

A dramatic landscape photograph featuring a bright sun low on the horizon, creating a lens flare effect. The sun is partially obscured by a range of mountains. The sky is filled with large, textured clouds, some of which are illuminated from below by the sun, creating a glowing effect. The foreground shows dark, silhouetted mountain peaks. The overall color palette is dominated by warm oranges, yellows, and reds from the sun, contrasting with the dark blues and blacks of the shadows and sky.

**NOW
WHAT?**

Welcome to St Peter's UCC Livestream Virtual Worship Service! Subscribe to our **YouTube Channel** to catch a new service at 10 am each Sunday! We also share a **podcast** weekly on our website of the scripture readings and sermon. The podcast can also be found on most podcast catchers & platforms, under "The Redheaded Preacher." Give us a like and 5-star rating to help others find us!

Open Holy Communion. We have communion the 1st Sunday of the month and we invite all Christians and seekers after God to partake of the Lord's Supper with us regardless of denominational background. To participate from home, please have a small cup of juice, wine, or other beverage you are comfortable with, and a piece of bread with you. When Rev. Lanford prompts us to "take and eat" (and "drink"), then we will all do so - physically separated, but together in spirit.

Who We Are. St. Peter's is an Open and Affirming congregation. We've been in the heart of downtown Skokie for over 152 years. 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 **welcome all people** to share worship, membership, marriage, baptism, funeral, and fellowship with us.

Attendance. We would like to get to know you better, too! If you are comfortable doing so, please put your first name and last initial in the comments section under the video, and where you are watching us from!

Donations. We have several options for giving, and your donation helps support our church and its various ministries. Now

more than ever, every contribution (large or small) is important to keep us going:

- **Text Your Gift.** Text the amount you want to donate to **844-997-2346**.
- **PayPal.** Visit **PayPal.me/stpeteruccskokie** Uncheck the "Paying for Goods or Services" box to not pass on the fees to St Peters.
- **Vanco Give+ App.** Download the Vanco GIVE+ app from **iTunes** or **Google Play**, put in the church's zip code 60077 and select St. Peter's from the drop down. Set up an account with a password (or process as a guest), select your donation frequency, amount, and add payment info. There is also an option here to offset the processing fee.
- **Mail a Check.** We are collecting mail daily, and depositing regularly throughout the week.

Contact Us. You can email us – we are accessing email from home during the Shelter-in-Place order. Or call and leave a voicemail, we are picking up messages regularly while we are not in the building. Follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** for daily updates and messages, and check our website for additional details, weekly announcements, and more.

St. Peter's United Church of Christ

8013 Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL 60077

(Oakton and Laramie)

847-673-8166

www.stpeteruccskokie.org

Rev. Richard Lanford (Pastor): revlanford@gmail.com

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

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

St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Oakton Street and Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL
www.stpeteruccskokie.org

847-673-8166

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
April 4th, 2021 10:00 AM
Easter Sunday

WELCOME GUESTS!

* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

PRELUDE: Fanfare on "The Strife is O're"
by Phil Lehenbauer

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: The entire world can change in the span
of one Holy Week. We have heard shouts
of joy at the arrival of the King
turn into cries for execution.
But the execution of Jesus is not the final
act. The final act is resurrection.
The Lord is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed!

P: We have seen the loyalty of the disciples melt quickly into betrayal, denial and abandonment.

But neither betrayal, denial, nor abandonment is the last word.

The last words are "Christ is risen!"

C: ***He is risen indeed!***

P: We have seen the sky torn apart and the world go dark. But the darkness is demolished in the light of morning, and the great news floods the world like the dawn. Christ is risen!

