



**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)

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**OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR**  
**Sunday, October 3, 2021, 10:00 AM**  
**World Communion Sunday**  
**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**WELCOME GUESTS!**

\* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

**PRELUDE**

Selected

**THE RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jen Schneider

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** "This is the Day"

SSB #22

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION:**

Pastor:

Come, people of God, out of our  
separateness, to enter unity with one  
another, and with all those who seek the  
presence of Jesus Christ, through the  
breaking of bread and the sharing of the  
fruit of the vine.

***Congregation: We come, confessing the sin that separates you and me from God and from one another.***

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**We fill ourselves with all kinds of food, Lord. We eat wholesome food and junk food. We drink beverages that promise to energize us and water that not only quenches our thirst but gives us vitamins, as well. We wake up and start our coffee pots, eager to consume caffeine before we ever thank You for the gift of a new day. God, we have put so much stuff into our body, and we are bewildered when we find ourselves still hungry and thirsty. Forgive us, Lord, for failing to remember what really satisfies -- the bread of life and the cup of salvation, which unite Your diverse people around the planet. Free us from all sins of the past, and prepare us to come to the Table eager to live differently by Your grace and power. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

When Jesus gathered for the Last Supper, he gathered with a group of ordinary people like you and me. He knew their shortcomings. He knew that they would deny or abandon him when the going got tough. Still, he chose to eat with them. He still chooses to eat with us today. He chooses to share with us a meal that reminds us of the ultimate price he paid for us all. As we partake of this feast later, may we

know, without a shadow of a doubt, that in Christ's name we are loved, forgiven, and freed.

If you believe this good news, even if you're not sure, please join me in acclamation and say . . .

**ALL: Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*HYMN: "Peace Like a River (It is Well)" SSB #23 (vv. 1,2,3)**

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my  
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I  
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 It is well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888  
 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

**WORDS ABOUT OFFERINGS**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Richard Schneider

Old Testament:

Job 1:1; 2:1-10

Epistle:

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

**MUSICAL MEDITATION** Selected

**\*GOSPEL:**

John 6:27-40



**\*RESPONSE:**

**"Thy Word"**

SSB #33 (v. 1)

*Refrain*

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

1 When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be-

side me, and noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end.

2 I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for-ev-er is

wan-der-ing. Je-sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and

I will love you to the end.

Text: Psalm 119:105, Amy Grant, b. 1960  
Music: THY WORD, Michael W. Smith, b. 1957

Text and music © 1984 Word Music, Inc. (ASCAP) and Meadowgreen Music Co./ Bug and Bear Music (ASCAP), admin. BMI Christian Music Publishing

# PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYERS

**HOMILY:** "The Communion of Suffering Christians"

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### Exhortation and Invitation

#### Sursum Corda:

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts!

**C: We lift them up to the Lord!**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Consecration

RESPOND  
**153** Eat of This Bread

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of four staves of music. Each staff has a treble clef and a tempo marking of quarter note = 65. The lyrics are: "Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; come and be fed, come now and dine. Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; here all are fed, here all may dine." The chords are: Eb, Ab, Ddim, Gm, Cm, Fm, Fm7, Bbsus, Bb, Ddim, Gm, Cm, Fm, Bb, Eb. There are triplets of eighth notes in each staff.

Eat of this bread, drink of this wine;  
come and be fed, come now and dine.  
Eat of this bread, drink of this wine;  
here all are fed, here all may dine.

## **The Words of Institution Participation**

### **CLOSING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER ('DEBTS')**

#### **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**

#### **\*HYMN:**

**"Christ be with Us"**

**(Sing to the tune of "Alleluia, alleluia" in our Easter hymnody)**

**Christ be with us, Christ behind us,**

**Christ before us — all around!**

**Christ in busy, noisy cities,**

**Christ where hardly rings a sound.**

**Jesus, you're our Lord and Savior;**

**On your love we can depend.**

**Help us see your presence clearly**

**In each stranger and each friend.**

**Christ in lines of people fleeing,**

**Praying that a war will cease;  
Christ in battered women's shelters,  
Looking for a place of peace.  
Christ with people sick or dying,  
Loved ones trying hard to cope  
In this world of so much suffering,  
Christ, you give your people hope.**

