



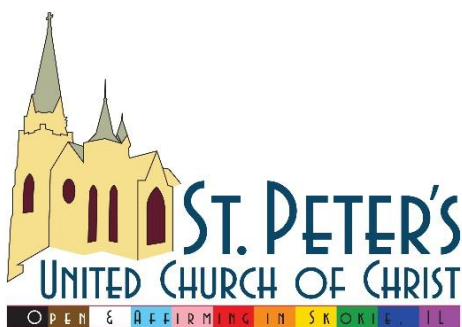
# Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,  
August 24, 2025  
10:00 AM**

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**Eleventh Sunday  
after Pentecost**





# Welcome to Worship!

**SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM**

**In-person Worship.** All are welcome to join us

**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

**Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson (Interim Pastor):** [pastor@stpeteruccskokie.org](mailto:pastor@stpeteruccskokie.org)

**Ben Westphal (Music Director):** [bcwestphal@gmail.com](mailto:bcwestphal@gmail.com)

**Laura Olson (Office Manager):** [office@stpeteruccskokie.org](mailto:office@stpeteruccskokie.org)

Office hours Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm

**Facebook/Instagram/YouTube:** @stpeteruccskokie

**Website:** [www.stpeteruccskokie.org](http://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**

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**St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Skokie**  
**Order of Worship for**  
**Sunday, August 24, 2025 at 10:00am**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Lorel Park Outdoor Worship Service**

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*During our sacred music, listen. Be attentive. Feel God's Spirit connecting all of us gathered here, those with us online and in spirit, and those who cannot be present today.*

**PRELUDE**

Selected

**THE RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Peggy Reins

*You may stand in body or spirit.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: O Divine Voice,

**All: You sing and the universe comes into being;**

One: O Divine Breath,

**All: You breathe and all things spring to life;**

One: O Divine Word,

**All: You call and creation is sustained;**

One: O Divine Flesh,

**All: You are born among us, and are clothed in  
creation;**

One: O Divine Spirit,

**All: You fill all that has been formed;**

One: O Divine Life,

**All: You are the pulse of all that is.**

One: In amazement and awe, in wonder and celebration,  
we marvel: In you all things live and move and have  
being. In all things, you live and move and express  
your Divine artistry. Let us join with creation in the  
eternal song of worship and wonder...

## OPENING HYMN “Morning Has Broken”

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

Em Am Em F G C Am F C

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery

Am G C G Am G7 C

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

*You may be seated*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

One: We are here because God has called us. Just as God  
told Jeremiah, God tells us who we are and who we  
can become. We might protest, but God keeps  
calling. Let us tell the truth before God.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *Jeremiah 1:1-10*

One: God says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born, I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

**All: I do not know how to speak. I am only a child.**

One: "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you."

**All: The Lord calls me. The Lord touches me.**

One: "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant."

**All: Lord, you have called me. Lord you have touched me. Lord, grant me the vision to live out Your calling.**

*Quiet reflection*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: Friends, hear the good news of the Gospel: it is God's good pleasure to call us and make us new. There is nothing we can do, and nothing that can be done to us that will ever stop God from loving us.

**All: In Christ, we are forgiven, we are loved, we are being made whole.**

One: Thanks be to God! Amen.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you!**

## MUSICAL RESPONSE: “Halle, Halle, Halle”

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of the melody with lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.' and chords A, E, A, D, Bm, and E. The second staff contains the second line of the melody with lyrics 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.' and chords A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, and A.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Hebrew Scripture

Christian Scripture

Karen Christianson

Psalms 103:1-8

Luke 13:10-17

## SPECIAL MUSIC

Selected

## SERMON:

“Standing Up”

## SUNG RESPONSE: "I Will Sing of the Mercies"

I will sing of the mer-cies of the Lord for - ev - er, I will  
sing, I will sing. I will sing of the mer - cies of the *Fine*  
Lord for - ev - er, I will sing of the mer - cies of the Lord.  
With my mouth will I make known thy  
faith - ful - ness, thy faith - ful - ness. With my mouth will I make  
*D.C. al fine*  
known thy faith - ful - ness to all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Psalm 89:1  
Music: FILLMORE, J. H. Fillmore

## PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, 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

## CALL TO OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*If you donate electronically, you may place an “Electronic Giving” card into the plate as it comes around so you can enjoy participating in the physical act of giving.*

*Please stand in body or in spirit*

### OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**A: God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar: We your people, yours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**A: Take our gifts, O God, so that we may see ourselves with your eyes. Break through our expectations, so our compassion might grow in this world, and all may know the miracles of your light and love.**

# CLOSING HYMN "Here I Am, Lord"

*Leader or All*

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*

All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Selected

*During the Postlude, we pause to reflect as we prepare to follow God out into the world.*

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

INTERIM MINISTER	Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Peter Svenson
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	N/A
NURSERY ATTENDANT	N/A

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# News in the Pews

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Welcome! We worship in the name of God, creator and protector of all; and of Jesus, our Savior and friend; and of the Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide. Amen.

Thank you for coming to our Lorel Park Worship Service, we're so glad you are here with us!

We extend heartfelt gratitude to all our volunteers; without their help, this and every service would not be possible – thank you.

**Mini Food Pantry donations have dwindled again.** The demand is great, and we really appreciate your help stocking our pantry again. All donations can be brought to the shelves by the office. Thank you so much!

**AJH service this month** – donations totaling \$500 are requested to defray the cost of the meal, and volunteers to serve are needed for ***Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> from 11AM-2:30PM***. Contact Chad McCoy if you'd like to serve.

**There is no livestream of this service today**, there will be no livestream next Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. We will resume livestream recordings on September 7<sup>th</sup>, which is also Rally Day!