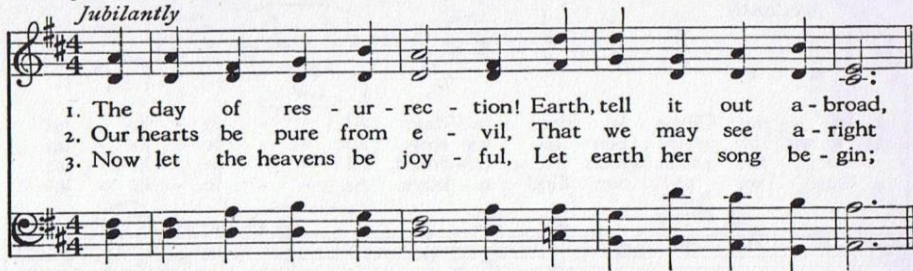
C: ***He is risen indeed!***

165

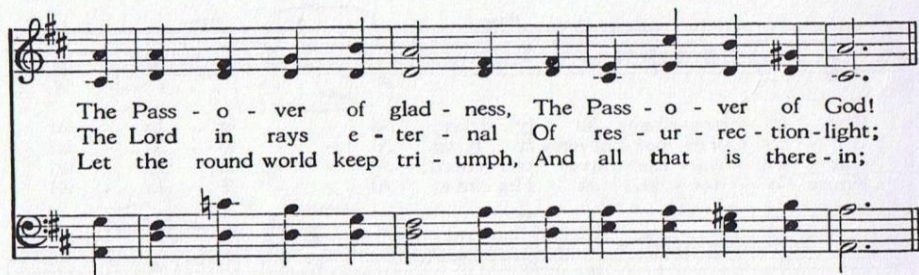
His Resurrection

JOHN OF DAMASCUS, 8th century
Tr. JOHN MASON NEALE, 1862

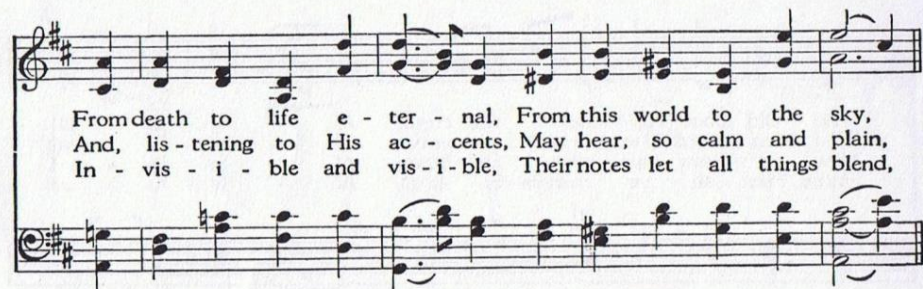
7. 6. 7. 6. D.

LANCASHIRE
HENRY SMART, 1836*Subilantly*


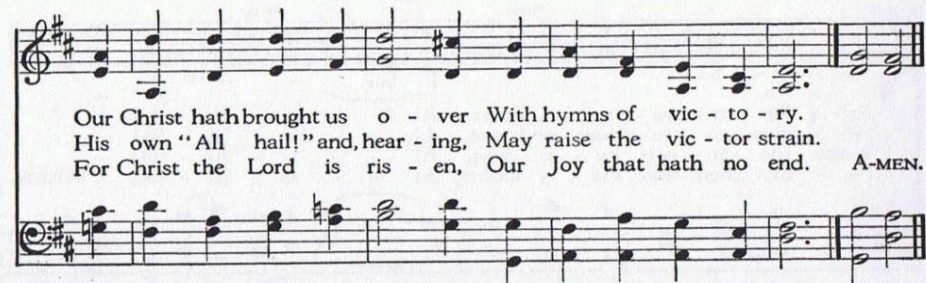
1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, That we may see a - right
3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful, Let earth her song be - gin;



The Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The Pass - o - ver of God!
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion-light;
Let the round world keep tri - umph, And all that is there - in;



From death to life e - ter - nal, From this world to the sky,
And, lis - tening to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
In - vis - i - ble and vis - i - ble, Their notes let all things blend,



Our Christ hath brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
For Christ the Lord is ris - en, Our Joy that hath no end. A-MEN.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

