

Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

Sunday,

April 19, 2026

10:00 AM

**Third Sunday
Of Easter**





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!

Send with Zelle. Use your banking app to send to finance@stpeteruccskokie.org

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

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

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

Office hours Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm

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, April 19, 2026 at 10:00am
The Third Sunday of Easter

Meditation during our sacred music:

Listen. Be attentive. Feel God's Spirit connect all of us gathered here, those with us online and in spirit, and those who cannot be present today..

PRELUDE Theme and Variations on,
 "O Sons and Daughters Let Us Sing"

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Reins

You may stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Brothers and sisters,
 if you lift your net and it is empty, come here!

All: We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.

One: If you open your eyes
 but do not recognize the Holy One, come here!

All: We'll find the Risen Christ here among us.

One: If your life is filled with mourning, come here!

All: Christ is leading a dance of joy.

One: Come here, sisters and brothers!

All: To give blessing and honor and glory to God!

GATHERING HYMN "The Day of Resurrection"

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
 the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
 the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
 We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

You may be seated.

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: The Risen One is with us, whose ways are ways of justice, peace and love. When we gather, we examine our hearts to follow in Christ's ways.

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

A: Lover of Creation,

When fear and confusion take over, we respond in despair. Sometimes we neglect to love ourselves and our neighbors, and we forget to follow in your ways. Forgive us. Engage us. Reshape our imaginations. Trade our complacency for courage, our pettiness for possibility, our greed for your goodness, our aimlessness and for your adventure. Trade our lives for your love. Amen.

Pause for quiet prayer

WORDS OF GRACE

One: Friends, open your hearts and hear the good news.
God is with us, all around us, at work within us.
There is nothing we can do that can stop God from loving us.

All: Through the Risen Christ, we are forgiven, we are loved, we are being made whole.

One: Through the Holy Spirit, we are given joy. We are sent forth to bring good news to the oppressed, to bring healing to the broken, to anoint everyone with the oil of gladness.

All. Thanks be to God. Hallelujah!

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

Share a sign of God's peace: a smile, a wave, an elbow bump, a handshake, a hug. Let us fill this space with love.

SUNG RESPONSE “Halle, Halle, Halle”

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The congregation may be seated.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Beth Sterba

New Testament Scripture:

Acts 9:1-6

You may wish to stand for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL LESSON:

John 21:1-19

Please be seated.

CHORAL ANTHEM “Will You Come and Follow Me”

SERMON


“Breakfast on the Beach”

HYMN

"Peter Said, "I'm Going Fishing"



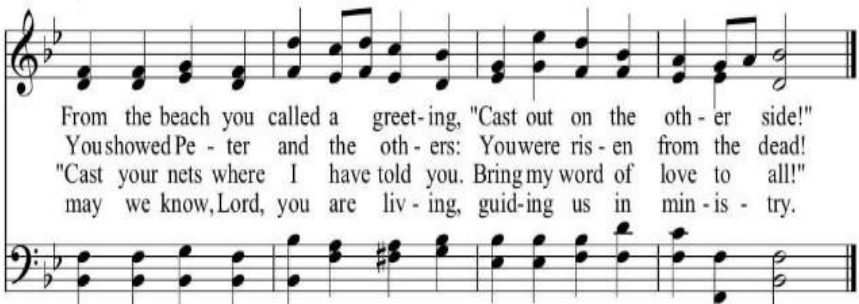
1. Pe - ter said, "I'm go - ing fish - ing," so his friends went out with him.
 2. Soon their nets were filled to brim - ming; some - one cried, "It is the Lord!"
 3. Ris - en Christ, you send us fish - ing! God's great sea is ev - ery - where.
 4. Lord, be with our con - gre - ga - tion; by your Spir - it send us forth!



Through the night they la - bored, watch - ing, haul - ing emp - ty nets back in.
 Jump - ing in, he start - ed swim - ming; Christ, you met him on the shore.
 You have guid - ed us in mis - sion, you have giv - en love to share.
 May we care for your cre - a - tion; may we work for peace on earth.



In the grey of ear - ly morn - ing, Je - sus, you came walk ing by.
 Guid - ing them to bet - ter wat - ers, eat - ing fish, and shar - ing bread,
 Through the years our church has heard you, we have an - swered your great call:
 In our wor - ship, in our giv - ing, in our serv - ing those in need,



From the beach you called a greet - ing, "Cast out on the oth - er side!"
 You showed Pe - ter and the oth - ers: You were ris - en from the dead!
 "Cast your nets where I have told you. Bring my word of love to all!"
 may we know, Lord, you are liv - ing, guid - ing us in min - is - try.

