



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

Sunday,

April 2, 2023

10:00 AM

Palm Sunday



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/display?host=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 2, 2023 at 10:00am
Palm Sunday

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

PRELUDE "Palm Sunday Processional"

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Reins

Will those who are able please stand up

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Hosanna, loud hosanna!

C: Our voices ring in praise!

P: For enters our great Leader,

C: So our palms we raise!

P: Hosanna, loud hosanna!

C: We will follow all our days!

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: Let us confess before God our tendency, like the Jerusalem crowds, to profess our faith in moments of enthusiasm and deny our faith in moments of stress. After first reading this prayer silently to ourselves, let us pray together our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A: Hold us close, patient God, for we know how hard this week can be.

We see our own failures mirrored in the Passion story.

We know we betray the trust given to us.

We let our children down.

We avoid the eyes of the homeless.

We treat Your creation with indifference and abuse.

We deny Your love by covering up our talents, hiding behind low self-esteem, looking to others to lead the way.

We are frightened by the costliness of following You and fear that we will be found fleeing the scene or joining in with the accusing crowd.

Loving God, hold us close so we may move through the shadows, confront the darkness and rejoice in the surprising triumph of Your stronger-than-death love. Through Jesus, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *Psalm 118:21*

P: "I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation." God forgives our falling short as we return to walk anew in God's ways, and in Christ we know how far and deep God went to show His love and bring in forgiveness and eternal life. God has indeed become, and remains, our salvation!

A: PRAISE JESUS! THANKS BE TO GOD!

HYMN "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

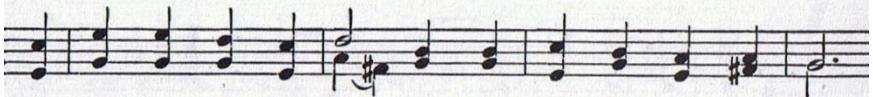
#135



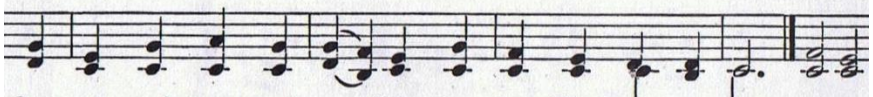
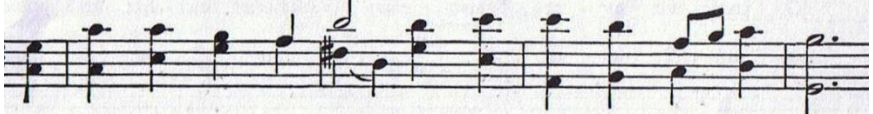
1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To Thee, Re - deem - er, King,
 2. Thou art the King of Is - rael, Thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 3. Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; Ac - cept the prayers we bring,



To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 Who in the Lord's name com - est, The King and bless - ed One!
 Who in all good de - light est, Thou good and gra - cious King!



The peo - ple of the He - brews With palms be - fore Thee went;
 To Thee, be - fore Thy pas - sion, They sang their hymns of praise;
 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To Thee, Re - deem - er, King,



Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore Thee we pre - sent.
 To Thee, now high ex - alt - ed Our mel - o - dy we raise.
 To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

A-MEN



The congregation may be seated

WORDS ABOUT OFFERINGS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Karen Christianson

The Psalm:

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

The Gospel:

Matthew 21:1-11

CHORAL ANTHEM "Hosanna"

CALL TO PRAYER

Em G/D Am/C D Em C B7

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me. O

5 Em G/D Am/C D Em B7 Em *Last Time*

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O

Last Time

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYERS

HOMILY "The Earthquake Procession"

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.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Consecration

RESPOND

153

Eat of This Bread

Musical score for "Eat of This Bread" in 4/4 time, featuring a tempo of quarter note = 65. The score is written in G minor (three flats) and includes lyrics and guitar chords. The lyrics are: "Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; come and be fed, come now and dine. Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; here all are fed, here all may dine." The chords are: Eb, Ab, Ddim, Gm, Cm, Fm, Fm7, Bbsus, Bb, Eb.

The Words of Institution

Participation in the Sacrament of Holy Communion

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**

HYMN**"Ride on! Ride on in Majesty!"****#133**

1. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the tribes ho - san - na cry;
 2. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die;
 3. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! The wing - ed squad - rons of the skies
 4. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die;

O Sav - iour meek, pur - sue Thy road With palms and scattered garments strowed.
 O Christ, Thy triumphs now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and conquered sin.
 Look down with sad and wonder - ing eyes To see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 Bow Thy meek head to mor - tal pain, Then take, O God, Thy power, and reign. A - MEN.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

- P: Lift high the branches that honor Jesus Christ.
Lift high the cross that proclaims love's sacrifice.
- C: We will wave our greeting with joyous praise.
We will risk the commitment that led to a cross.**
- P: We are under oath before the living God.
May we have no reason to weep when the cock
crows.
- C: The promises we have made excite us and
challenge us. We seek to be loyal and courageous
in Christ's service.**
- P: God keeps covenant with us in all circumstances.
The cup of blessing is extended to us every day.
- C: May our flesh be strengthened to match our willing
spirits. May love prevail in all our dealings this
week.**
- P: Amen.
- C: Amen!**

