

# Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Friday,  
April 3, 2026  
7:00 PM**

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**Good Friday**



AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION IN SKOKIE, IL



# 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](mailto: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](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 Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
at 7:00 PM  
Good Friday**

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*Thought for Meditation*

*On this day, we remember: Jesus did not meet violence with revenge, but with mercy. He chose compassion over condemnation, forgiveness over fear, love over power. The cross is not the end of the story, but a window into the heart of God—grieving with us, forgiving us, transforming us.*

**PRELUDE**

“What Wondrous Love is This”

**A WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**One:** On this holy day, we come to the foot of the cross—not to glorify suffering, but to bear witness to love poured out.

**Many:** **We come with hearts heavy, knowing the weight of injustice and sorrow. We remember Jesus, who was betrayed, denied, and crucified.**

**One:** From the garden to the courtroom, from the whip to the cross, Jesus chose the path of love, even in the face of violence.

**Many:** **He healed the ear of the one who came to arrest him. He looked with compassion on those who wept. He forgave, even from the cross.**

**One:** In a world where power so often silences truth, Jesus spoke with courage. In a time of fear and despair, Jesus held fast to peace.

**Many:** **We come, not to rush to resurrection, but to linger here, to witness, to grieve, and to find hope even in the shadows.**

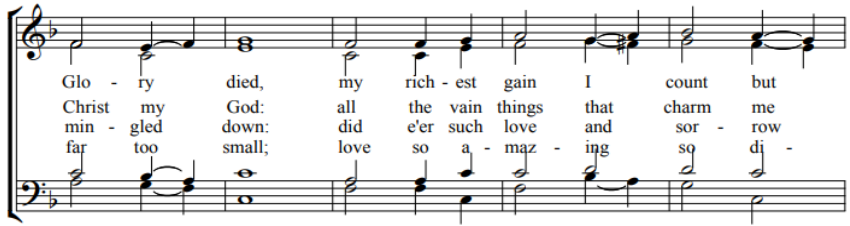
**All:** Let us worship the One who reveals the heart of God—  
crucified by empire, yet alive in love. Even today, Christ  
is with us.

*You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

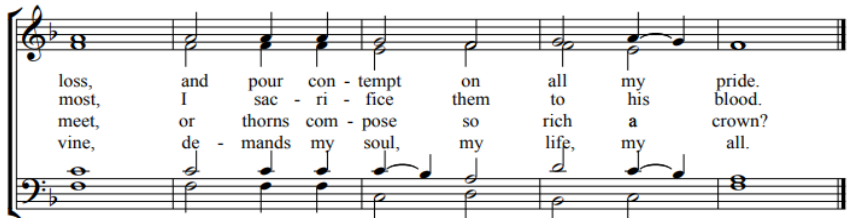
**HYMN** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" v. 1



1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the Prince of  
2. For - bid it Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of  
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and love flow  
4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a pres - ent



Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I count but  
2. Christ my God: all the vain things that charm me  
3. min - gled down: did e'er such love and sor - row  
4. far too small; love so a - maz - ing sq di -



loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
2. most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
3. meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
4. vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

*You may be seated.*

**INVOCATION**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE** Selected

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS**

Psalm 22: 1-23

### CALL TO PRAYER "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call an - swer me. O

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and lis - ten to me.

*In the silence of our Sanctuary, let us come to our loving God in prayer.*

### SILENT PRAYERS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

*You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

### HYMN "Go to Dark Gethsemane" vs. 1

1. Go to dark Geth - se - ma - ne, ye that feel the temp - ter's pow'r;  
 2. Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of Life ar - rained;  
 3. Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at His feet,  
 4. Ear - ly hast - en to the tomb where they laid His breath - less clay;

Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see, watch with Him one bit - ter hour,  
 O the worm - wood and the gall! O the pangs His soul sus - tained!  
 Mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete!  
 All is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en Him a - way?

Turn not from His griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from Christ to bear the cross.  
 "It is fin - ished!" hear Him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes; Sa - vior, teach us so to rise.

*You may be seated*

## **READINGS AND EXTINGUISHING OF LIGHTS**

**The Shadow of Arrest: John 18:1-14**

*Musical Response*

**The Shadow of Denial: John 18:15-27**

*Musical Response*

**The Shadow of Accusation: John 18:28-38**

*Musical Response*

**The Shadow of Humiliation: John 18:39-19:3**

*Musical Response*

**The Shadow of Condemnation: John 19:4-16**

*Musical Response*

**The Shadow of Crucifixion: John 19:17-27**

*Musical Response*

**The Shadow of Death: John 19:29-37**

*Musical Response*

**The Shadow of Burial: John 19:38-42**

*The Organ Plays 1 vs. of O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

*Silence. All of the candles are extinguished. The sanctuary is dark.*

## **SILENCE**

*The light exits the sanctuary, the shroud covers the altar*

## **THE TOLLING OF THE BELL**

*As you are ready, you are invited to leave in silence.*

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### **FOR WORSHIP TONIGHT**

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INTERIM MINISTER

Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ben Westphal

DEACON

Beth Sterba

LIVESTREAM

Rich Schneider

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# News in the Pews

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**Welcome and thank you for attending our Good Friday Vespers service of Scripture, music, candlelight, song, silence and prayer.**

There are offering plates in the Narthex and by the Schmidt Memorial window near the pulpit for any who wish to make an offering tonight.

**Thank you to everyone who played a role** in tonight's service, including our Deacon and live-streamer! We could not do it without you.

**The bell tolls 33 times for each year** (approximation) of Jesus' earthly life.

**Following some Sanctuary and Easter Egg Hunt prep work tomorrow**, we celebrate Christ's Resurrection in our Sunday 10 AM service! We will celebrate the Lord's Supper, sing some great hymns, enjoy an Anthem, sermon, and Scriptures. Then the young ones can take part in our Easter Egg Hunt prepared in our Gym (11:15) and then, for those who planned to stay for it, an Easter Brunch at 11:30 downstairs. The nursery will be attended, as it is every Sunday.

**The church office is closed** the Monday after Easter.

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