

Welcome to St Peter's UCC In-Person and 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

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847-673-8166

Our network name is: ATTUNITEDCHURCH; Pass:

UNITEDCHURCH8166

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

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OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR Sunday, October 24, 2021, 10:00 AM Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME GUESTS!

* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

PRELUDE Selected

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judy Paige

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We gather, in-person or on-line, to affirm

that we are all united in God's sacred

family.

Congregation: We are each different and unique, yet

we are one as children of God.

P: We gather to affirm that we are called to

love and serve one another;

C: We learn by Jesus' example to love

our neighbors in all that we do.

P: We gather to affirm that each of us has

gifts to offer;

C: We are members of one body, each

blessed with gifts for God's service.

ALL: Let us celebrate and worship as a

family of God!



*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

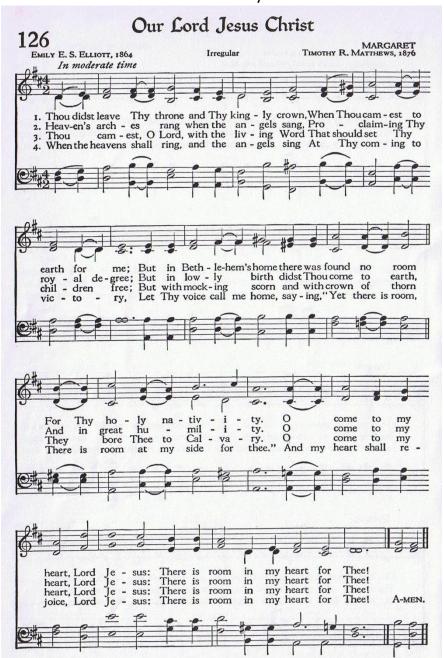
We confess, O God, that our lives have sometimes made of You a distant deity. We listen to what others say about You, but we have seldom glimpsed for ourselves who You really are. We admit there are times when we are more dominated by our doubts than by our practice of prayer. Unlike Job, we are not ready to repent in dust and ashes, but we do ask for mercy as we face up to sins we have not recognized until now, and wrongdoing we have tried to ignore or rationalize. Instill in us a new appreciation of righteousness and help us to grow in the way You would have us go. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Speaking of Jesus, the author of the Letter to the Hebrews wrote, "Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself" (7:27).

Jesus offered himself on the Cross as a sacrifice of love, a sacrifice of atonement for us all, washing us clean of sin to bring us all to Himself in this life and the next. Such grace changes us, gradually through the Spirit making us more fit and ready for service here and in the eternal realm which has no end. Who loves like that, with power like that?!

ALL: No one before or since. Alleluia! Amen.



WORDS ABOUT OFFERINGS/BLANKET SUNDAY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Annie Noorts

Old Testament:

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Epistle:

Hebrews 7:23-28

MUSICAL MEDITATION Selected

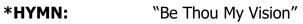
***GOSPEL:** Mark 10:46-52

*RESPONSE: "Alleluia!" #495

PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYERS 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

SERMON: "What Do You Want?"





Text: Irish 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt. Music: SLANE, Irish tune

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

P: Life is short, and we do not have much time

C: To gladden the hearts of those who travel with us;

P: So be swift to love,

C: make haste to be kind

P: and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Amen!

*POSTLUDE: Selected

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTER Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR Ben Westphal
DEACON Beth Lanford
COUNTERS Annie Noorts/Kathy Zipperer
NURSERY Carolyn Van Til

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good Morning! "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together" (Psalm 34:3, NRSV). Welcome to worship at St. Peter's United Church of Christ!

Welcome back to Janet Palmer, subbing for Ben Westphal this morning! Ben will be back next Sunday.

As we noted last week, our Dorothy Taylor, 100, died in the evening of October 12th. There will be a memorial service for her at St. Peter's on Saturday, November 20th, at 11:00 AM. Interment is private. More details will be forthcoming.

Later today at 3 o'clock Pastor Richard is celebrating the sacrament of baptism here for Atlas Brooks Fink, born last February 18th, the son of Paula and Michael Fink and brother of Autumn who was baptized here during worship a few years ago. The baptism is private due to concerns over COVID's new more contagious variant and the young child.

