

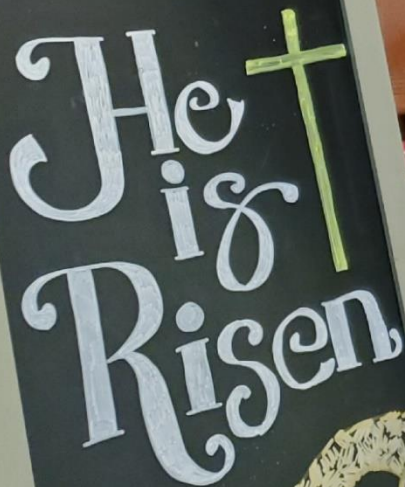


Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

Sunday,
April 9, 2023
10:00 AM

Easter Sunday



He
is
Risen





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, April 9, 2023 at 10:00am

Easter Sunday

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

PRELUDE "Voluntary in G minor" by Stanley

PROCLAMATION OF THE RESURRECTION

"The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.'"

Will those who are able please begin to rise!

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS AND ENTRY OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

HYMN "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" #167 (vv. 1, 2)

You may choose to sing in verse 1, line 2, "All of us" instead of "Sons of men"

Andantino

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: Amid our Easter celebrations, it is well to pause for moments of reflection. How can we share the joy of new life if we have not taken time to examine old ways that lead to death? How will we recognize the risen Christ if we have not walked with the earthly Jesus? If these questions strike our spirits with a need to confess, please, if you haven't done so already, read the prayer of confession silently to yourselves in hopes of making it our own. Then we will pray it aloud.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A: O God, the message of the Resurrection has come again before we were totally ready to receive it. The Palm Sunday procession demanded very little of us. We could join in the hosannas. But the betrayal and denial, the suffering and shame, the agony, death and burial have left us despairing and shaken. We have become enemies of Jesus without intending to be disloyal. We have left Him in the tomb, lest He upset our daily lives. The Jesus of long ago seems more comfortable to us than the Christ who is risen today in our midst. We confess our reluctance to let Christ claim us and change us. O God, we need forgiveness and help! In the matchless name of Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

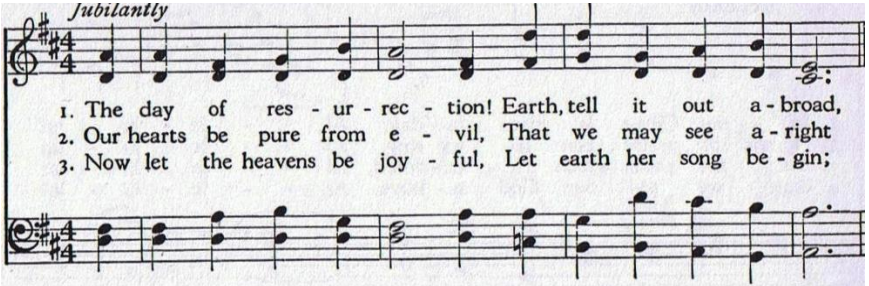
P: “An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,’ which means, ‘God is with us’” (Matt. 1:20b-23).

Friends, believe the Easter gospel: In Jesus Christ born, later crucified, and now risen, God’s love has saved us from our sins. Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection wash away our sins and give us a new, everlasting quality of life in this life and the next. “What then shall we say to this?”

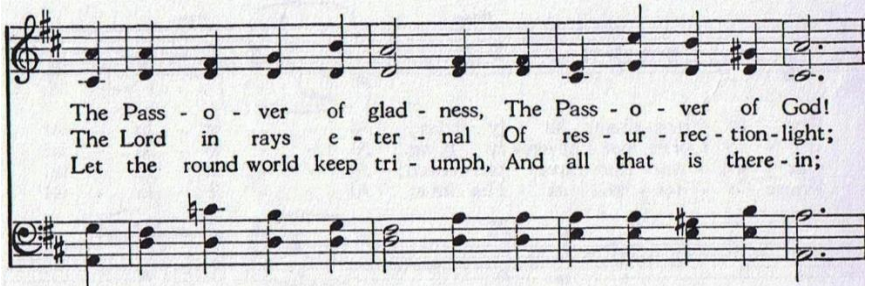
**A: “If God is for us, who is against us?”
Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!
Alleluia! Amen.**

HYMN "The Day of Resurrection"

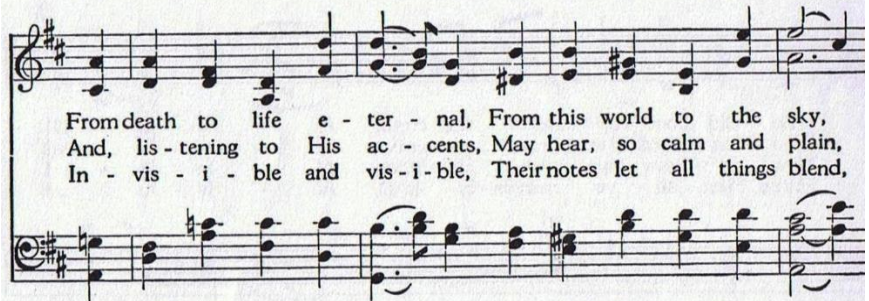
#165 (vv. 1, 2)

Jubilantly


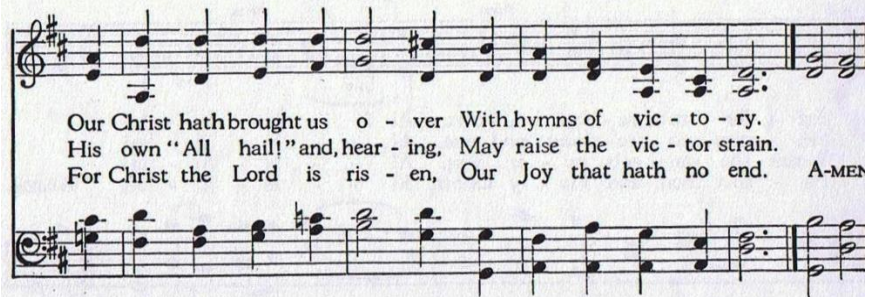
1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, That we may see a - right
3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful, Let earth her song be - gin;



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

Please be seated

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Reins

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Marcia Hilliard

The Epistle:

Colossians 3:1-4

The Gospel:

John 20:1-18

CHORAL ANTHEM “Now the Green Blade Rises”

arr. Buckhardt

HOMILY “At the Tomb: Mary Magdalene, Jesus and Us”

HYMN

“Christ Arose!”

SSB #39

1. Low in the grave he lay, Je-sus my Sav-ior, wait-ing the com-ing day,
 2. Vain-ly they watch his bed, Je-sus my Sav-ior; vain-ly they seal the dead
 3. Death can-not keep its prey, Je-sus my Sav-ior; he tore the bars a-way,

Refrain

Je-sus my Lord! Up from the grave he a-rose, (he a-rose) with a

might-y tri-umph o'er his foes; (o'er his foes) he a-rose a vic-tor from the

dark do-main, and he lives for-ev-er, with his saints to reign. He a-

rose! (he a-rose) He a-rose! (he a-rose) Hal-le-lu-jah! Christ a-rose!

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Exhortation and Invitation

Sursum Corda

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And also with you.*

P: Lift up your hearts!

C: *We lift them up to the Lord!*

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sanctus (singing) #521

A: Holy, holy, holy! Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High!

Amen, Amen.

Prayer of Consecration

The Words of Institution

Participation

CLOSING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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**

Those who are able please stand.

