



At
Home
with
God

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](https://www.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

8013 Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL 60077

(Oakton and Laramie)

847-673-8166

Our network name is: ATTUNITEDCHURCH; Pass:
UNITEDCHURCH8166

www.stpeteruccskokie.org

Rev. Richard Lanford (Pastor): revlanford@gmail.com

Laura Olson (Office Manager): office@stpeteruccskokie.org

Ben Westphal (Music Director): bcwestphal@gmail.com

St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Oakton Street and Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL
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847-673-8166

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
Sunday, August 22, 2021, 10:00 AM
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME GUESTS!

* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

PRELUDE "Voluntary III" by G.F. Handel

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS Jenn Schneider

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 100)

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Congregation: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

P: Know that Yahweh is God, it is He that made us, and we are God's. We are God's people, and the sheep of His pasture.

C: ***Enter the Lord's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise. Give thanks to God, bless God's name. Amen!***

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed.
We have not loved You
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In Your mercy forgive what we have been,
Help us amend what we are,
And direct what we shall be,
So that we may delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways,
To the glory of Your holy name,
and in Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In Jeremiah, the Lord tells the erring people in Judah, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Again I will build you, and you shall be built" (31:3b-4a).

Hear God's promises to a confessing people who saw God's grace innumerable ways and times. We have the added assurance of forgiveness through the gift of Jesus Christ, who came to find us at great cost, and bring us back reconciled to God at the supreme cost, and raise us up or "build us again" for eternity through the resurrection. In Christ our life is new and grace is our joy! Will the congregation join me in shouting aloud . . .

ALL: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

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God the Father

MARTIN RINKART, 1586-1649
Tr. CATHERINE WINKWORTH, 1858

6. 7. 6. 7. 6. 6. 6. 6.

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

JOHANN CRÜGER, 1648

Majestically, but not too slowly

1. Now thank we all our God With heart, and hands, and voi - ces,
2. O may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
3. All praise and thanks to God, The Fa - ther, now be giv - en,

Who won - drous things hath done, In whom His world re - joi - ces;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us;
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,

Who from our moth - ers' arms Hath blest us on our way
To keep us in His grace, And guide us when per - plexed,
The One E - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heaven a - dore;

With count - less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more. A-MEN.

WORDS ABOUT OFFERINGS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Judy Paige

Old Testament: 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-20

MUSICAL MEDITATION "Voluntary"

by S. P. Taylor

***GOSPEL:**

Mark 6: 1-6a

***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:

*HYMN: "O Young and Fearless Prophet"

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The Kingdom of God on Earth

S. RALPH HARLOW

7. 6. 7. 6. D.

NYLAND
Finnish Hymn Melody
Har. DAVID EVANS

Not too slowly, with flowing rhythm

1. O young and fear - less Proph - et Of an - cient Gal - i - lee;
 2. We mar - vel at the pur - pose That held Thee to Thy course
 3. Cre - ate in us the splen - dor That dawns when hearts are kind,
 4. O young and fear - less Proph - et, We need Thy pres - ence here,

Thy life is still a sum - mons To serve hu - man - i - ty,
 While ev - er on the hill - top Be - fore Thee loomed the cross;
 That knows not race nor sta - tion As boun - daries of the mind;
 A - mid our pride and glo - ry To see Thy face ap - pear;

To make our thoughts and ac - tions Less prone to please the crowd,
 Thy stead-fast face set for - ward Where love and du - ty shone,
 That learns to val - ue beau - ty, In heart, or brain, or soul,
 Once more to hear Thy chal - lenge A - bove our noi - sy day,

To stand with hum - ble cour - age For truth, with hearts un - cowed,
 While we be - tray so quick - ly And leave Thee there a - lone,
 And longs to bind God's chil - dren In - to one per - fect whole,
 A - gain to lead us for - ward A - long God's ho - ly way. A-MEN.

Words used by permission of the author.