POSTLUDE "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"

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	Jenn Schneider
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	Beth Sterba
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Annie Noorts

News in the Pews

Hosanna in the highest! Welcome as we bless the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

HOLY WEEK AT ST. PETER'S UCC – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship are both at 7 PM. They will also be livestreamed. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Thursday night in the same way it has been since we returned to in-person worship. The Good Friday service will be along the lines of a Vespers service, not a service of shadows nor a service of the 7 Last Words. Easter Sunday worship will begin at 10 AM! It, too, will be livestreamed. There is no Sunday School, but there will be an attended Nursery. Communion will be offered the same as before. After the Easter service, first there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for kids in 5th grade and younger, most likely in the Gym unless the weather is surprisingly warm. Then there is a new thing for us, an Easter Brunch in the Memorial Room at 11:30 AM! Next week's Resurrection Sunday Lector is either Marcia Hilliard or Andre Gloeckner.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY to reserve a spot for our Easter Brunch. You'll find the form in this bulletin, please put it in the offering plate! Thank you!

TODAY IS ALSO THE DEADLINE for Easter Candy! Help us make this an extra special Easter for all the kids and donate some candy, tiny toys, stickers, tattoos, etc. for our Easter Egg Hunt.

Thanks to everyone who served in the various ministries of the church this morning, in ministries of education (Sunday School), hospitality (ushers, Nursery attendant, chairlift operator), worship (Deacon, Lector, live-streamer), and administration (President, counters). We also thank all of YOU for attending!

We have the Kitchen of A Just Harvest this month! The fifth Saturday is April 29th, and once again we are asking for contributions that will accumulate to \$500 total, so the staff of A Just Harvest's Kitchen can buy the groceries and prepare the meal. We'll need 5 volunteers or maybe more to assist in the serving (both in-person and curbside). Please mark any checks or cash in an envelope as designated for AJH Kitchen this month. Thank you, thank you!

Our People

Birthdays this week! The only person we know of having a birthday this week is Bruce and Linda Mau's daughter Kristine. No anniversaries.

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CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Peggy Reins
VICE-PRESIDENT	Beth Lanford
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Annie Noorts
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.

We ask everyone in attendance to please fill out the attendance sheet in the black pew pads, and, after it seems even latecomers have arrived, please pass your pew's pad towards the center aisle. Our Deacon will pick them up after the service. Thank you!

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.

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS PALM SUNDAY APRIL 2, 2023

ADULTS

CHILDREN 3-6

UNDER 3

I WILL DONATE COFFEE CAKES/BREADS _____

HELP SAT. 10:00AM

HELP EASTER

NAME _____

PHONE # _____

EASTER BRUNCH
SUNDAY APRIL 9,
2023
11:30 AM



Celebrate Easter with your church family and join us something NEW, an Easter Brunch AFTER worship! It will be served in the Fellowship Hall and the menu will include something for everyone. We are asking for donations of breads and coffee cakes. The cost this year is \$5.00 with children 3-6 \$2.00 (under 3 free). **PLEASE PAY AT THE DOOR ONLY.** We will still need reservations so please turn in THIS FORM ONLY (no payment) in your offerings/or to the church office. We will also need donations of coffee cakes, breads etc. and help, so please check those boxes too. If you have any questions contact Barb Todd and/or Rich Schneider. Hope to see you there!



MISSION MOMENTS

April 2, 2023

Palm/Passion Sunday

Matthew 26:14-27:66

Palm Sunday

This is the first day of Holy Week. Each day of this week is an opportunity to draw closer to Christ, as we mark, with him, his walk to the cross. Each day you are given a very short prayer. Take this with you and keep it somewhere where you can refer to it often like in your bag or in your car. Tape them to a mirror or to the refrigerator. Be mindful of this Holy Week, even as you go about your life.

Palm Sunday (April 2) On this day, Jesus enters Jerusalem.
Jesus, today let me lift my voice in praise of you.

Monday (April 3) On this day, Jesus heals and teaches.
Jesus, today show me ways that I can follow you by teaching or healing.

Tuesday (April 4) On this day, Jesus visits the temple and turns the tables.
Jesus, today speak through me to dismantle systems of injustice and economic oppression.

Wednesday (April 5) Scripture says nothing about what Jesus does on this day.

Jesus, today create in me a still heart as I breathe into the deep quiet of your love.

Thursday (April 6) Jesus gathers to share one last meal with his friends.

Jesus, today let me show hospitality to all.

Friday (April 7) Jesus is crucified.

Jesus, today give me courage to follow you even to places of death or despair.

Saturday (April 8) Jesus is in the tomb.

Jesus, today grant me hope for resurrection even in desolation.

Sunday (April 9) Christ is risen!

Jesus, today help me find you in unexpected people or places.

Psalm 118:1 – 2, 19-29

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the LORD’S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,

up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Matthew 21:1 - 11

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵

Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”