P: Beloved, we are God's children because of the love God has for us, yet we sometimes fail to respond to God's outpouring of love. Let us confess our sins together.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful and loving God, Your love for us is unconditional, yet our love for You, for others and for ourselves is often marred. We allow prejudice and pride to blind us; our brokenness remains unhealed; we cling to old stories and hurts which impede the work of reconciliation. Forgive us, we pray, for failing to trust You, for playing it safe instead of following the daring call of Your Spirit, for withholding forgiveness and grace from ourselves and others. Let Your love renew us yet again. Let the same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead rekindle creative life within us and restore right relations among us. In the name of the Risen One we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

P: We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us. Friends, hear the good news and believe: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

C: Christ has died, Christ has risen, and we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

173

His Resurrection

Latin; tr. FRANCIS POTT, 1861

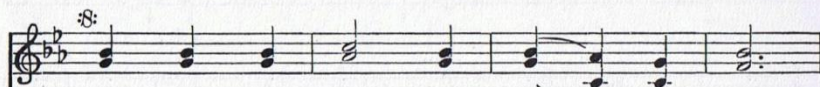
8. 8. 8. 4. with Alleluia

VICTORY
PALESTRINA, 1591
Adapted by W. F. MONK

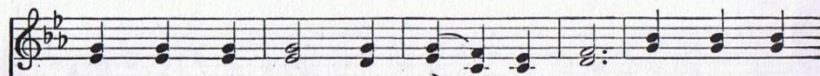
Jubilantly. With majesty



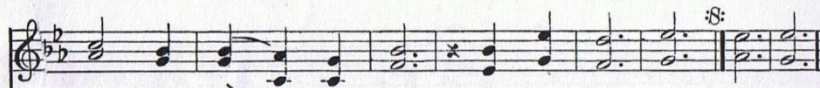
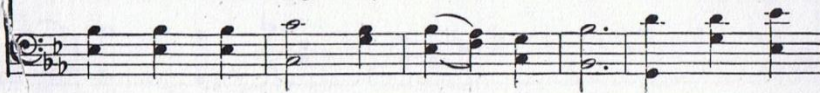
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



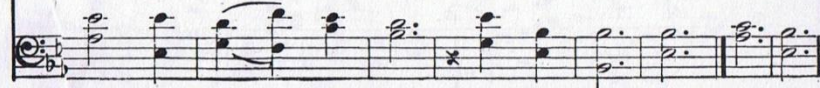
1. The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
2. The powers of death have done their worst;
3. The three sad days have quick - ly sped;
4. He closed the yawn - ing gates of hell,
5. Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,



The vic - to - ry of life is won; The song of
But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed: Let shouts of
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead: All glo - ry
The bars from heaven's high por - tals fell: Let hymns of
From death's dread sting Thy serv - ants free, That we may



tri - umph has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
praise His tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia! A - MEN.



THE SHARING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenn Schneider

A CALL TO OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jessica Schneider

The Prophet:

Isaiah 25:6-9

The Apostle:

I Corinthians 15:1-11

MUSICAL MEDITATION Selected

The Gospel:

Mark 16:1-8

HOMILY "Standing, and Moving, in Resurrection"

167

His Resurrection

CHARLES WESLEY, 1739

7. 7. 7. 7. with Alleluias

EASTER HYMN (WORGAN)

Lyra Davidica, 1708

Jubilantly

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Sons of men and an - gels say, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Once He died, our souls to save, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids Him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Made like Him, like Him we rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Where's thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - - le - lu - ia! A-MEN.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Exhortation and Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

The Words of Institution

Participation

CLOSING PASTORAL PRAYER AND

THE LORD'S PRAYER ('debts')

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

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION:**

P: Christ is risen!

C: *Christ is risen indeed!*

P: Therefore, go in the power of this risen Christ to work, live, love and serve, for the resurrection has changed everything. You have nothing to fear. You are never alone. Sin and death will not have the final word. We are more than conquerors through him who loves us, who gave his life for us and who now sits at God's right-hand interceding on our behalf. Go in peace, for Christ is risen!

C: *Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah! Amen.*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

***POSTLUDE:** "Symphony No. 3"

by Camille Saint-Saëns

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTER
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Rev. Richard Lanford
Ben Westphal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Welcome to worship — and to resurrection life — on this most joyous day.

