

**Welcome to St Peter's UCC In-Person and 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](https://www.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**

Our network name is: ATTUNITEDCHURCH; Pass:  
UNITEDCHURCH8166

[www.stpeteruccskokie.org](http://www.stpeteruccskokie.org)

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

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

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

**St. Peter's United Church of Christ**  
**Oakton Street and Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL**  
[www.stpeteruccskokie.org](http://www.stpeteruccskokie.org)  
**847-673-8166**

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**OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR**  
**Sunday, October 10, 2021, 10:00 AM**  
**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

**WELCOME GUESTS!**

\* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

**PRELUDE**      "For the Beauty of the Earth"      arr. Rice

**THE RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS**      Jen Schneider

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 43)

Pastor:      Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause  
against an ungodly people; from those who  
are deceitful and unjust, deliver me!

***Congregation: For You are the God in whom I take  
refuge.***

P:      Why have You cast me off? Why must I  
walk about mournfully because of the  
oppression of the enemy?

***C: For You are the God in whom I take  
refuge.***

P: O send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to Your holy hill and Your dwelling.

**C:** ***For You are the God in whom I take refuge.***

P: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise You with the harp, O God, my God.

**C:** ***For You are the God in whom I take refuge.***

**ALL:** Hope in God; my help and our God!

#### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, You know us inside and out. You see what others see of us, usually our best behavior, and You see what no one can possibly guess, things going on in our spirits and hearts which would surely displease You. Often they perplex, disappoint, or haunt us, too. It is hard to always have a good sense of Your will for us, but when we do, we admit it is still hard to carry it out. We grieve Your Spirit for things, thoughts, feelings and words we have done, felt, thought or said. We grieve Your Spirit again for things, thoughts, feelings and words which we left undone, unthought, unclaimed, or unsaid but should have.**

**Remind us, Lord, that You are always ready to receive us joyfully when we return back to Your ways, inside and out. Forgive us our falling short, and renew us by**

**the ongoing presence of the Spirit in our lives and in our churches. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen..**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Psalm 139, which lifts up how God is always near us, ends with these words of assurance: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (vv. 23, 24).

We are led in the way everlasting by a searching, forgiving God, the One we encounter in Jesus, who was born to find us and died and rose again to bring us back, into a new covenant with God. Is this priceless news, where God does for us what we cannot do for ourselves?

**ALL: Yes it is! Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*HYMN:** "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

SSB #32

*Refrain*

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;  
 blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
 Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;  
 send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -  
 dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,  
 set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*

Shine on me, shine on me:  
 Shine on me, shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick

Music: SHINE!, JESUS, SHINE!, Graham Kendrick

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## **WORDS ABOUT OFFERINGS**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

The Prophet:

Carolyn Van Til

Amos 5:6, 7, 10-15

Epistle:

Hebrews 4:12-16

### **MUSICAL MEDITATION** "This is My Father's World"

arr. Hayes

### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

The United Church of Christ Statement of Faith

(In the form of a doxology)

**We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our  
Savior Jesus Christ and our God,  
and to your deeds we testify:**

**You call the worlds into being, create persons in your  
own image,**

**and set before each one the ways of life and death.**

**You seek in holy love to save all people from  
aimlessness and sin.**

**You judge people and nations by your righteous will  
declared through prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and  
risen Savior,**

**you have come to us and shared our common lot,  
conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to  
yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,  
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,**



**binding in covenant faithful people of all ages,  
tongues, and races.**

**You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy  
of discipleship,**

**to be your servants in the service of others,**

**to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the  
powers of evil,**

**to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,**

**to join him in his passion and victory.**

**You promise to all who trust you**

**forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,**

**courage in the struggle for justice and peace,**

**your presence in trial and rejoicing,**

**and eternal life in your realm which has no end.**

**Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.**

**\*GLORIA CREATOR**

**#493**

**Glory to the Creator/And to the Christ**

**And to the Holy Ghost!**

**As it was in the beginning,**

**Is now, and ever shall be,**

**World without end. Amen, Amen.**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER 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:** "Amos, Do We Hear Your Voice?"

1. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
 2. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
 3. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, We fol - low, not with fears;

Hence-forth in fields of con - quest Thy tents shall be our home.  
 And ho - li - ness shall whis - per The sweet A - men of peace;  
 For glad - ness breaks like morn - ing Wher - e'er Thy face ap - pears;

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion Thy grace has made us strong,  
 For not with swords, loud clash - ing, Nor roll of stir - ring drums;  
 Thy cross is lift - ed o'er us; We jour - ney in its light;

And now, O King e - ter - nal, We lift our bat - tle song.  
 But deeds of love and mer - cy The heavenly king - dom comes.  
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; Lead on, O God of might! A-MEN.

**\*CHARGE**

P: The Lord has told us, O mortals, what is good; and  
what does the Lord require of us but

**C: *To do justice,***

P: To love kindness,

**C: *And to walk humbly with our God.***

**BENEDICTION**

P: May the Light of God surround us,

**C: *the Love of God enfold us,***

P: the Power of God protect us,

**C: *the Presence of God watch over us***

P: Now and forevermore.

**ALL: Amen!**

**\*POSTLUDE:** "Madrid" arr. Hayes

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FOR WORSHIP TODAY

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MINISTER	Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Beth Sterba
COUNTERS	Beth Lanford/Maria Altmayer
NURSERY	Heidi Tarzian

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**Good Morning!** "Seek the Lord and live," declares the prophet Amos (5:6). So we gather now to hear from God and to be nourished with abundant life. Welcome!

**Thank you to everyone who helped continue to clean up, box up, bag up, put tables away, and/or helped load the Cancer Society truck** after the Rummage Sale last week! We

may have the truck on Friday the 15th as well; it depends on if everything fit into the truck last Friday. We can announce that this morning.

**This week, the Women's Guild Board and the Guild itself meet this Wednesday in the Memorial Room.** The Guild meeting time remains, as ever, 11:30 AM.

**The Board of Elders have a meeting the same day, at 4 PM,** over Zoom. Members can call in if they cannot do Zoom on their phone or computer. The links were sent out via email from Peggy Reins on September 1st.

**The Pet Blessing is next week!** It starts with a brief service at 3 PM in our Auditorium / Gym, is of course open to the public. It ends at 4 o'clock. There is more information in the October Announcer.

**Your Church Council meets next Sunday!** So if you are up for submitting a report for the meeting, please prepare it and submit it to the October Council Drop-box this week as early as you can. Getting it in early will help the others coming have enough time to read them!

**Following next Sunday is Monday, October 18th.** That is the deadline for articles to be submitted for the November issue of the Announcer newsletter! Please get them in on time so Laura won't have to track you down, delaying the newsletter production. Thank you!

**We are always grateful for any and all offerings to the church.** No amount is too small! As we said in the opening announcements, you can support our work (and thus, your work too) by mailing in a check, signing up for electronic giving, or using PayPal as indicated, with links, on the first main page of announcements. Depending on how you set up your PayPal account, you can arrange to pay whatever transaction fee there is yourself, or, that it will be included in your donation and deducted before it hits St. Peter's account (so St. Peter's, in effect, pays it). Thank you very much for giving!

**It is our turn for 'serving' at the Community Kitchen of A Just Harvest.** As we've had to do since COVID struck, the Kitchen continues to take care of preparing and serving the meal to its guests via curbside or carry-out. Our role for the dinner is financial during the pandemic, and we are asking for donations to help meet the \$500 total for which we are asked. That buys all of what is needed to prepare our meal.

**About our new Mini-Pantry now that it's here:** Non-perishable food items will be needed regularly to keep it stocked! Right now, however, we have a good supply. Donations can be brought to the office during office hours (M-F 9 – 2) or on Sundays and given to someone with access to the office. The Mini-Pantry is also intended to highlight, raise awareness of, and address food insecurity in our community. The Mini Pantry will operate on a "Give what you can, take what you need" system, and anyone from anywhere can deposit or withdraw food items. Recommended items include canned goods with ring-pulls; hygiene products: toothpaste/toothbrush,

deodorant, soap, menstrual products, peanut butter, kids' snacks; non-perishable foods, bottled water.

Having birthdays this week are Gabriel Banoyo and Jillian Caras; marking their wedding anniversaries are Kim (Loach) and Patrick Bruhn and Megan (Knowles) and Steven Caras (their 25th). May they be blessed in their celebrations!

**The Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society** had their first meeting in our facility last night; a contract with them has been signed for the next two years.

According to the lector schedule, next Sunday’s lector will be Mandy Steegmueller.

