



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
Sunday,
September 1,
2024
10:00 AM

Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

Psalms and
Songs Worship
Service





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, September 1, 2024 at 10:00am
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
A Service of Psalms and Songs

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

Psalm 100: A Psalm of Praise

Response:

Cantor/All

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Capo III: D Bm Em D Bm Em C Em Am7 D
 F Dm Gm F Dm Gm Eb Gm Cm7 F

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

A: **Serve the Lord with gladness; come into His presence with singing.**

Response

L: Know that the Lord, He is God!

A: It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Response

L: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

A: Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

Response

L: For the Lord is good;

A: His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

Response

HYMN “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with
 2. Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our aid he
 3. O en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with joy his
 4. For why! the Lord our God is good; his mer - cy is for -

cheer - ful voice. Him serve with mirth, his praise forth
 did us make; we are his folk, he doth us
 courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his name al -
 ev - er sure; his truth at all times firm - ly

tell; come ye be - fore him doth re - joice.
 feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
 ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
 stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

WORDS: Attr. to William Kethe, 1561 (Ps. 100)
 MUSIC: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

OLD 100th
 LM

OPENING PRAYER

Marlene Russell

A: Gracious and loving God, we come before You with joyful hearts, ready to worship and give thanks. We enter Your presence with gladness, knowing that You are our Creator, our Shepherd, and our King. We are Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, and we rejoice in the care and love You provide.

Lord, we thank You for Your faithfulness that endures through all generations. Your mercy is everlasting, and Your truth stands firm forever. Help us to serve You with joy and to bless Your name in all circumstances. May our lives be a continual offering of praise, reflecting the goodness and grace You have shown us.

As we lift our voices in thanksgiving, may our hearts be filled with gratitude for Your unending love and kindness. Guide us in Your ways, that we may always walk in the light of Your truth. We praise You, O God, and we bless Your holy name, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation may be seated

Psalm 23: A Psalm of Comfort

Ben Westphal

HYMN “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

1. The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness
 2. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed
 3. Per - verse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in
 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear
 5. Thou, spreadst a table in my sight; thy unc - tion
 6. And so through all the length of days, thy goodness

fail - eth never. I nothing lack if
 soul he lea - deth; and where the verdant
 love he sought me; and on his shoulder
 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 grace bes - tow - eth; and oh, what transport
 fail - eth never; Good Shepherd, may I

I am his, and he is mine for - e - ver.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial fee - deth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 of de - light from thy pure cha - lice flow - eth!
 sing thy praise with - in thy house for - e - ver.

Psalm 42: A Psalm of Longing

Judy Paige

HYMN

“As the Deer”

(vv.1)

1. As the deer pant-eth for the wa-ter, so my soul long-eth af-ter You.
 2. You're my Friend and You are my Broth-er ev-en though You are a King.

D C#m Bm C A D7 G Asus A7 D

You a-lone are my heart's de-sire,—and I long to wor-ship You.
 I love You more than an-y oth-er, so much more than an-y-thing.

Bm Bm A GM7 A7 Dsus G D F#m Em Em7 F#sus

You a-lone are my strength, my shield; To You a-lone may my spir-it yield.

D C#m Bm C7 D7 GM7 A D

You a-lone are my heart's de-sire, and I long to wor-ship You.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH****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.**

OFFERTORY

If you donate electronically, feel free to place a green "Electronic Giving" card into the plate as it comes around so you can enjoy participating in the physical act of giving.

Will those who are able please stand up

RESPONSE "We are An Offering" **SSB #11**

**A: We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives
up to You
We are an offering
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands, Lord use our
lives they are Yours
We are an offering
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to
be, We give to You
We give to You**

The congregation may be seated

Psalm 150: A Psalm of Praise

Barb Todd

Will the congregation please stand up

Hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

F Dm C/E F C Dm Am B^b F B^b Edim/G Dm B^b C C⁷ F

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - migh - ty, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2. Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so won - drous - ly reign - eth,
 3. Praise to the Lord, Who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend thee;
 4. Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me a - dore Him!

F Dm C F Dm Am B^b F B^b Edim/G Dm B^b C C⁷ F

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va - tion!
 Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain - eth!
 Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee.
 All that hath life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore Him.

F C/E F B^b F B^b/D C/E F Gm F C

All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw near,
 Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a - gain,

F/A B^b Edim/G Dm Gm A Gm/B^b C F

Praise Him in glad a - do - ra - tion.
 Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?
 If with His love He be - friend thee.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him.