The Congregation may be seated

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYERS

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.

You may stand in body or in spirit.

RESPONSE

tune: All Creatures of our God and King

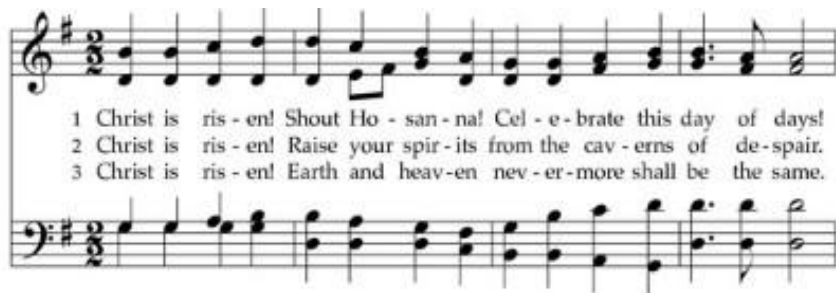
**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise God, all creatures, here below!
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, you heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison*

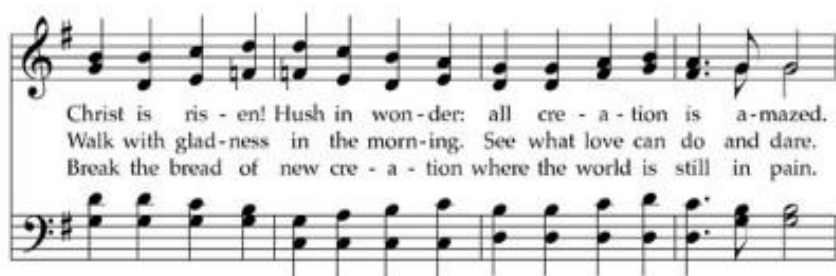
A: God of resurrection, in a world that lives out of scarcity, you call us to a life of abundance. You offer grace and mercy. You heal us, you carry us. In you, we live, move and have our being. May these gifts be used to bring life and love and liberation for this world that you love so dearly. Amen.

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

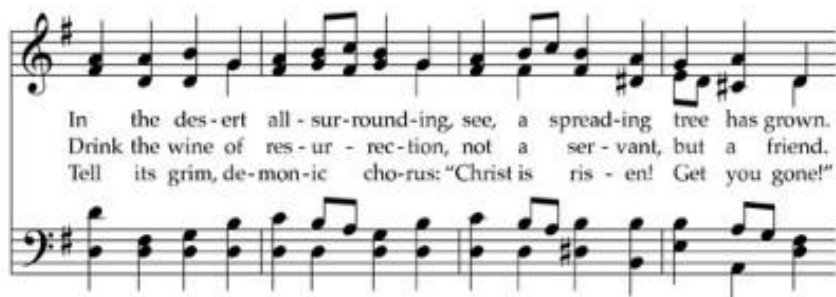
"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna"



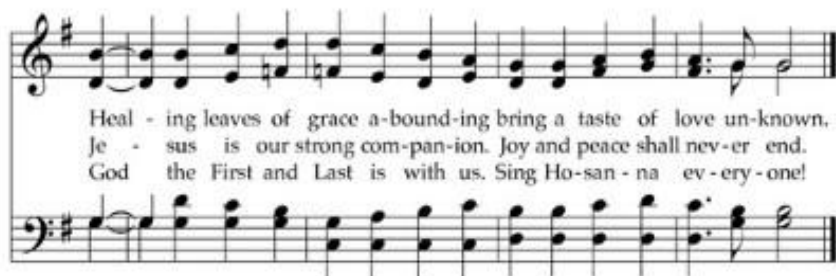
1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der; all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known,
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna”

We pause to reflect during the Postlude as we prepare to follow God out into the world.

Feed My Lambs, by Rev. Quentin Chin. Posted on [re: Worship: Easter 3 Year C \(re-worship.blogspot.com\)](http://re-worship.blogspot.com)

Liturgy Outside. <http://liturgyoutside.net/> Copyright by Katherine Hawker, based on John 21:15-19.

Follow God: Service Prayers for Easter 3C by Michael Anthony Howard, Minister of Faith in Action for the Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast, Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ.

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

INTERIM MINISTER	Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Denise Hopp
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	Peter Svenson
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Heidi Tarzian

News in the Pews

The warmest of welcomes to one and all. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord. Reach out in loving acceptance to those around you. We are all children of the heavenly King.

