



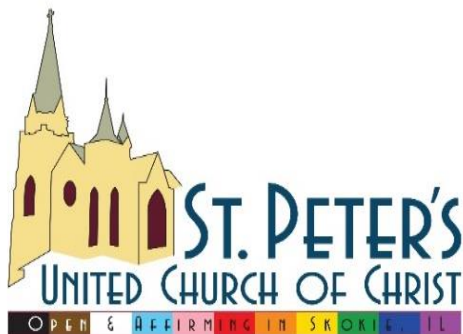
Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
August 25, 2024
10:00 AM**

**Fourteenth
Sunday after
Pentecost**

**Lorel Park
Worship**





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 after



Ways to Give

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

Use PayPal. <https://www.paypal.me/stpeteruccskokie>

Set up Vanco. <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZCME/home>

Set up your account or log in to give



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

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

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, August 25, 2024 at 10:00am
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE Selected

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS Peggy Reins

Will those who are able please stand up

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: We gather today beneath the open sky, surrounded by the beauty of creation.

C: We come to praise the Creator of all that we see, hear, and feel.

P: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

C: Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

P: In the rustling leaves and singing birds, in the warmth of the sun and the cool of the breeze, God's presence is revealed to us.

**C: We open our hearts to the wonders of His creation,
and our souls to His Spirit that moves among us.**

P: Let us join in the song of creation, lifting our voices
with the trees, the rivers, and the mountains.

**C: We come to worship the One who made all things,
seen and unseen.**

P: Let the earth be glad, and let us rejoice in our Maker!

**All: We lift our hearts in worship, for our God is good,
and His love endures forever. Amen.**

RESPONSE

“What a Wonderful World”

♩ = 80

F Am⁷ B^b Am⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷ F B^b

I see trees of green red ro-ses too I see them bloom

5 Em^{7(b5)} A⁷ Dm D^bmaj⁷ Gm^{7(b5)} C⁷ F B^{7(b5)} B^b C⁷

for me and you... and I think... to my-self what a won-der ful world... I see

10 F Am⁷ B^b Am⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷ F B^b Em^{7(b5)} A⁷ Dm

skies of blue and clouds of white, the bright - bles-sed day, the dark - sa-cred night... and I

14 D^bmaj⁷ Gm^{7(b5)} C⁷ F Gm^{7(b5)} F

think... to my-self what a won-der - ful world... The

18 C(sus4) C⁷ Bbm⁹/C F C(sus4) C⁷ Bbm⁹/C F

co-lours of the rain-bow so pre-ty in the sky, are al-so on the fa-ces of peop-le go-ing by, I see

22 Dm Am⁷ Dm Am⁷ Dm⁷ D⁷/F# Gm F/A C(sus4)

friends sha-kin' hands... say-ing "how do you do!" they're real-ly say-ing "I love You", I hear

26 F Am⁷ B^b Am⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷ F B^b Em^{7(b5)} A⁷ Dm D^bmaj⁷

ba-bies cry, I watch them grow. They'll learn much more than I'll... ne-ver knowand I think to my-self

31 Gm⁷ C⁷ F Eb⁷ D^{7(b9)} Gm⁷ F/A B^b G/B C(sus4) C⁷ F Bbm⁹/F F

what a won-der-ful world... Yes, I think to my-self What a won-der-ful world...

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

A: Creator God, we gather in the warmth of your love and the embrace of your creation. May this time of worship renew our spirits, strengthen our bonds, and inspire us to live in harmony with all that you have made. Open our hearts to you word and your ways, that we might reflect your love in all that we do. Amen

The congregation may be seated

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE READING

Karen Christiansen

James 1: 17-27

PASTORAL 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.**

Will those who are able please stand up

HYMN "For the Beauty of the Earth"

1. For the beau-ty of the earth, For the glo-ry of the skies,
 2. For the won-der of each hour Of the day and of the night,
 3. For the joy of hu-man love, Broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child

For the love which from our birth O-ver and a-round us lies:
 Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light:
 Friends on earth and friends a-bove For all gen-tle thoughts and mild:

Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate-ful praise.

The congregation may be seated

SERMON "Living the Word"

Will those who are able please stand up

HYMN “Be Doers of the Word of God”

To the tune of Ellacombe

**A: Be doers of the word of God,
Not simply those who hear.
Be ones who look into God's word,
Obey, and persevere.
Be quick to listen, slow to speak,
And slow to anger, too.
Put wrath aside; instead, be meek
And let God work in you.**

**O Christ, you save us by God's grace
From having to obey.
Then freed to love, we can embrace
A life that seeks your way.
May we be doers of the word;
May faith shine through our deeds;
And as we seek to trust in God,
May ethics follow creeds.**

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CHARGE

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, remember that every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights. As you go forth, be doers of the Word, not just hearers, deceiving yourselves. Let your faith be alive in your actions, reflecting the love and grace you have received. In your words and deeds, strive to care for those in need, keeping yourselves untainted by the ways of the world.

BENEDICTION

P: May the God who gives all good things guide you in His truth, strengthen you to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with Him. May His light shine upon you, and may you be a light to others, living out the Word that has been planted in you. Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE Selected

The music after the service is intended as a time of reflection. The Pastor will be pleased to greet you after worship as soon as the postlude has concluded.