**Sunday School Rally Day is in two weeks, Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9AM.** We are so excited for a new year of Christian education and fun!

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**Rummage still much needed** – we are a little low on donations from this time last year, so please keep bringing it in. We also need more gently used clothes in men's, women's and children's sizes. No furniture donations of any kind, however, we just don't have the room. Maybe your neighbors, friends or relatives have stuff to donate, or maybe you know of any sales that might be looking to donate their leftovers. Please encourage them to donate to our sale and thank you so much to everyone who's been donating and spreading the word.

**Rummage collecting now!** Drop off during office hours (please call ahead if you don't have a key), bring on Sundays when you come to worship, or call us to arrange a time that works for you. We'll take most anything but no furniture and old TV's. Questions can be directed to Annie Noorts at: [annie.noorts@gmail.com](mailto:annie.noorts@gmail.com), or call the office.

**Rummage sorting** – Join us **Mondays from 10AM-12PM, Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30PM and Fridays from 10AM to 2PM** to sort, no experience necessary! There are jobs for every person, talk to Annie for more information. This sale is our biggest fundraiser of the year but cannot happen without a tremendous amount of help all summer long. Please come help us!

**August workdays!** Please join our trustees as they continue to make repairs and improvements to our beloved building. All skill levels welcome. Join us ***Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 9AM-1PM.*** Please contact Rich Schneider for questions: [richschneider@comcast.net](mailto:richschneider@comcast.net).

**Holiday Craft Show applications are being accepted now.** If you are interested in having a table at our sale, contact Wendy or Annie for more information. For an application, email [st.peteruccskokiebazaar@gmail.com](mailto:st.peteruccskokiebazaar@gmail.com), or contact the office.

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## Our People

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

- Dorothy Panzke and her family.
- Sue Bailey has been diagnosed with Crohn's/Ulcerative Colitis and spinal lesions.
- Annie's friend Renee is fighting a long term, rare illness. She and her family are fighting to find a remedy that will slow and maybe even reverse the progress of this illness.
- Nicole McGinnis, childhood friend of Laura's who is fighting stage 4 cancer.
- David, uncle of Chad McCoy, as he undergoes kidney dialysis treatments.
- Prayers for healing for Ginger Kalensky.
- Robert Elliot, brother-in-law of Anna Riley, diagnosed with cancer stage 2.
- Prayers for Julius and all immigrants, refugees and displaced people.
- Sharon Johnson's daughter Donna continues her battle with Lymphoma, which can be controlled but not cured.
- Susan Garcia's Aunt Janice battling cancer.
- Jane Abramchik continues to recover at home aided by a team of home caregivers and her husband Paul.
- Paul Brzozowski has now completed all treatment and will have MRIs every 2 months.

Others in our church family to keep close in our hearts include Larry Baumhardt, Lois Jarmuth and Bob Seitman.

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

**This week we wish a Happy Birthday to Henry Muhrer. Happy Anniversary to Christine and Peter Svenson!**

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**According to the schedule** and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector will be David Iannotti, and Mike Ryan is on Nursery duty. Thank you so much for your service!

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### **CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

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PRESIDENT	Peggy Reins
VICE-PRESIDENT	Barb Todd
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Annie Noorts
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Maria Altmayer

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## *Regular Reminders!*

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**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.

**We are always grateful for all offerings to the church.** So many thanks to everyone who's been keeping us going with your donations! See inside the front cover for details on how to donate.

**Sign up for Coffee Hour!** Regular coffee hours are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. See our President Peggy if you are interested in signing up.

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## **MISSION MOMENTS**

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### **Pick Up the Mantle (6/29/2025)**

#### **Third Sunday after Pentecost**

#### **GREEN**

#### **2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14**

Before becoming a pastor, I was a news reporter often tasked with writing obituaries. I remember one such tribute for an elderly pillar in a community who wanted the next generation to hear his wish of carrying on his volunteer work.

And so, I wrote about his desire, inviting readers to “pick up the mantle.” I found myself explaining to my editor, who never heard of the phrase, that “pick up the mantle” was a biblical idiom rooted in the story of Elijah and his apprentice Elisha. In the story, Elisha picks up his beloved teacher’s mantle after Elijah is taken up to heaven and puts it on, symbolically continuing Elijah’s mission. My editor then asked another writer about the phrase. They had heard of it. It stayed in the obit and was published.

I went home that day realizing how these biblical stories are being lost over time and, thus, idioms like pick up the mantle are strange to many ears. I also wondered about the many mantles that have remained on the ground due to that strangeness.

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I worked with a pastor who was retiring after 40 years serving the same congregation. During his last weeks in the church office, he would give me pastoral advice and bits of wisdom. He also gave me his black wool clergy cloak that was reserved for cold Christmas Eve nights where, after the service, he would wear it while greeting worshippers amid the glow of the sidewalk luminaries.

I put the cloak on and the weight of it surprised me. What also surprised me was the tears filling the retiring pastor's eyes. With a nod of approval, he said, "It's like Elisha picking up Elijah's mantle."

After years in ministry, I have come to realize that picking up the mantle doesn't necessarily have to be the putting on of an actual cloak. There was a faded calico apron given to a friend by her grandmother, encouraging her to continue cooking those amazing Sunday dinners long after "nana" was gone. There was a toolbox left to a young son after his dad's passing, encouragement to pick up the mantle of helping the elderly with household repairs.

Mantles are a reminder that the work in this world is never done — it simply gets entrusted to others to carry on long after we are gone. Be it pastoral ministry, Sunday dinners or household repairs, what is the mantle waiting for you to pick up? How is God urging you to carry on the work of loving as Christ loved?

*Loving God, there is always work that needs to be done. May today our hands eagerly pick up the mantle that you are calling us to wear. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)

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