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

Church Council meets after worship today.

Thank you to everyone involved in The Revolutionists production held here last Saturday evening. Thank you also to everyone who attended, and our co-sponsors The Skokie Heritage Museum, the Downtown Skokie Merchants Association and Kneads and Wants Bakery. We hope you enjoyed the show!

After-Easter Discount Eggs – if you come across sales of after-Easter empty plastic eggs, St Peter's could use them for next year. Please don't purchase FILLED eggs (year-old candy isn't great!) but many places have 80% off Easter stuff for the next week or so. Please leave donations in

Experience hope in action! Tour the Night Ministry - the Night Ministry will again be hosting a behind-the-scenes tour on Thursday, May 14th from 5-7PM. The Night Ministry has been a longtime community partner of St. Peter's UCC. Contact MaCheaux Ransom to register: macheaux@thenightministry.org.

This Wednesday, April 22nd is Earth Day!

Coming in May! Our Church's 159th Anniversary, Mother's Day Sunday and service at A Just Harvest.

Our People

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

- Matt Anthony, nephew of Marlene Russell, who has incurable cancer.
- Mark Taylor.
- Wendy, friend and colleague of Beth Sterba, who is fighting liver cancer.
- Annie's friend Renee is fighting a long term, rare illness.
- Nicole McGinnis, childhood friend of Laura's who is fighting stage 4 cancer.
- 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.
- 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 and Lois Jarmuth.

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

Happy birthday this week to Mark Taylor and Susan Garcia. **Happy Anniversary** to Donna and David Rees and Carol and Bob Iannotti. Belated birthday wishes also to Bonnie Loach. God's blessings to you on your special day!

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector is TBD, our Nursery attendant is Rita McMahon. Thank you so much for your service!

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Peggy Reins
VICE-PRESIDENT	Karen Christianson
TREASURER	Carolyn Kuechler (interim)
SECRETARY	Jenn Schneider
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Maria Altmayer (interim)

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.

Private Signs: You will notice certain rooms around the church have been designated as "private." If ICE should ever come to our building, they will not be allowed to enter any room marked "private."

Please remember to update the office on your current prayer request, we appreciate the help keeping the prayer requests timely and accurate.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

MISSION MOMENTS

Breaking Bread

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

White

Luke 24:13-35

Dear readers, I have some Eastertide questions for you. Consider this your Risen Lord check in.

First, where have you recently seen the Risen Lord on your path? Second, what have been the conversations that left you feeling as if you were in the presence of the divine? Third, when did your heart burn with the truth of the Gospel fully awakening your senses?

Finally, when was the last time you ripped into a warm, soft loaf of bread and, before slathering a piece with butter, paused and imagined the Lord with you in that breaking of the bread?

I have always been enamored with the resurrection encounter of the travelers on the road to Emmaus who didn't realize Jesus was walking with them until he later joined them for a meal. Luke's Gospel tells us that after Jesus blessed and broke the loaf, the travelers' eyes were opened, and they recognized him for who he was: The Risen Lord. And so, every opportunity I have I will take a loaf of bread and share not only the yeasty goodness with friends, but I will ask them to join me in realizing that in this ordinary act we are experiencing something extraordinary. We are being given an opportunity for fellowship with not just one another but with Jesus our Lord.

Perhaps this ritual of mine was born out of the slow food movement that originated in Italy in the 1980s. It was a call to take time to thoughtfully and lovingly prepare a meal rather than nuking something quick to eat. Slow down to savor the food before you, because it is only when we are fully present that we can see all that we should be grateful for.

Yes, breaking bread is an everyday sacred occurrence in my home where I slow down to be fully present to my Risen Lord. Coincidentally, during the slow food movement of the 1980's, Michael Philip Ward wrote a song called, "In the Breaking of the Bread."

Based on the Emmaus encounter, the lyrics beautifully go beyond the bread breaking, reminding us that opportunities to see the Risen Lord are all around: In the walking on the road, we saw Him. In the telling of our hopes, we saw Him. In the burning of our hearts, we saw Him. In the breaking of the bread, we saw Him. Suddenly our eyes were opened, and we knew He was alive.

May this day your eyes suddenly open to the truth that Jesus is with you in every step you take and in every prayerful moment you make. Sustaining and bounteous God, we thank You for the Bread of Life, our Risen Lord, who walks alongside us on our Emmaus Roads, always listening to our questions, our fears and our doubts. 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.)

Acts 9:1-6

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin,^[a] Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”