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

P: We are broken;

C: *May we live with compassion.*

P: We are blessed;

C: *May we live with creativity.*

P: We are beloved;

C: *May we live with courage. Amen!*

***POSTLUDE:** "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

arr. Carl Shalk

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTER

Rev. Richard Lanford

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ben Westphal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good Morning! We rejoice that you have joined us today! Let us worship God together: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We are always grateful for any and all offerings to the church. No amount is too small! As we said in the opening announcements, 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!

Special thanks to Sharon Johnson for filling in for Office Manager Laura Olson the 16th through the 18th in the church

Office! Laura returns tomorrow the 23rd, and that is also the DEADLINE for submissions to the September newsletter!

Having birthdays this week are: Elizabeth Hoellerich, Allison Guenther, Ron Lundeen, Stephanie Lundeen, Juanito Banoyo, Henry Muhrer, Valerie (Paige) Mahoney, and Harrison Kuras. Celebrating anniversaries this week are Heather (Schuhrke) and Dan O'Hara, Errol and Laurie Mitchell, and Peter and Christine (Carnate) Svenson. May they all know the blessings of God and enjoy their festivities.

NEXT WEEK due to the Back Lot Bash happening right in front of our building (and taking up the adjacent parking lot), our 10 AM Sunday worship will take place at Lorel Park, just a few blocks away to the north and west. We'll record it and upload it / publish it on our YouTube Channel later; there will be no outdoor livestream. Please bring a lunch and something to share, for we picnic together after worship! There will also be a special musical guest sharing his talents in worship (instead of burying them like that one servant!). The Deacon of the Day and any helpers should be ready at the church building by 9:15 to help the Village workers with a truck (Laramie Avenue side) to get the chairs they'll bring over to the park for us, and also bring bulletins, some offering plates and the older lectern, please! Thanks to the Village / Park District for helping us out and getting us the Park permit!

Rummage sorting openers and times for this week: Monday (Beth S.) and Wednesday (Carol I.) at 6:30 PM, and there will be NO sorting due to the Backlot Bash.

Our Holiday Bazaar is back and will be November 13th! *We are looking for vendors.* Interested in setting up a table?

Email Wendy Svenson at st.peteruccbazaar@gmail.com or call/text her at (847) 528-4545.

Pastor's newest podcast will be delayed a bit until our editor / publisher Laura Olson is back.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Village Inn / St. Peter's Fundraiser last Sunday.

The deadline for articles for the September Announcer is tomorrow.

According to the schedule next Sunday's lector at Lorel Park is Katy Schuhrke Aguayo.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Jenn Schneider
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Paige
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Carolyn Kuechler
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Marcia Hilliard

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

August 22, 2021

Psalm 84

At Home with God

Psalm 84 begins,

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!

My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the Lord;

my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.

For many of us, our church buildings are the sacred dwelling places of God. They hold the memories of generations of singing, prayer, baptisms, funerals, and even meetings. They hold the hope for the faith of our children and grandchildren. For many of us, they are home.

So, when a fire broke out at Berkeley First Congregational Church in Berkeley, California in October 2016, for the members of the church and the community around the church, it was like losing a home. But they rolled up their sleeves, cleaned up and began the long process of imagining how they might rebuild.

Like many American cities, Berkeley faces a housing crisis. So, after much prayer and discussion, the decision was made to develop low-income housing on one part of a parking lot, and to rebuild a new community building for worship space and offices. What has been a spiritual home for many generations, will one day be a literal home for those priced out of the competitive housing market in Berkeley. What a beautiful way to realize the sweet dream of Psalm 84,

Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.

Scripture citations from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.



8 1/2" x 11" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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SCRIPTURES FOR THE CONGREGATION

August 22, 2021

1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.

"Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built!

Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

"Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name — for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.”

Ephesians 6:10-20

Paul wrote, “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.

Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.

With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.”

Mark 6:1-6a

Jesus left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands!

Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching.