



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

Sunday,
June 4, 2023
10:00 AM

Trinity Sunday

St. Peters
United Church
of Christ

An Open
And Affirming
Congregation





Welcome to Worship!

SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM

In-person Worship. Masks and distance recommended, not required

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

"The Redheaded Preacher" Podcast. Available wherever you get your podcasts, includes sermon and scriptures only, posted weekly by Tuesday



Ways to Give

Text Your Gift. Text your gift to [844-977-2346](tel:844-977-2346)

After a short set-up the first time, simply text your gift amount

Use PayPal. [PayPal.me/stpeteruccskokie](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/?x=1&from=paypal-merchant-directory&to=stpeteruccskokie)

Send a Check. Mail to the address below ... this way still works fine

Set up Vanco. Contact the church office to enroll in 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 **joyously welcome 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

C: In obedience to Your Father's will and out of compassion for us, You came to us to share our human lot, to heal us, instruct us, die for us and offer us forgiveness and life beyond death.

P: Spirit of the living God, we magnify You for Your divine power!

C: Grant us power, Pentecostal power, in our worship, our study of God's Word, our service and our witness in the world as women, men, kids and youth for Jesus Christ.

Now sing a Capella:

P: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee!"

C: "Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!"

A: Amen.

RESPONSE "Open the Eyes of my Heart" SSB #25

E⁵ (no 3)

O - pen the eyes of my heart, Lord.

B/D# A²/C#

O - pen the eyes of my heart. I want to see you,

A² B¹ sus/E E Esus

I want to see you.

² B² sus/E E B

see you. To see you high and lift - ed up,

C#m A² B sus

shin - ing in the light of your glo - ry;

B 3 C#m F#m¹¹

pour out your pow'r and love as we sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

¹ B sus ² B sus

- ly."

E⁵ (no 3) B/D#

O - pen the eyes of my heart, Lord. O - pen the eyes of my heart.

3 A²/C# A² 3 B¹ sus/E E

I want to see you, I want to see you.

Text: Paul Baloche, b. 1962
 Music: Paul Baloche
 Text and music © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music/ASCAP

CALL TO CONFESSION *Isaiah 6: 1-5*

P: “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

C: **‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.’ The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.**

A: **And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!’”**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Creator God, You made us and know our inward thoughts. You called us through heroes and prophets to be Your people. You gave us Your laws that we might find true happiness through obeying them.

C: **Forgive us! We have broken the letter and the spirit of these laws.**

P: Savior Jesus, You walked in human flesh and will so that You might know our lives intimately. You taught

us again how to live with God and with each other.
You died that You might bring us back to God.

C: Forgive us! We have not done all what You taught.

P: Holy Spirit, You come as challenger, Comforter and Advocate. You provide energy for the right and guidance for the lost. You mediate the Creator and Christ to us daily.

C: Forgive us! For we have turned our backs on You.

P: Three-in-One, You model community for us, showing us how to build each other up in love. You come to us in all the ways we need to experience You, with truth and mercy.

A: Forgive us for all the times we have fallen short of Your desires for us, and grieved or angered You!

Time for Silent Prayer

A: In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *Matthew 26:27, 28*

P: “Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.’”

Friends, our sacrament today reminds us, as we humans so often need to be reminded of even important things, that in Christ crucified and risen, our sins are forgiven! There is a new covenant of God’s grace and our letting that holy grace transform our lives. Will the congregation lay claim to this gospel with me by saying . . .

A: Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN

"Amazing Grace" SSB #5 (vv. 1-3)

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

John Newton's autobiographical hymn reflects his conversion from his earlier existence as a slave trader. While serving as curate in the English village of Olney, Newton met William Cowper, and together they published Olney Hymns, which included this hymn.

Tune: AMAZING GRACE C.M.
 (NEW BRITAIN)
 Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829
 Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

The congregation may be seated

WORDS ABOUT OFFERINGS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jenn Schneider

The Psalms:

Psalm 8

Epistle:

2nd Corinthians 13:11-13

MUSICAL MEDITATION “Open the Eyes of my Heart”

GOSPEL

Matthew 28: 16-20

DOXOLOGY

Tune # 551

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost!

Amen.

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYERS

HOMILY “At Communion with a Dignity-giving God”

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

Prayer of Consecration

RESPOND

153

Eat of This Bread

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of quarter note = 65. It consists of four lines of music. The first line contains the lyrics 'Eat of this bread, drink of this wine;' with chords Eb, A♭, Ddim, and Gm. The second line contains 'come and be fed, come now and dine.' with chords Cm, Fm, Fm7, B♭sus, and B♭. The third line contains 'Eat of this bread, drink of this wine;' with chords Eb, A♭, Ddim, and Gm. The fourth line contains 'here all are fed, here all may dine.' with chords Cm, Fm, B♭, and E♭. Triplet markings are present over the first three notes of each line.

The Words of Institution Participation

CLOSING PRAYER AND 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**

HYMN**“We Join In Proclaiming”**

Sing to the tune of "Let All Things Now Living."

**We join in proclaiming the faith we believe in —
That God is Creator and we are God's own.
We trust in Christ Jesus and gladly receive him,
For we have been blessed by the love he has shown.
Christ died and is risen and, one with the Father,
He reigns now in heaven, still loving the earth.
The Spirit of God that moved over the waters
Now moves here among us, empowering God's church.**

**O God, we have pondered through years of our history
How you can be Father and Spirit and Son.
We've prayed and we've studied and called it a mystery
That you are three persons and yet you are one.
Creating and saving, your church here renewing,
You still are one God working many good ways.
May we humbly thank you for all you are doing!
O God in three persons, we offer you praise.**

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CHARGE *from Romans 12*

P: "Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

C: Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

P: Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

C: Do not be overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good."