This is a Communion Sunday, and so we ask you who remain at home this morning to have a piece of bread, a roll, or something small like this with you, and a cup of wine, juice, water, coffee or something else, each of which will be your “bread and cup.” As if we were gathered in person together, consecrated by the Spirit and prayer, please partake of what you have when so prompted during Communion by Pastor Lanford.

Thank you to everyone who helped at this Resurrection Day service in our various ministries of worship, hospitality and administration! We thank you all for attending or by watching the livestream (which is also available on replay after the livestream ends). We also thank the Communion Elders, lector, chair-lift operator, counters, cross-cloth and parament changers, Easter egg hunt preparers and goodies-donors, chancel flower facilitators, carriers, arrangers, and our staff!

The Lenten Bible Study on The Sermon on the Mount concludes this coming Wednesday from 6:30 (catch up time) to 8 PM.

Sue and Barb Bailey’s Aunt Eleanor remains in palliative care in Schaumburg.

Next Sunday's service will be livestreamed only as of now. As mentioned earlier, the Church Council wants to take a step back after Holy Week and Easter to evaluate how things went, how folks felt, what is happening in our community related to the Virus, what the health priority and attendance may merit, and more, before deciding about regathering in maybe May.

MAY EVERYONE HAVE A BLESSED EASTER SUNDAY AND SEASON!

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Jenn Schneider
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Paige
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Carolyn Kuechler
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Marcia Hilliard

E A S T E R D A Y

April 4, 2021

Mark 16:1-8

Now What?

The resurrection story is the story of a journey from death to life - not only for Jesus the Christ but also for those who loved and followed him.

Jesus' friend Mary is the first to the tomb, along with some other women disciples. She arrives at the tomb uncertain, and in the telling from the Gospel of Mark, leaves that place "trembling and bewildered." At first, the Gospel says, they said "nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." And yet the story must have leaked out, because we tell it again today. The story moved from the tomb of confused silence to the resurrection light of confident proclamation.

We also often find ourselves trembling and bewildered, silent and afraid. How can we move from the speechlessness of fear to the joyful speech of the good news? Maybe following Mary to the tomb can give us some ideas about how to take the journey ourselves from death to life. Like Mary and her friends, we can meet grief face to face, and to take the risks that challenge us in that encounter.

Mary was willing to meet grief face-to-face. Personally, she had witnessed the brutal torture and murder of her teacher, healer and friend. By tending to the tomb of her loved one, Mary was enacting one of the rituals of grief. At first, it might cause more sadness, but she had the wisdom to know that pausing to grieve was an important step on transformation's path. How awful it must have been to face that terrible grief. But the good news is that no matter the grief, joy will come in the morning.

In her grief, Mary was also willing to take a risk. How scary it must have been for Mary and the other women to be there in the garden, before first light had come. There is so much that tells us to be afraid. But the good news is that the new life that Christ promises is greater than any fear.



IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY, EASTER 2021

Todd Family

In Memory of Loved Ones

Barb & Sue Bailey

In Memory of Loved Ones

Wendy & Roy Svenson

in Honor of our grandsons Lincoln,
Felix, Arthur and our grandfur baby Cleo.

Judy Paige

in Honor of Easter joy;
In memory of my husband Ed Paige

Tracy Puckett

in Honor of all first responders,
All healthcare workers & teachers

Marlene Russell

in Honor of Friends of St. Peter's UCC

Gail & Greg Thomas

In Memory of Our Parents

Annie Noorts

In Memory of Charlie Uchtman,
Joan & George Stahl and George Noorts

Don & Lana Kahn

In Memory of Roy & June Peterson
From their grandkids & great grandkids

Maria & Randy Altmayer

In Memory of loved ones

The Sterba Family

in Honor of Great Aunt Dorothy Taylor
Who turns 100 on April 12th!



SCRIPTURES FOR THE CONGREGATION

Easter, April 4, 2021

Isaiah 25:6 - 9

6On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

7And God will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;

8he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

9It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

1 Corinthians 15:1 - 11

“=1Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,

2through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

3For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,

4and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,

5and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

6Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

7Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

8Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

9For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

10But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”

So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.