



Into Jerusalem

Welcome to St Peter's UCC 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

8013 Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL 60077

(Oakton and Laramie)

847-673-8166

www.stpeteruccskokie.org

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

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

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

OPENING RESPONSE: "This is the Day"

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: Let us confess before God our tendency, like the Jerusalem crowds, to profess our faith in moments of enthusiasm and deny our faith in moments of stress. Let us read this prayer silently first and then pray it aloud together.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, we sing and praise You, happy of heart and strong of spirit, when we are among others who praise You, too. But in times of stress, we seek scapegoats to be targets of our anger. We betray those we love and who have loved us; and we turn against You, too busy to seek You, too selfish to obey You. Your compassion is without bounds, O God, for You forgive us again and again. You restore us to a right spirit and bring us to worship You again. God of steadfast love, teach us how to be steadfast too; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Paul both admonishes and inspires the Ephesian Christians, "Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God" (4:31-5:2).

God in Christ has forgiven you. As Jesus said elsewhere, let us go and do likewise.

All: THANKS BE TO GOD!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Psalmist:

Epistle:

Carolyn Van Til

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Philippians 2:5-11

MUSICAL MEDITATION

“O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns Be Rising”

Setting by Carl Schalk

GOSPEL:

John 12: 12-16

135

His Triumphal Entry

THEODULPH OF ORLEANS, 820
Tr. JOHN MASON NEALE, 1854

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN (ST. THEODULPH)

7.6.7.6.D.

MELCHIOR TESCHNER, 1615

With well defined rhythm

1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To Thee, Re - deem - er, King,
2. Thou art the King of Is - rael, Thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
3. Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
Who in the Lord's name com - est, The King and bless - ed One!
Who in all good de - light - est, Thou good and gra - cious King!

The peo - ple of the He - brews With palms be - fore Thee went;
To Thee, be - fore Thy pas - sion, They sang their hymns of praise;
All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To Thee, Re - deem - er, King,

Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore Thee we pre - sent.
To Thee, now high ex - alt - ed Our mel - o - dy we raise.
To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring! A-MEN.

A CALL TO OFFERING

CALL TO PRAYER "O Lord, hear my prayer . . ."

Em G/D Am/C D Em C B⁷

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me. O

5 Em G/D Am/C D Em B⁷ Em *Last Time*

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me. O *Last Time*

PASTORAL 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: "Messiah Made Manifest"

HYMN: "Ride on! Ride on in Majesty!"

#133

133 His Triumphal Entry

HENRY H. MILMAN, 1827 L. M. ST. DROSTANE JOHN B. DYKES, 1862

Majestically

1. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the tribes ho - san - na cry;
2. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die;
3. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! The wing - ed squad - rons of the skies
4. Ride on! ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die;

O Sav - iour meek, pur - sue Thy road With palms and scattered garments strowed.
O Christ, Thy triumphs now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and conquered sin.
Look down with sad and wonder - ing eyes To see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
Bow Thy meek head to mor - tal pain, Then take, O God, Thy power, and reign. A - MEN.

Alternative tune, Park Street.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

P: Go into the world in peace.
Jesus Christ is victorious over all the powers of this earth.
You are free to live and die with courage,
Trusting in God your strength,
And the Holy Spirit your comfort. Amen.

C: Amen!

***POSTLUDE:** "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"
Setting by James Engel

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTER Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR Ben Westphal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good Morning! Welcome to worship as we join a worldwide and timeless procession of the faithful shouting to Jesus, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Mark 11:9, NIV).

The Lenten Bible Study is off this coming Wednesday. As usual, we take Holy Week off from the Study, but we'll finish up on April 7 at the usual time. A Zoom link will be sent to participants.

Holy Week at St Peter's: Our Church Council approved the Worship and Music Committee's proposal to hold a hybrid of in-person and online worship, out of respect for those who are unable to attend, and in joyous welcome for those who are ready to re-enter the sanctuary. Our hope is that worship will be fulfilling and nurturing to all who participate, either from home or in person.

