



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
April 24,
2022
10:00 AM**

**Second Sunday of
Easter**

god
IS
love
1 JOHN 4:8



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/?x=1&from=seller=&to=buyer=&source=paypal) 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 24, 2022 at 10:00am

Second Sunday after Easter

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

PRELUDE “All Creatures of Our God and King” by Ameigh

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judy Paige

Those who are able please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We will begin with song!

“This is the Day that the Lord Has Made”

SSB # 22



This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the



Lord has made; we will re-joice, we will re-joice and be



glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the



Lord has made; we will re-joice and be glad in it.



This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: We who have listened to the siren calls of our culture have neglected a faithful witness to Jesus Christ.

C: The frantic pace of busyness has left little time or energy to ponder the marvelous works of God. We have closed the doors of our hearts to a presence who has longed to claim us.

P: Come with me now to the throne of grace as we join in humble confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: God of our ancestors and our God, how subtly have we made You a part of the past. Sometimes we act as if You were unreal or irrelevant, without intentionally doing so. By our inattention, we have quietly rejected You and the One whom You sent to teach us.

C: We confess we often are ruled by fears more than faith, by hostility more than peace, by a sense of failure more than feelings of accomplishment and victory. Forgive our misuse of the precious days You have entrusted to us.

P: **Help us to see the signs of Your presence and to witness with joy to our Leader and Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.**

A: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *John 20:19-21a*

P: Sin does not bring peace. Confession and repentance let us find our way back to God, and Jesus to avail himself to us. Forgiveness, not guilt, brings peace. And so “Jesus came and stood among the disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.’”

By the grace of Jesus Christ crucified and risen, our sins are forgiven, and Christ’s peace is ours.

A: Alleluia! Thanks be to the risen Lord. Amen!

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 congregation may be seated.

A CALL TO OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Andre Gloeckner

The Psalm:

Psalm 150

The Gospel:

John 20:19-31

MUSICAL MEDITATION “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

CALL TO PRAYER *Sung once through*

Text and music: Phil Porter, 1990

Gath-ered here in the mys-tery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong
bod - y, gath-ered here in the strug-ple and the power, Spir - it draw near.

This chant may be sung as a round.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 "Hands and Side" Rev. Richard Lanford*Those who are able please stand.***HYMN** "Alleluia! Alleluia!"

#174

BY THE JOY, THE TRUTH AND LOVE

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heaven and voic - es raise;
 2. Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born,
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high;

Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise.
 Glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal, On this ho - ly Eas - ter morn;
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - iour Who has won the vic - to - ry;

He who on the cross as Sav - iour For the world's sal - va - tion bled,
 Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer By His might - y en - ter - prise,
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;

Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
 We with Him to life e - ter - nal By His res - ur - rec - tion rise.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! To the Tri - une Ma - jes - ty. A - MEN.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

P: Because the tomb is empty, your life can be full;
 So go into every place and every day as people
 brimming with the love of God.
 Be graceful in spirit,

C: Hopeful in word, faithful in deed.

P: Live for the risen Christ lives in you!

A: Amen!

POSTLUDE

“Hyfrydol”

arr. Metzinger

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
LIVESTREAM	Beth Lanford
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Laurie Mitchell

News in the Pews

Good Morning! Welcome to worship this second Sunday of Easter. Faith is always a mix of belief and doubt, so with Thomas we proclaim: "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

Village Inn Fundraiser is today! Be sure to fit in ordering food at Village Inn in Skokie today and let your server know you are there for St. Peter's UCC fundraiser. This is good for carryout, delivery and dine in and we get 20% of whatever you spend!

We have the Kitchen of A Just Harvest this month! The fifth Saturday is April 30th, 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 and serve the meal (curbside still as far as we understand, so we are not back serving yet). Please mark any checks or cash in an envelope as designated for AJH Kitchen this month. Thank you, thank you!

Next Sunday we shall celebrate the 155th Anniversary of Saint Peter's United Church of Christ!

The Spring Craft Fair is a week from this coming Saturday! It is Saturday, May 7th, open from 10-3. See your Announcer, or the church's Facebook posts about it, for more details; also, you can ask Beth Lanford or Wendy Svenson (when she's back from Florida). Please come and support this fundraiser / outreach!

Bunco prizes are needed now! We CANNOT wait until May 21st when BUNCO will fill up our gymnasium once again. You can help make it a huge success by donating a new item for folks to raffle for. Talk to your employer as well for a donation! Carol will promote all businesses that donate during the event.

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 on the pew information cards. Thank you very much for giving!

Our People

The Lenten Book & Bible Study resumes at 6:30 PM via Zoom this Wednesday.

Office Manager Laura Olson will be taking days off, starting this Friday the 29th and including Monday through Wednesday of next week (May 2nd-4th) to move! So, she will not be available or in the office those days. Sharon Johnson will be filling in for at least a couple of those days.

Happy birthday! Having birthdays this week are Mark Taylor, Susan Garcia, Roman Salvatierra and Elisa Meggs. May they all know the love of the Lord on their birthdays, and every day!

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CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Jenn Schneider
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Paige
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Carolyn Kuechler
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 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.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

MISSION MOMENTS

April 24, 2022

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32

Resurrection Witness

Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries

Sunday / Break the Silence Sunday Armenian

Martyrs' Day

Soothing Spirit,

Whose gentle winds hovered over the Euphrates,
Surround our souls with support in these days of remembrance.

Strengthen our resolve to never let anyone forget

The atrocities of April 24 and beyond – The genocide of the
Armenian People They wanted to kill all of the aunts and uncles
and grandparents

And place the very last one in a museum to show their sordid
victory.

But they did not win. Hate was not victorious.

We remember the spirits of our ancestors, Of our sisters and
brothers in Christ, Marching through the mayhem

Of death, confusion, loss.

We remember their steps on the march to Deir-Zor-

Their empty stomachs and heavy hearts. Their lives chipped away

As they lost their mom, or baby, or brother, and endured
violations of body, mind and soul.

In gratitude, we remember those who defied their people,
The Turkish and Kurdish souls who rebelled against the powers-
that-be

Saving the lives of our kin.

We are grateful for those who stand against the powers today
And refuse to call these events anything but a genocide.

Heal our hearts as the deniers' speeches become
Louder and louder.

Their words will melt into the pool of justice one day.

We give voice to the trauma that lingered in survivors' hearts
From the days they left their homes in the 'Old Country'
To the moment when they saw the face of God.

Help all who carry the stories of the past into the future

So that we will not forget, And we will not stand by,

As more of God's children are massacred. We pray for the
survivors of all genocides that burned our earth

And stole our siblings-

Armenia, the Holocaust, Rwanda, Cambodia, Bosnia, Darfur, and
then some...

And then some more... Knowing that God will give them
resurrection from the ashes of yesterday, rising into the winds of
tomorrow.

By Rev. Michele Torrigan, whose grandfather was a survivor of the
Armenian genocide. Reprinted with permission.

<https://michelletorrigian.com/tag/prayer-for-armenian-genocide/>

PSALM 150

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty firmament!

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

JOHN 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

2

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.