



Last Things

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

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**OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
April 2nd, 2021 7:00 PM
Good Friday**

WELCOME GUESTS!

* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

PRELUDE: "Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless"
by David Cherwien

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Fear and fascination drew observers to the first Holy Friday. These emotions have attracted people ever since.

Congregation: We cannot flee from the pain and suffering which Jesus experienced on our behalf.

P: We wonder how one so faithful and compassionate had to face the agony of rejection, whipping and death.

C: *Jesus was wounded for our transgressions, and was bruised for our iniquities.*

P: In this time of worship we join Christ at Calvary, aware of our involvement in the cruelty there.

C: *Our faithfulness is tested at the Cross and our lives are judged by our response. Let us worship God!*

*HYMN:

"Ah, Dearest Jesus"

#147 (verses 1, 3)

147

JOHANN HEERMANN, c. 1630
Tr. ROBERT BRIDGES, 1899

II. II. II. 5.

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

JOHANN CRÜGER, 1640

Rather slowly and solemnly
May be sung in unison

1. Ah, dear - est Je - sus, how hast Thou of - fend - ed,
 2. Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on Thee?
 3. For me, dear Je - sus, was Thy in - car - na - tion,
 4. There - fore, dear Je - sus, since I can - not pay Thee,

That man to judge Thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de -
 A - las, my trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done Thee! 'Twas I, Lord
 Thy mor - tal sor - row, and Thy life's ob - la - tion; Thy death of
 I do a - dore Thee, and will ev - er pray Thee, Think on Thy

rid - ed, by Thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed!
 Je - sus, I it was de - nied Thee: I cru - ci - fied Thee.
 an - guish and Thy bit - ter pas - sion, For my sal - va - tion.
 pit - y and Thy love un - swerv - ing, Not my de - serv - ing. A - MEN.

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Merciful God, you love us with a profound, outrageous love, and you generously give to us all that you have. Yet we fail to appreciate you or to respond in gratitude to your love. Like the younger brother, we stubbornly choose our selfish ambition rather than receive your wise counsel. We pursue the pleasures of this world, believing that they will make us happy, only to discover that we're left with poverty of both soul and spirit. Or, like the elder brother, we hold ourselves aloof and apart, judging others and withholding compassion and mercy. Neither of these brothers understood that their truest treasure lay in their relationship with the Father — and that is our sin as well. We ask for your forgiveness and your grace, merciful God, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God . . . God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another” (First John 4:7, 9-11).

Brothers and sisters, in Jesus Christ crucified our sins have been forgiven and washed away by the love of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen!

***HYMN:** "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" #142 (v. 1)

142

His Passion and Crucifixion

HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN (PASSION CHORALE)
Ascribed to BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX, 1091-1153 HANS LEO HASSLER, 1601
 Tr. PAUL GERHARDT, 1656; tr. J. W. ALEXANDER, 1830 Har. JOH. SEBASTIAN BACH, 1729
 7. 6. 7. 6. D.

With great dignity

1. O Sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
 2. What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain:
 3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,
 4. When strength one day shall fail me, Lord, fail me not, I pray:

Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown;
 Mine, mine was the trans - ges - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain;
 For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?
 When pangs of death as - sail me, Be - side me, Je - sus, stay:

O Sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss till now was Thine!
 Lo, here I - fall, my Sav - iour, 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
 O make me Thine for - ev - er; And should I faint - ing be,
 When, head and heart, I lan - guish, And hard - ly draw my breath,

Yet, though de - spised and go - ry, I joy to call Thee mine!
 Look on me with Thy fa - vor, Vouch - safe to me Thy grace.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er Out - live my love to Thee.
 De - liv - er me from an - guish, By vir - tue of Thy death. A-MEN.

Music in Key of D, No. 162.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

An Old Testament Prophecy -- A Suffering Servant
Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12
Read by Rev. Lanford

The Passion Story of Friday
Matthew 27: 1-37
Read by Rev. Lanford

MUSICAL MEDITATION: "O Sacred Head"
by Michael Fontana

THE READING OF THE SEVEN LAST WORDS **AND EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES**

Luke 23:32-34 Judy Paige
"Father, forgive them . . ."

Luke 23:35-43 Jessica Schneider
"Truly, I tell you . . ."

"

488 Jesus, Remember Me

Musical notation for the first system of the hymn "Jesus, Remember Me". The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a soprano line and a bass line. The lyrics are: "Jesus, remember me when you come in to your kingdom." The chords indicated above the staff are Eb, Fm/Eb, Bb, and Eb.

Musical notation for the second system of the hymn "Jesus, Remember Me". The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a soprano line and a bass line. The lyrics are: "Jesus, remember me when you come in to your kingdom." The chords indicated above the staff are Cm, Fm/Ab, Bb, and Eb. The system begins with a measure number of 5.

John 19:25-27	Beth Lanford
"Mother . . . Son. . ."	
Matthew 27:45-49	Ben Westphal
My God, My God, why . . . ?"	
John 19:28	Beth Sterba
"I am thirsty"	
John 19:29-30	Mandy Steegmueller
"It is finished!"	
Luke 23:44-47	Jen Schneider
"Father, into Your hands . . ."	

RESPONSE:

"Were You There?"

SSB #38 (v. 1)

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you
3. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
there when they nailed Him to the tree? Oh!.....
there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

**EXIT AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE
TOLLING OF THE BELL
RE-ENTRY OF LIGHT
A SCRIPTURAL REPORT**

The Multitudes and His Burial
(Luke 23:48 and Matthew 27:57-61)

***POSTLUDE:** "What Wondrous Love Is This?"

arr. J. Cotter

FOR WORSHIP TONIGHT

MINISTER	Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our hybrid Good Friday service. Thank you for joining us, in person or via live-stream, for this, one of the services that mark the heartbeat of the gospel.

Special thanks to everyone who participated in tonight's service, as recorders, editors, bell toll counter, lectors, our Music Director, or behind the scenes.

The church bell tolls 33 times one for each year of Jesus' earthly life. Please do not leave the service when it's all dark until after Rev. Lanford has closed with the Scriptural reports and left. The lights will come up gradually and the Postlude then begins. The Christ Candle, lit for the first time on Christmas Eve, representing Jesus' earthly life as the Light of the World, and has burned at every worship service here since, is carried out and extinguished. Jesus really did die. The re-entering light is not a Christ Candle but it stands for Jesus' words to the disciples that the Son of Man will be killed

and rise again (Mark 8:31). In the current holder it resembles a light shining from a rock-hewn tomb.

St. Peter’s U.C.C.’s Resurrection Sunday hybrid service will be at 10:00 AM this coming Sunday, April 4! We will celebrate Communion; in-person worshipers will have the Communion elements safely packaged and provided for them here. At home will be each household preparing their own bread and cup for the elements which shall, we trust, shall be consecrated by prayer and the Spirit across space and time.

Don’t forget we’re handing out Easter-egg bags for at-home-Easter-egg-hunts for the families of our church members and friends, and for our community at large! Jen S. will be at the building tomorrow morning from 9:30 to 11:00 AM to hand out these bags safely!

Offerings can be made by following the link to me.paypal/stpeteruccskokie at St. Peter’s U.C.C. Skokie web page, on a Facebook post about these services, below the Description portion of the YouTube page (scroll down) or the old-fashioned way of sending a check. We are truly grateful for any and all gifts to the church!

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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