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

"Nicea"

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 Lanford
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Carolyn Van Til

News in the Pews

Holy Three-in-One and One-in-Three: You show us the beauty of loving relationship. Help us relate lovingly to one another and to you. Amen.

Best wishes for God's guidance, provision, and blessings upon Shawna Taheny Frenzel of St. Peter's and her fiancé Gabe Olson-Mendoza as they unite in holy matrimony later today in our sanctuary!

This Saturday there is another Church Clean-Up! It starts at 10 AM and may go until 1 o'clock. If you are online and can access the church's Dropbox, the list of planned projects is in the Trustees Report in the set of Council boxes, for the May meeting.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our Undy 500 collection for the Night Ministry, and to Maria Altmayer who either will or has brought the collection to their HQ!

Thanks also to those who, representing St. Peter's U.C.C., walked in yesterday's Niles Pride "Rainbow Walk" and stayed for the picnic! There were speakers before the walk, including our own Ben Westphal.

Our next gathering as an ONA congregation during Pride month will be St. Peter's participation in Skokie's

Pride gathering at Oakton Park on Sunday, June 18th from 1 to 4 PM. We welcome anyone to help us represent St. Peter's UCC and help with a craft or game for the children who come with their families to this family-friendly affair. Please talk to Pastor, Peggy, Jennifer, Beth, Mark, Bonnie, or Chad if you have ideas or want to commit to some time at our table!

Laura Olson will be on vacation this coming Thursday the 8th and Friday the 9th. If there are announcements you want in the bulletin for June 11th, you must get them in to her by this Tuesday morning.

Next Wednesday evening our Pastor will once again serve on the Skokie Officers Ethics Commission with a meeting at 7 PM.

The ad hoc ONA Support Committee meets this Friday over Zoom at 6 o'clock to tighten up our plans for June 18th.

Please note: The St. Peter's special coffee hour to discuss the UCC's "All Church Read" of How to be an Anti-Racist by Ibram Kendi has been moved from Sunday, June 11th to Sunday, June 25th. That is now the date for an engaging coffee hour discussion of the book, sponsored by your Micah 6:8 Committee. You now have more time to read the book! Please plan to stay even if you have not read the book.

Our People

Birthdays this week belong to belong to Katy (Schuhrke) Aguayo, and baptizees Baggio Salvatierra and one of Laura (Brzozowski) Medaglia's sons, Colin Medaglia. Gena and H. Dayle Zelenka have a wedding anniversary this week, too! May God generously bless them all.

The Board of Finance meets next Sunday, and the Women's Guild meeting and luncheon will be June 14th (Flag Day) at the Todd residence on Mason Street. RSVPs are needed, so please let Barb know if you are coming!

About Communion: We invite all believers, regardless of denominational background, to join in the Lord's Supper. We do ask our St. Peter's young ones to complete a Communicants Class first (6th grade). The servers will bring the elements to you in the pews. Please hold your bread until all are served; we will partake together at the Pastor's prompting as a sign of Christian unity, likewise with the cup. The innermost circle of cups in the wine tray holds grape juice and the outer circle is wine. Please note: *we now offer Gluten-free wafers* which are in a separate cup as they cannot touch the other wafers. The Board of Elders would like to ask that attendees on Communion Sundays please dispose of the plastic single-serve communion cups and lids as they leave the sanctuary. The Elders are no longer counting the empty cups after the service, and trash receptacles are provided by both exit doors. Thank you!

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.

Let us know you were here! Please fill out the black pew pads when you arrive and pass them to the center aisle during the service. Thank you!

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

June 4, 2023

Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

This Is Good

Today's scripture reading begins with the words, "In the beginning when God created..." Following each act of creation, God blesses and calls "good" what God has made. One amazing and joyful aspect of our faith is that our story begins with the creativity of God. With creativity comes change. The creativity of the Holy One did not end with the first act of creation, the creativity continued and continues today.

Once a year, we pull the word triune out of the cupboard, dust it off and remember that our God is both three and one. On Holy Trinity Sunday we remember that God is both one and three. God is One and also in relationship with God's very self.

According to the United Church of Christ website, in the UCC, We believe in the triune God: Creator, resurrected Christ, the sole Head of the church, and the Holy Spirit, who guides and brings about the creative and redemptive work of God in the world. On this day, we remember how those three parts work together in harmony, unity, and joy to be continually creating, redeeming, and guiding the world.

This week, as you go about your daily life, notice the triune (that dusty old and still shiny new word) Divine One, and give thanks. You might try this prayer at the beginning or end of each day.

Holy One, Blessed Three - I'm grateful for all that you have created in my life, in my church community and in the world. Today, I'm especially grateful for the creation of _____. I'm grateful for the salvation that comes in your name, for your willingness to save us all from that which burdens us. Today, I'm especially grateful to be saved from _____. I'm grateful, too, for all the ways you nurture and guide me. Today, I'm especially grateful to be guided in the direction of _____.

After you speak, listen. Do you hear the blessing? Do you hear how God has called all that is created "good?" Ask yourself how the three parts of the trinity speak to you and each other.

Psalm 8

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark
because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Paul wrote, “Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.”

Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."