CHARGE

L: "Go forth with the spirit of praise in your hearts and minds. Let everything you do reflect the joy and gratitude you have for God's abundant grace. Like the psalmist, praise God in all places—whether in the sanctuary or in the vastness of creation. With every breath, every deed, and every word, let your life be a testimony of God's greatness. Praise Him with your whole being, with your actions, your work, and your love for others.

BENEDICTION

L: "May the Lord bless you and keep you; may His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. As you leave this place, may your life be a song of praise, echoing the glory of God in all you do. Go in peace, and may the music of your soul continually sing the praises of our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, now and forevermore. 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

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| MUSIC DIRECTOR | Ben Westphal |
| DEACON | Jenn Schneider |
| LIVESTREAM RECORDING | Peter Svenson |
| NURSERY ATTENDANT | Laurie Mitchell |

News in the Pews

Welcome to worship this Labor Day weekend. May God be in our work and our leisure, our fellowship and our praise.

Thank you to Ben Westphal, and all the volunteers that helped him put together this special “Psalms and Songs” Worship service today.

Next Sunday we’ll be celebrating Holy Communion and Rev. Wayne MacPherson will be back with us.

Happy Labor Day! The office will be closed tomorrow but will reopen on Tuesday.

Sunday School resumes September 8th, with Rally Day!

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 last 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:

- Betsy Herren, daughter of Ann, in Oregon. She is in treatment for breast cancer.
 - Marcia Hilliard received the results of the testing of her tumor and it is benign. Praise God!
 - 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. Thinking of the family in the passing of Julie Jernberg's father-in-law.

If you are aware of others to include in our shared prayers, please let a church officer, an Elder, or the office know!

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector will be Peter Svenson, and our Nursery Attendant will be Heidi Tarzian.

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

Be Love (9/1/2024)

GREEN

15th Sunday after Pentecost

James 1:17-27

In her book “The Gift to Listen, The Courage to Hear” the Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson describes the impact soul listening has on our relationships with God and one another.

Soul listening is not to be confused with active listening, which is what we are taught early in life to succeed in the world. The goal of active listening is mutual understanding.

Soul listening’s goal, though, is to discover the riches buried deeply within our souls. It makes visible the divine within each of us. This kind of listening, writes Jackson, tells others that they are “important, loved and valued.”

Soul listening gets to the heart of what James was saying to the Christians scattered outside of Israel when he wrote “be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger.”

Even in an ancient society void of voicemails and texting, James observed how the torrential downpour of words could do more harm than good. For when we are quick to fill those pregnant pauses — which are vital in forming thoughtful, loving responses — we drown out the voice of the Holy One who is always among us.

How many misunderstandings, fights, break-ups and church splits might have been avoided if only we listened — soul listened — first?

James' words come to us today not as a tip on how to better communicate with one another, but rather on how to better love one another.

Twentieth-century theologian, Paul Tillich, believed that listening and love were intertwined, writing that, “the first duty to love was to listen.”

Life doesn't need to be hard or heated or hurtful. Listen with love to your friends and family. Listen with love to the stranger you meet. Listen with love to the one you might disagree with. Listen to the one who is crying or laughing. More importantly, listen to the one who is silent. Listen with your soul, not your ears.

Divine Listener, who never fails to hear my cries, help me this day to listen to others with the same love and understanding you show me. May this day I talk less, and soul listen more. Amen.

Scriptures for September 1, 2024

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;^[a]
³ he restores my soul.^[a]
He leads me in right paths^[a]
for his name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,^[a]
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely^[a] goodness and mercy^[a] shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of
the LORD
my whole life long.

Psalm 42

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.
² My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When shall I come and behold
the face of God?
³ My tears have been my food

day and night,
while people say to me continually,
"Where is your God?"
⁴ These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng^[a]
and led them in procession to the
house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of
thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.
⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within
me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him,
my help ⁶ and my God.
My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.
⁷ Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your torrents;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.
⁸ By day the LORD commands his
steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.
⁹ I say to God, my rock,
"Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?"
¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
"Where is your God?"

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within
me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Psalm 150

¹ Praise the LORD!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty firmament!^[a]
² Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his surpassing
greatness!
³ Praise him with trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp!
⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe!
⁵ Praise him with clanging cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
⁶ Let everything that breathes praise
the LORD!
Praise the LORD!