HYMN

"Thine is the Glory"

(vv. 1, 2)

Inside the rear cover of the hymnal

1. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; End-less is the
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets thee, Ris - en from the tomb; Lov-ing - ly he
 3. No more we doubt thee, Glo - rious Prince of Life! Life is nought with -

vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, Scat-ters fear and gloom; Let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; Aid us in our strife; Make us more than con-qu'rors,

Rolled the stone a - way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 Hymns of tri - umph sing, For her Lord now liv - eth;
 Through thy death-less love; Bring us safe through Jor - dan

REFRAIN

Where thy bod - y lay.
 Death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son;
 To thy home a - bove.

End - less is the vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won. A - MEN.

BENEDICTION *(with a Celtic flavor)*

P: May all the joy and excitement of this day be with us.

C: May the power of Christ's resurrection go with us.

P: May the good news of this wondrous day be with us.

C: May the promise and hope of Easter go with us.

P: May we in the days ahead, sing, pray, live, love, act and serve all for the glory of God. For Christ is risen!

A: Christ is risen indeed! A joyous Easter to all. Live boldly! Amen!

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

POSTLUDE "The Strife is Over" arr. Lehenbauer

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	Peter Svenson
LIVESTREAMER	Jenn Schneider
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Laura Olson



IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY

EASTER 2023

Maria Altmayer In memory of Thomas Altmayer

Barb & Sue Bailey In memory of our loved ones

Patricia Mauer Erdman In memory of my parents Frederick and Helen, sister Laurie Leider, grandparents Johnson, all my cats and my beloved Windd Storme

Ann Herren In memory of David Herren

Sharon Johnson In memory of Johnnie and Susan

Ginger Kalensky In honor of family and friends

Richard & Beth Lanford In memory of Ralph & Carol Burmeister, Clara Melone and Helen Mauer

Peggy & Chad McCoy In memory of John McCoy

Laurie Mitchell In memory of Nancy Kammin

Annie Noorts In honor of Molly the adventurer and in memory of Charlie

Judy Paige In memory of loved ones

Marlene Russell In honor of caring friends and in memory of loved ones

Alice & Bill Schaller In memory of loved ones

Craig Stroker Agnes & Anna Harte

Wendy & Roy Svenson In honor of Fredrik William's 1st Easter, In memory of my brother Rick Hervig

Carolyn Van Til and Mike Ryan

Jim & Barbara Todd In memory of our loved ones

Alleluia!



News in the Pews

Welcome to worship on Easter Sunday! Christ is risen! Alleluia! Welcome, one and all, to this Resurrection Sunday worship celebration!

Thank you to everyone who played a role in putting this, and the Holy Week services together, including running the live-streaming. Thank all of you for coming here to praise the God of Resurrection together!

About Communion: All Christians and seekers after God are invited in to partake of the Lord's Supper here regardless of denominational background. We practice open Communion. We do, however, ask our own St. Peter's U.C.C. young folk to first go through the Communicants Class (6th grade). Please take one of the pre-filled Communion cups (juice) with the wafer on top. When the Pastor prompts us, please peel off the top layer of the cup covering to get at the wafer, then pull the wafer off to eat. If you are worshipping with us on-line, the prayer of consecration extends to all who participate wherever you are and whenever you partake of the service (thank You, Holy Spirit!). When prompted, please take whatever bread you have set aside for yourself and anyone with you, take and eat as prompted; when it's time for the cup, please do the same with whatever you have put in your cup at home (juice, wine, water, etcetera).

We are not yet back to passing the offering plate with an Offertory post-pandemic. Please see the first part of your bulletin or one of the larger pew cards for how to give electronically if you like; we also have 2 offering plates for checks and cash. They are located in the Narthex by the Oakton Street doors and by the Schmidt memorial window nearest the pulpit. Thank you!

Those who ordered Easter flowers and are here, please come and take yours after the service, including the Postlude, has ended. Thank you!

The office will be closed this Monday for Easter Observance.

Those who ordered Easter flowers and are here, please come and take yours after the service, including the Postlude, has ended. Thank you!