Following COVID safety protocols for distance, temperature-taking, sanitizing, cleaning, time inside and masking, we will be limiting attendance to fewer than 40 per service, and will take online reservations for those who plan to come in person. A link will be sent out via email NEXT MONDAY, March 29th at 9 AM that will allow folks to sign up for worship services they would like to attend in person. The schedule of services is as follows:

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship will also be livestreamed at 7 PM. We are also inviting people to join us in person for these 2 services. There will be Communion provided in the same way it was for Christmas Eve and Ash Wednesday.

Easter Sunday worship will begin at 10 AM, and will be both livestreamed and include people in the sanctuary. Communion will be offered the same as before.

All 3 in-person options (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday) will be 40 minutes long with limited singing, and will have a maximum of 40 people in the sanctuary (this includes Pastor, Ben, Jen, and the Lector).

Next week's Resurrection Sunday Lector is Jessica Schneider.

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.

St. Peter's Easter Egg Hunt 2021! Saturday, April 3 from 9:30-11:00 am, we invite children from our church family and our local community to pick up "Easter Bags" filled with stuffed plastic eggs, a couple of treats or tiny toys, and a postcard inviting that family to watch the live stream of our Easter Sunday service the following day. Jen Schneider is organizing this event, and is looking for volunteers to donate candy and stuff eggs. *The stuffing can be done AT HOME and returned to church by March 28th* so we can fill bags. Please contact Jen directly if you have questions!

Happy birthday this week to Sue Bailey (today)!

NEW St. Peter's Zoom Account! We now have an official Church Zoom account. There are many more benefits we are able to use because of this. If you are having a Zoom meeting, contact Laura in the office and she'll share the username and password so you might host an online meeting using the church account.

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.

Today's Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Charge/Benediction are reprinted by permission of the publisher from Touch Holiness, Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright 1990 by The Pilgrim Press; Copyright 2012 Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT PALM SUNDAY

March 28, 2021

Mark 14:1-15:47

Into Jerusalem

Imagine you were there that day.

Today, the day is known as Palm Sunday and we celebrate mostly sedately, with children waving palm leaves and songs of joy.

But it would not have been so that first day. On that first day of the first holy week, it was dusty and noisy, crowded and chaotic. On that day, Jesus riding the donkey into Jerusalem was just one more distraction and delight, a spectacle for a city in a festival mood. On that day, no one but Jesus could imagine the week that was to come, with its loyalties and betrayals, politics and pieties, losses and griefs. No one could have anticipated that the week would end in death and in resurrection.

What would it be like to enter the city again, as they did that first day so long ago? What would it be like to come to this day with no knowledge, no expectation of how this week would end? Each year, we are invited to re-enact the events of this week. Not as a tired recitation of a story whose ending is already known, but as living and breathing people, ready to experience each day anew.

Many faith communities will worship together several times this week. Even if your community does not gather for all these days, how can you mark each day this week?

You can find guides and resources to creating fresh and imaginative worship this Holy Week, and every week, at: https://www.ucc.org/worship_worship-ways

Palm Sunday: Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem

Maunder Thursday: Jesus' last supper with his disciples

Good Friday: A day of mourning

Easter Vigil: Keep awake through the night in prayer, grieving and anticipation

Easter: Resurrection Day



SCRIPTURES FOR THE PALM SUNDAY CONGREGATION

3 / 28 / 2021

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

“O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;
His steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say, ‘His steadfast love endures forever.’
Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through
them,
And give thanks to the Lord.
This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank You that You have answered me
And have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief
cornerstone.
This is the Lord’s doing;
It is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech You, O Lord,
O Lord, we beseech You, give us success!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God, and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
Up to the horns of the altar!
You are my God, and I will give thanks to You;
You are my God, I will extol You.
O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
For His steadfast love endures forever.”

Philippians 2:5 - 11

Paul wrote, Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

John 12:12-16

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.