the disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.

She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he

was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."