**Pastor’s podcast is available wherever you listen to podcasts!** Just type in “The Redheaded Preacher” and you’ll find us! Pastor’s weekly podcasts include the prior Sunday’s scriptures & sermon, and some words and prayer from Pastor just for the listeners of the podcast! Check it out!

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**CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

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

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October 10, 2021

Mark 10:17-31

## What Must I Do?

### *Access Sunday and Disabilities Awareness Week*

Many years ago, ordained United Church of Christ disability rights activist Harold Wilke (1915–2003) wrote, “The festivals of the religious year show forth new meanings for access and liberation: In the glory of Easter – the stone rolled away – we see the barrier removed. In the wonder of Pentecost, the message is heard, understood, and seen by all. In the liberating act of Passover, the message is: “Let My People Go!” and the parting of the Red Sea. In the joy of Advent, God embodies divinity in human form.”

Yet, for many persons today...the barriers still remain; The stone is still in place; The waters are not parted, the way not opened; The words cannot be heard; The flame of the Spirit’s tongues cannot be seen, the message not understood.

Proclaiming the message in all languages for today means using Braille or larger print for people with visual disabilities, signing or special sound systems for persons with hearing disabilities; image, color and drama for people with cognitive disabilities; architectural access for people with physical disabilities or who are getting older.

Let the stone be rolled away! Let the glorious message be proclaimed truly, in all languages so all may hear and understand!”

Wilke’s stirring words begin the guidebook entitled, “*Anybody, Everybody, Christ’s body: A Guide for Congregations, Associations and Conferences in Becoming Accessible To All (A2A)*”. This guide is invaluable to those congregations that fear that becoming truly physically accessible in their church buildings is fiscally out of reach. After all, the idea of putting in a new elevator or enhanced sound system might seem daunting.

The A2A guidebook is a reminder that just as important as physical and fiscal shifts, are changes in habits and attitudes. While these may take time and spiritual effort, the effect on the church budget may be less than is feared. The process of becoming accessible to all (A2A) begins with an audit of your space, which you can find, along with the A2A guidebook, at the website for the United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministry ([uccdm.org](http://uccdm.org)).





## **SCRIPTURES FOR THE CONGREGATION**

**October 10th, 2021**

**Our first of two readings is from the Book of the prophet Amos. During the long and peaceful reign of Jeroboam II in the 700s B.C., Israel attained a height of territorial expansion and national prosperity never again reached. The security and affluence of the age were taken by many Israelites as signs of the Lord's favor, which they felt they deserved because of their extravagant support of the official shrines. Into this scene stepped the prophet Amos, sometime in the middle of the century, called by God to the difficult position of preaching harsh words in a smooth season. The reading is Amos Chapter 5, verses 6 and 7, and then 10 through 15.**

**Amos 5:6-7, 10-15**

**Seek the LORD and live,**

**or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,  
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.**

**Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,  
and bring righteousness to the ground!**

**They hate the one who reproves in the gate,  
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.**

**Therefore, because you trample on the poor and take from  
them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but  
you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant  
vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.**

**For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great  
are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,  
and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent  
will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.**

**Seek good and not evil, that you may live;  
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as  
you have said.**

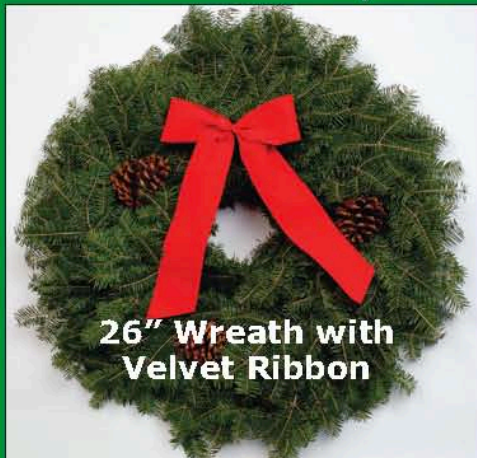
**Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate;  
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,  
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.**

#### **Hebrews 4:12-16**

**Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any  
two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit,  
joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and  
intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden,  
but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom  
we must render an account.**

**Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed  
through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to  
our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is  
unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one  
who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without  
sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with  
boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help  
in time of need.**

