



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
August 28,
2022
10:00 AM**

**Twelfth Sunday
after Pentecost**

Lorel Park





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&url=https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/stpeteruccskokie) 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

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

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](https://www.facebook.com/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 28, 2022 at 10:00am
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Lorel Park Service**

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

PRELUDE Selected

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS Jenn Schneider

Those who are able please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Quiet your mind, still your restlessness. Come before God.

C: Like a bird that lights on a branch, we come to the pause of the Holy One.

P: Warm up your heart, stir up your spirit, as we come before God.

C: Like snowflakes falling on a winter night, beautiful alone, deep when gathered, we fall into the presence of God. Amen!

CALL TO CONFESSION *from Jeremiah 31*

P: “Indeed I heard Ephraim pleading, ‘You disciplined me, and I took the discipline; I was like a calf untrained.

C: Bring back, let me come back, for You are the Lord my God.”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: From our Scriptures for the day: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels unaware.”

A: We admit we have not always shown such hospitality either at church or at home; we will try to follow this teaching whenever possible, and not only when we feel like it.

P: “Keep your lives free from the love of money.”

A: We admit we make an idol of financial security; it is important but we should never “love” money.

P: “But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.”

A: We confess that would never even come to our minds, other than to do something as part of a group on Thanksgiving. A Just Harvest does that for us! Forgive us our neglect of Your teaching, merciful God, and reawaken us to what grace can trigger in our lives. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

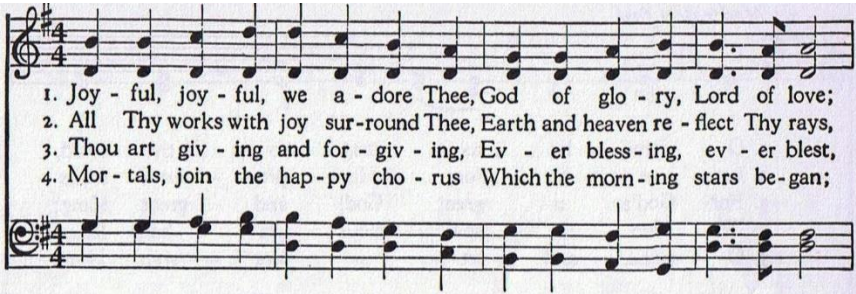
ASSURANCE OF PARDON *From Jeremiah 31:20*

God asked, “Is Ephraim my dear son? Is he the child I delight in? As often as I speak against him, I still remember him. Therefore I am deeply moved for him; I will surely have mercy on him, says the Lord.”

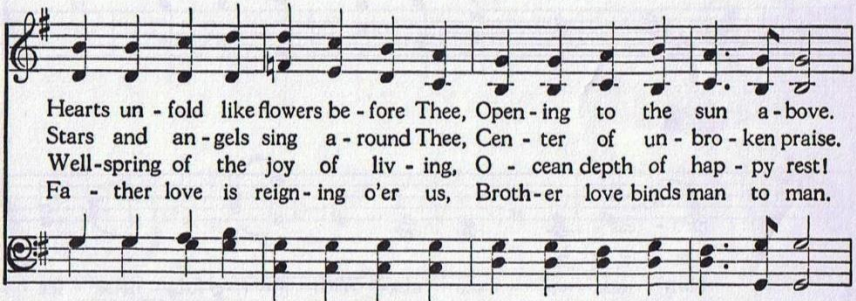
In the New Testament gospel, the Father remembers us, and also God’s Son who suffered and died for our forgiveness; through whom we will receive mercy to cover our sins from our beginning. When God looks at us, God sees not our fallen state but that we have returned to God and sees also the perfect righteousness of Christ (Colossians 1:22). Our sins are forgiven, and new life is before us, courtesy of the grace of God. In laying claim to this priceless gift, please join me in praise, saying . . .

A: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

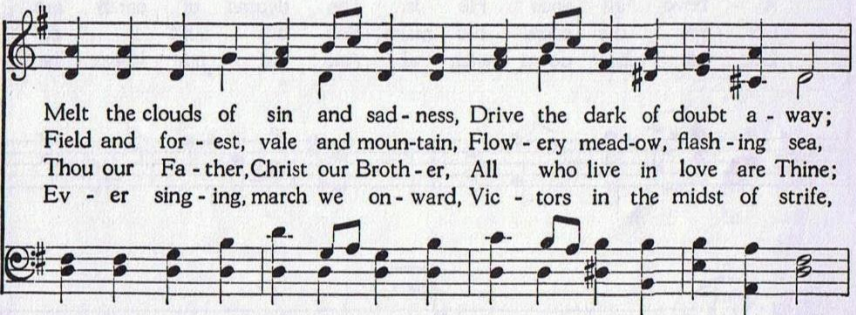
HYMN "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" #21 (vv. 1-3)



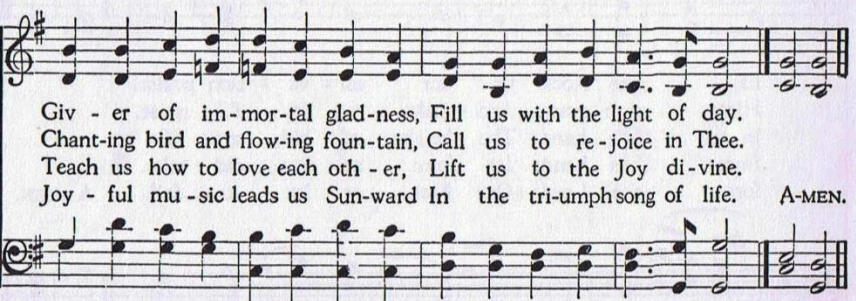
1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
 4. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus Which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 Fa - ther love is reign - ing o'er us, Broth - er love binds man to man.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er, All who live in love are Thine;
 Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
 Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, Call us to re - joice in Thee.
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the Joy di - vine.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us Sun - ward In the tri - umph song of life. A - MEN.

The congregation may be seated.

CALL TO OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Katy S. Aguayo

The Prophet:

Jeremiah 2:4-13

The Epistle:

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

MUSICAL MEDITATION Selected

Sung and played by Dan Guenther

Those who are able please stand.

GOSPEL:

Luke 14:1, 7-14

RESPONSE: “Alleluia!”

#495

The congregation may sit down

PASTORAL PRAYERS & 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**

SERMON “Be Our Guest, Be Our Host!”

Will those who are able please rise to sing

HYMN: "When You Show Up at a Dinner"

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

When you show up at a dinner thinking you have quite the name,

do not take the place of honor, for you might be put to shame.

For the host may greet you, saying, "Someone else is sitting here!

There's the place you will be eating — at the table, in the rear."

When you show up at a dinner, here's the thing that you should do:

Find the low seat and be humble, then the host may say to you,

"Friend, move up! Your place is higher!" You'll be honored, all around!

For the meek will be made greater and the great will be cast down.

And when you're the one inviting, here's the guest list, to be sure:

Don't invite your friends and siblings, but instead, invite the poor.

Welcome in the sick and struggling who can never once repay.

Your reward will be in heaven come the Resurrection Day.

Jesus, may we hear your teaching, for your goal was not to shame

but to help us catch the vision of the blessings of God's reign.

There will be a great reversal and we all will be surprised!

Make us kind and meek and humble! Change our ways, Lord!

Change our lives!

Text: Copyright © 2022 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Used by personal permission.

CHARGE

P: May the lonely paths of self-interest and despair lead to the broad highway of wholeness and understanding between people.

C: Let us become builders along the access ways to God’s peace.

BENEDICTION

P: God is good,

C: All the time.

P: All the time,

C: God is good. AMEN!

POSTLUDE

Selected

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

MINISTER	Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Maria Altmayer
RECORDING	Jennifer Schneider
NURSERY ATTENDANT	n/a

News in the Pews

Good Morning! “Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob!” (Psalm 81:1, ESV). Welcome to this opportunity to praise God.

Thanks to our Deacon, Ben, Dan, and Katy for helping lead worship this morning and for all who helped our Deacon and Ben bring, set up, and take down the keyboard, amp; the counters, Skokie Park District employees for trucking over chairs and other items, and you all for attending!

This week, on Thursday morning, September 1st, Pastor Richard will be at the CMA Cluster 1 meeting, which will be hosted by the Winnetka Congregational Church. These meetings go from 10 AM to 11:30 AM.

Sunday School Rally Day is in two weeks, on September 11th at 9 AM. We shall begin then, but we will not be gathering upstairs for chapel and class until further notice. We plan to gather in the sanctuary for chapel on the 11th because the Memorial Room will be all set up for the upcoming Rummage and Bake Sale. After the Rummage Sale is over we will gather in the Memorial Room at 9 AM for chapel and afterwards break up to designated areas for classes. THANK YOU to Rita McMahan, a good friend of Beth Lanford, for agreeing to take one of our classes!!

The last day for rummage collection is September 11th!

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. If you can't come at these times, you are welcome to come sort during office hours OR, if you have a key come whenever the mood strikes you!

In September, the Micah 6:8 Committee is sponsoring a “Brief Collection” for the Night Ministry's guests and clients at their Health Van stops and in the couple of shelters they hold. More details will be in your September Announcer.

Starting next week, the white vehicles used by employees of the Village of Skokie will relocate to a public parking section of the new parking ramp across Floral Avenue from the parking lot adjacent to St. Peter's. This is for the duration of the Farmer's Market (which displaces those vehicles in the first place). This will open up a lot of parking space in the lot next to the church property. Further, next Sunday, September 4th, non-members and friends of the church who take advantage of the 3 good spots on Laramie right by the “No Parking Sundays 9 AM to Noon” sign will be given a warning by the Skokie Police Department. After that one-week warning, we hope to have given “St. Peter's UCC” parking placards to our members who most will benefit from parking right by Laramie Avenue. This is a return to an old arrangement dating back to before Pastor Lanford arrived. Details may have yet to ironed out at our end regarding the placards themselves, maybe over timing, and who receives them from us (so the Police do not ticket you).

Our closing hymn is a brand new one. Rev. Winfrey Gillette says it is a retelling of Jesus' teaching to take the humble seats at the table and to invite strangers who are in need to our own tables; it is a prayer that we will catch the vision of God's reign that turns the world upside down.

Our People

NEW BABY BOY BORN! Christine Svenson gave birth to a third son, Fredrik William Carnate Svenson on August 22nd. He came in at 7 lbs., 11 oz. To quote grandmother Wendy Svenson, "He's just adorable." Congratulations and best wishes to baby Fredrick, Christine, Peter, Felix and Arthur!

A reminder that our Office Manager, Laura Olson, will be out of the office on a vacation day tomorrow, Monday August 27th. The office will also be closed on Monday, Labor Day, September 5th.

Having a birthday this week are Helen Mauer, Bill Schaller and Ursula Dworak. **Celebrating an anniversary** are Peter and Christine Svenson and Jennifer (Mau) and Anthony Gemignani. Best wishes of God's Providence to them all!

This morning's Call to Worship is reprinted by permission of the publisher from Touch Holiness, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright 1990 by The Pilgrim Press. The Revised edition is copyright 2012 by the two editors.

Next Sunday our Lector is Dan Guenther, and Laurie Mitchell is scheduled to be our Nursery Attendant.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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

Regular Reminders!

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.

Donations always needed for our food pantry. There's a list of items on the shelves outside the offices if you aren't sure what to buy. Items can be left on those same shelves under the stairs by the offices.

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.



MISSION MOMENTS

August 28, 2022

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Open Table

The Little Pantry Movement is based on the Little Library movement. Where the little libraries made books available to neighbors and passers-by, the little pantry makes available non-perishable food and hygiene items for anyone who might be in need. The motto of the loosely organized movement is “Take what you need, give what you can.” The mini pantry movement is a grassroots, crowdsourced solution to immediate and local need. Whether a need for food or a need to give, mini pantries help feed neighbors, nourishing neighborhoods.

Emmaus United Church in the Northern Virginia community of Vienna has a Little Free Food Pantry on their property. In September 2020 the Emmaus Youth Group received a \$500 service grant from a local organization to build a Little Free Pantry, a project that was chosen by the Emmaus Youth Group members. Over the course of 3 weekends, the Youth Group members gathered to construct and install the Pantry. The Youth Group checks and stocks the Pantry weekly, but anyone can check it throughout the week and restock it from a bin of donations left in a public place.

Suggested personal care donations to the Emmaus Little Food Pantry are items like hand sanitizer, face masks, individually wrapped toothbrushes, small size toothpaste, socks, first aid supplies, soap/shampoo, brushes and combs.

Of course, food donations are the mainstay of the pantry and include nonperishable food items with pull tabs or other easy-to-open and single serve containers. Suggested items are jerky, canned/packets of meat, canned ready meals (pasta, chili), nut and seed butter (single serve or small size preferred), canned fruit/fruit cups, peanut butter & other snack crackers, dried fruit, trail mix, nuts, granola/protein/breakfast bars, single serve cereal, single serve shelf stable milk, juice boxes, canned vegetables, canned soup, and water bottles.

Jesus welcomed all to an open table. A Little Free Pantry is one example of an open table that you and your community can co-create with Christ in your area. If you are curious about how you could create a Little Free Food Pantry on your church property, check out <https://emmausucc.org/> or <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>.

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob,

and all the families of the house of Israel.

Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, "Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.

The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD,

and I accuse your children's children.

Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,

send to Kedar and examine with care;

see if there has ever been such a thing.

Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.

Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked,

be utterly desolate, says the LORD,

for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through Christ, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion, when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."