Today from 11 to 11 is our Village Inn Fundraiser! The church receives 20% of receipts today if the order was placed as "part of the St. Peter's U.C.C. fundraiser." Help us out and skip cooking for tonight, or for lunch! This fundraiser is good for eat-in, delivery or take-out.

Having birthdays this week are Ryan Loach, Sean Loach, Dorothy Panzke, and Rich Suckow. Celebrating a wedding anniversary will be Kathy Zipperer and Darrell Kerbel. God bless them all on their life-changing days!

We are always grateful for any and all offerings to the church. No amount is too small! You can support our work (and thus, your work too) by mailing in a check, signing up for electronic giving, or using PayPal as indicated, with links, on the first main page of announcements. Depending on how you set up your PayPal account, you can arrange to pay whatever transaction fee there is yourself, or, that it will be included in your donation and deducted before it hits St. Peter's account (so St. Peter's, in effect, pays it). Thank you very much for giving!

The Blanket Sunday offering is today but we're accepting contributions next Sunday too.

Holiday Bazaar Baked Goods Needed. We will be doing a small bake sale for the Holiday Bazaar this year. We are limiting the donations to Cookies, Brownies, and Bread, and all items must be individually packaged when you drop them off by Friday, Nov 12. Contact Wendy if you have any questions.

Wreath orders are being taken NOW. Order forms can be found in the bulletin, the October Announcer and near the office. Please get those into the office by *November 5th*. Pickup will be Saturday, November 20th from 1 -4 PM.

According to the just-revised lector schedule, next Sunday's lector will be Beth Lanford.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at, came to, or spread the word for last Sunday's Pet Blessing!

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 & sermon, and some words and prayer from Pastor just for the listeners of the podcast! Check it out!

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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 24, 2021

Mark 10:46-52

Take Heart United Nations Day

When Jesus meets Bartimaeus by the side of the road, he does not assume what is needed for healing. Instead, he asks, "what can I do for you?"

When the Winslow Congregational Church in Winslow, Maine, found that they had a budget surplus for the second year in a row, they did not assume they knew what was needed. Instead, Winslow Pastor Kim Shrader recounts, "Questions were asked, and ears were open to find where there was a need we could serve. There was a very small food bank at another church that was in danger of losing their space. So, we looked at partnering with them. The idea quickly grew beyond providing space for the existing food bank that was only open two hours a month, to starting a second food bank with more capacity and open two days a month."

"Six months into operation, the food cupboard is thriving. Food is donated from local grocery stores and Walmart, from food drives by different organizations, from gleaners working with local farmers, and from the Good Shepherd Food Bank. The Good Shepherd food is available at a deep discount allowing money donations to go a very long way. Many local businesses, organizations, and individuals give generously. Additionally, the cupboard has distributed USDA farm to table food boxes as part of the Corona relief aid from the federal government."

"It is an all-volunteer staff. A local parochial school provides a lot of volunteers on distribution days with youth from 7-12 grades. Volunteer drivers bring food to those without transportation (a major problem here)."

"There is a lot of hospitality offered," Rev. Shrader concludes. "It's not just the food. It's things like a few gardeners in the congregation got together, made raised beds, and planted vegetables for the cupboard. It's the new member using his skills as a publicist to get newspaper and TV coverage of the food cupboard. It's the church's youth insisting that their "school from home" schedule allow them to spend Thursday helping at the cupboard."

- · What questions are going unasked in your community?
- How can you and your congregation listen more deeply?
- · Who is speaking and asking for help?



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SCRIPTURES FOR THE CONGREGATION October 24, 2021

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Then Job answered the LORD:

"I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.'

I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;

therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."
And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring.

The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers.

After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days.

Our epistle lesson is from the Letter to the Hebrews. The writer, whose theology is shaped by the framework of sacrifices, offerings and priests, continues to compare earthly Jewish priests with Jesus, the "high priest after the order of Melchizedek," who is also the Son of God.

Hebrews 7:23-28

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself.

For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Mark 10:46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So, throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.