# Handcrafted Wreaths and Decorations

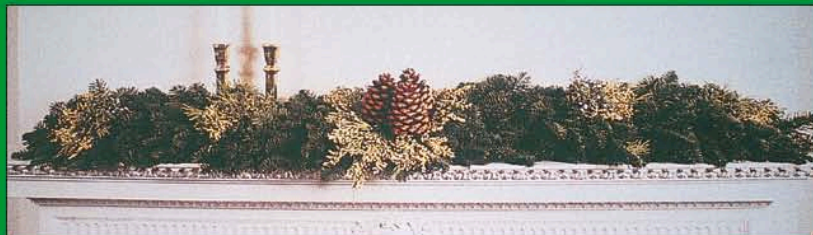


**26" Wreath with Velvet Ribbon**

Single Face Balsam Outdoor Wreath 26", 36", 48"  
Double Face Balsam 36"



**Noble Fir Mixed Wreath 20" Indoor/Outdoor**



**4' Mantelpiece/Centerpiece**

**Place your order by Friday November 5th.**  
(Contact Rich Schneider or call 847.673.8166)

**Due to COVID-19 concerns, pickup will be on Saturday November 20th from 1 - 4 pm.**

26" Single Face Balsam	\$17.00
36" Single Face Balsam	\$30.00
36" Double Face Balsam	\$44.00
48" Single Face Balsam	\$45.00
4' Noble, Cedar, Juniper Mantlepiece/Centerpiece	\$44.00
12" Candle Ring Wreath	\$22.00
12" Holiday Yule Log	\$20.00
32" Evergreen Planter	\$30.00
38" Evergreen Planter	\$45.00
Fire Starter Basket	\$19.00
Balsam Door Swag	\$14.00
20" Premium Noble Fir Mix Wreath	\$23.00
24" Boxed Decorator Wreath	\$40.00
25' Balsam Garland	\$28.00
Cemetery Stand	\$7.00



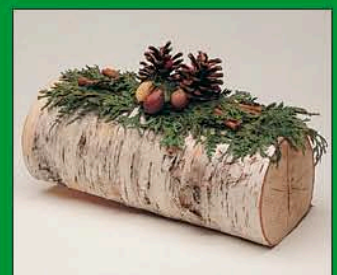
**32" Evergreen Planter  
38" Evergreen Planter**



**12" Candle Ring Wreath with 4" Candle**



**24" Boxed Decorator Wreath**



**Holiday Yule Log 12"**



**25' Balsam Fir Garland**



**Firestarter Basket**



**Balsam Swag**



# CHRISTMAS WREATHS AND MORE!

We are taking orders for pine Christmas wreaths and decorations from Northern Wisconsin to adorn your home or to be placed at a cemetery.

**The standard 26 inch diameter wreath, with red velvet bow and pine cones is \$17.00.**

Cemetery stands are \$7.00.

Proceeds from this fundraiser help us decorate the church for the holidays with the remainder going to the General Operating Fund.

We will make arrangements for placing wreaths on the St. Peter's UCC Cemetery, if you desire.

All orders **must be placed by Friday Nov 5th.**

Due to COVID-19 concerns, **pickup at St. Peter's will be on Saturday November 20th from 1 - 4 pm.**

To place an order:

- **please fill in the form and return with payment** by mailing it to St Peter's.
- or, **email your order to [office@stpeteruccskokie.org](mailto:office@stpeteruccskokie.org)** and send payment separately via mail, text the amount, or use PayPal. For information on how to use any of these methods, please see the weekly bulletin.

Please make checks payable to:  
St. Peter's UCC.

Name		
Address		
I will pick up my order up at church		
Please place on cemetery for:		
Item Description	Price	Quantity
26" Single Face Balsam Wreath w/ Velvet Ribbon for Home or Cemetery	\$17.00	
Cemetery Stands	\$7.00	
36" Single Face Balsam Wreath	\$30.00	
36" Double Face Balsam Wreath	\$44.00	
48" Single Face Balsam Wreath	\$45.00	
4' Noble Mix Mantel piece / Centerpiece	\$44.00	
12" Mixed Noble Candle Ring Wreath w/ 4" Candle	\$22.00	
12" Holiday Yule Log	\$20.00	
Outdoor Evergreen Planter (32")	\$30.00	
Supersized Outdoor Evergreen Planter (38")	\$45.00	
Fire Starter Basket	\$19.00	
Balsam Door Swag	\$14.00	
20" Premium Noble Fir Mix Wreath	\$23.00	
24" Decorator Wreath Boxed w/ Velvet Ribbon	\$40.00	
25' Balsam Garland	\$28.00	