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| GUEST MINISTER | Rev. Wayne MacPherson |
| MUSIC DIRECTOR | Ben Westphal |
| DEACON | Maria Altmayer |
| LIVESTREAM RECORDING | N/A |
| NURSERY ATTENDANT | N/A |

News in the Pews

Welcome to our Annual Lorel Park Worship Service! Friends and guests, welcome to worship in the name of Jesus, who is both Savior and Friend and who welcomes all.

Please welcome back Rev. Wayne MacPherson! Pastor Wayne is has served four congregations in the Chicago Metropolitan Association, two as Pastor and two as Interim Pastor. In addition, he worked nine years as a member of the staff of the Chicago Metropolitan Association and the Illinois Conference. Pastor Wayne will be back again on September 8th. Thank you Rev. MacPherson!

Our time to serve! This year, the months with five Saturdays seem to be coming fast! On Saturday, August 31st we are providing the ingredients for the meal served at A Just Harvest Community Kitchen. Financial donations to this long-time mission project are always welcome. We also need folks to help serve. The hours of volunteer service are 11am to 2:30pm this coming Saturday. Please talk to Chad McCoy if you can help.

Rummage collection continues. Our last day for donations is September 15th.

Come help us sort rummage! Sorting days are *Monday morning from 10am to noon, Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm and Friday from 10am to 2pm.* There will be no sorting on Monday, September 2nd for the Labor Day holiday. No experience necessary to help, just take things out of boxes and put them in places. Stay for as long as you are able, newcomers welcome!

We had a visit from Skokie's newly appointed fire safety inspector this week. As a result, we'd like to make sure everyone is aware of a few things. Fire extinguishers throughout the building must never be blocked and easily accessible. Also, even when only one person is in the building, the exit lights must be turned on. The switches for those lights can be found outside Laura's office doors. Lastly, access to exit doors, stairwells, etc. must never be blocked in any way. Please keep this in mind when donating and sorting rummage. We'll be working on some other minor fire safety "housekeeping" with the Trustees so that we are ready for a huge and safe Rummage and Bake Sale, and future events!

We are updating print, electronic media and signage around the church! We are working to update our materials, but this won't happen overnight. A Communications Committee, chaired by Office Manager Laura Olson, is working on this. If you think something might have escaped the Committee's notice, please email Laura at office@stpeteruccskokie.org.

Our People

Please keep St. Peter's extended family in your thoughts and prayers. Other folks that need your prayers include:

- Marcia Hilliard had surgery for what is thought to be a benign tumor. She is recovering at home.
- Jane Abramchik continues to recover at home aided by a team of home caregivers and her husband Paul.
- Jen Schneider's mom Dorene Schurman, who is in hospice care in Ohio.
- Sharon Johnson's daughter, Donna, in treatment for cancer.
- Paul Brzozowski had brain surgery to remove a tumor. He is resting comfortably, and additional treatments will begin soon.
- Annie and Gerry Noorts's cousin Scott Richter is going through chemo for throat cancer. Also, their friends Bunny and Eddy Thompson are both fighting cancer.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Others in our church family to keep close in our hearts include Larry Baumhardt, Ursula Dworak, Lois Jarmuth, Bob Seitman, and Jackie Johnson. **If you are aware of others to include in our shared prayers, please let a church officer, an Elder, or the office know!**

Celebrating an Anniversary this week is Christine and Peter Svenson. God's blessings to them!

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector will be Judy Paige, and our Nursery Attendant will be Laurie Mitchell.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| PRESIDENT | Peggy Reins |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | Ann Herren |
| TREASURER | Chad McCoy |
| SECRETARY | Annie Noorts |
| FINANCIAL SECRETARY | Maria Altmayer |

Regular Reminders!

Let us know you were here! Please sign the attendance sheet in the black pew pads and when you think your pew is ready, please pass the pad towards the center aisle of the church.

Pantry Donations – our mini pantry is visited daily by folks in the community so we need regular donations to keep it filled. Thank you so much to all who donate!

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.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

MISSION MOMENTS

August 25, 2024

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

“At Home with God”

Psalm 84

We don't know how the original would have sounded, but modern translations usually divide Psalm 84 into five verses, which makes it perfect for praying during the week from Monday through Friday. For the next five days of the week, pick a phrase or two from each verse to read in the lectio divina style.

Lectio divina is an ancient method of prayer which invites the pray-er into a deeper attitude of listening and responding to God through scripture. To pray lectio divina, set aside a time of 25-30 minutes. The five steps of lectio divina are preparation (a time of silence), reading (reading a single word or phrase slowly and carefully 2-3 times), meditation (asking the reading to open its meaning to you today), praying (responding to what you have heard) and contemplation (welcoming the Word deeply into your heart and soul). With Psalm 84, you may wish to pray with these or other phrases.

Monday: How lovely is your dwelling place... OR My heart and my flesh sing for joy...

Tuesday: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest at your altars...OR Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise...

Wednesday: Happy are those whose strength is in you... OR They go from strength to strength, the God of gods will be seen in Zion...

Thursday: Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer give ear, O God of Jacob!... OR O God; look on the face of your anointed...

Friday: No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly... OR Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you...

Aug 25, 2024

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Please join me in the spirit of prayer. Let us pray.

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Our scripture reading this morning is from the book of James chapter one verses seventeen through twenty-seven.

¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created.

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. ²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

²⁶ Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

This ends our reading of the Scriptures for this morning's service. May God grant us a wise and generous understanding of this God's Holy Word.