Thank you very much to all of you who contributed to our gathering of items for our Kids Easter Egg Hunt!! It's really appreciated.

Sunday School classes resume at 9 AM next Sunday, first meeting here in the sanctuary for chapel.

We have the Kitchen of A Just Harvest this month! April 29th is the service date and donations totaling \$500 are needed for the groceries and to prepare the meal. We'll need 5 volunteers or maybe more to assist in the serving.

Please mark any checks or cash in an envelope as designated for AJH Kitchen this month. Thank you!

The Church Council meets after worship next Sunday. If you are responsible for a report, please submit it to the Council Dropbox for April as soon as you can this week!

The Board of Elders has a 4 PM meeting over Zoom this Thursday, April 13th.

As far as we know no one in our membership or extended church family is currently hospitalized. Ron Schuhrke remains at Balmoral Care Center, 1101 Pembridge Lane, Lake Forest, IL 60045 for the time being for more healing.

Having birthdays this week are Katy (Schuhrke) Aguayo's son Henry Aguayo, & Marcia Hilliard. Marking their wedding anniversary on April 15th will be Juanito and Analise Banoyo. Best wishes of God's grace to them!

**Tune in next Sunday because the story is far from over!
Be part of it!**

HAVE A BLESSED EASTER SUNDAY AND SEASON!

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Peggy Reins
VICE-PRESIDENT	Beth Lanford
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Annie Noorts
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Maria Altmayer

Regular Reminders!

Please remember that we can always use food contributions for the Mini-Pantry! There are now copies of a list of suggestions and items by the narthex and on the shelves where the food is kept by the offices. Take one home! Demand has increased considerably since it was first installed last September. We always appreciate what is brought in, and the need does not go away. Perhaps if you are employed you could ask about doing a collection at your job. Thank you!

Pastor's podcast is available wherever you listen to podcasts! Just type in "The Redheaded Preacher" and you'll find us! Pastor's weekly podcasts include the prior Sunday's scriptures and sermon, and some words and prayer from Pastor just for the listeners of the podcast!



MISSION MOMENTS

April 9, 2023

Easter

John 20:1-18

Today we celebrate Resurrection Day! The women that first Easter Sunday did not know it was resurrection day, though, when they arose in the dark and made their way tentatively to the tomb where they had laid their friend and teacher. Still, although they did not know what they would find, they moved forward into the pre-dawn darkness, ready to perform what they believe would be a last act of love and service for their friend.

“Perhaps it is no wonder,” Dorothy Sayers wrote in the essay *Are Women Human?*, published nearly 100 years ago, “that the women were first at the Cradle and last at the Cross. They had never known a man like this Man - there never has been such another. A prophet and teacher who never nagged at them, never flattered or coaxed or patronized; who never made arch jokes about them, never treated them either as “The women, God help us!” or “The ladies, God bless them!”; who rebuked without querulousness and praised without condescension; who took their questions and arguments seriously; who never mapped out their sphere for them, never urged them to be feminine or jeered at them for being female; who had no axe to grind and no uneasy male dignity to defend; who took them as he found them and was

completely unself-conscious. There is no act, no sermon, no parable in the whole Gospel that borrows its pungency from female perversity; nobody could possibly guess from the words and deeds of Jesus that there was anything "funny" about woman's nature."

Centuries of church dogma and male leadership, including many periods in which systems of power explicitly sought to oppress and silence women, has not suppressed the power and wonder of this resurrection reality. In his life, Jesus loved and respected women just as they were, and after his death, they were the ones who cared for him and spoke the first words about him. Jesus needed the women in his circle as much as they needed him.

On this Resurrection Day, we rejoice that Christ came to bring new life to all people. And we specifically celebrate the women who waited at the cross, who went to the tomb and who told the first stories about our Risen Savior.

Quotation from Sayers, Dorothy L., *Are Women Human?*, William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2005.

Colossians 3:1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my

Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.