**Christ with children who must struggle,  
Working hard for daily food;  
Christ in classrooms, learning, growing,  
Asking questions, seeking good;  
Christ in diners, waiting tables;  
Christ in homes where children play  
In this world of people working,  
Christ, you work through us today.**

**Christ with all who keep on struggling,  
Helping others to be free;  
Christ with churches working, searching  
For a greater unity;  
Christ, in bread and wine, be with us,  
Giving strength for each new day  
In this world of daily crosses,  
Be our joyful, living Way.**

(Text: Copyright © 1998 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.  
Reprinted as Pastor owns a copy of  
Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship by Carolyn  
Winfrey Gillette (Geneva Press, 2000).

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\***POSTLUDE:** Selected

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FOR WORSHIP TODAY

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MINISTER

Rev. Richard Lanford

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ben Westphal

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**Good Morning!** Welcome to worship this early October weekend! It's an honor to have you with us today.

**Following worship, everyone is invited downstairs to socially distance with masks for a non-coffee hour fellowship time** to catch up with folks, talk about things, and all that good stuff. We're still a wee bit leery of sharing much food at this time, so right now we welcome you downstairs for sitting and chatting (don't mind the leftover rummage for Savers in one corner!) after church!

**The Pet Blessing is in two weeks!** It starts with a brief service at 3 PM in our Auditorium / Gym, is of course open to the public. Pastor will bless your pets, we'll have C.A.R.E. on hand with adoptable animals and short leashes; and we'll have a PET Raffle to raise funds for C.A.R.E. and St. Peter's UCC It ends at 4 o'clock.

**Thank you to everyone who helped clean up, box up, and bag up after the Rummage Sale!** The National Cancer Society's truck is scheduled to be here this Friday, the 8th, time TBA. We may have the truck on Friday the 15th as well; it depends on if everything will fit into the truck on the first day.

**About Communion:** For those worshipping in-person with us, we hope you picked up one of the wafer-covered Communion cups on tables in the Narthex and at the landing of the eastern, chair-lift stairs. Peeling off the top 'layer' will get you to the waferette; the next, foil, covering, will open the cup to you. If you are joining us via the live-stream, we invite folks to have ready with them some piece of bread and a cup of something (wine, water, juice) for the elements. As always, we will partake together in the Spirit (although perhaps apart in space and time) when the Pastor prompts us.

**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!

**About our new Mini-Pantry now that it's here:** Non-perishable food Items will be needed regularly to keep it stocked! 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** Doug Johnson, Gretchen Sterba and Willie Meggs; marking a wedding anniversary are Chad and Peggy McCoy, and Paul and Laura (Brzozowski) Medaglia. May they have righteous celebrations!

**Today at 3 PM there will be another Service of Ordination within our Chicago Metropolitan Association** (CMA) and our CMA Cluster 1. Gilbert Martinez, who serves Christ Church, UCC, in Des Plaines (as an Interim) is being ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the U.C.C. at First Congregational Church, U.C.C., of Evanston. He is a pastor who has agreed to be on the emergency-call list this year when our Pastor has gone on vacation, and our Pastor will be present at the ordination. Anyone else interested in coming along (it's about 90 minutes long), let him know!

According to the adjusted schedule, after a switch, next Sunday's lector is Carolyn Van Til and next Sunday's nursery attendant is Heidi Tarzian.

**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!

**Donations for Our Turn to Serve at A Just Harvest at the end of October are being collected now.** We are not serving yet, but AJH is preparing and serving the meals carryout style so we need funds for them to purchase and prepare the meal! Checks can be sent to the office, and you can also use Paypal if you are able. Thanks so much!

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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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## Enfolding Love

### *Neighbors in Need Offering/World Communion Sunday*

What do a Houston teen community organizer working to increase the minimum wage, a migrant seeking sanctuary on the Mexican-Arizona border, and a houseless member of the LGBTQ community have in common? They are all being supported financially by grants from Neighbors in Need (NIN). These are just a few of the ways that your offering to NIN provides real, tangible support to church programs and projects.

- With a background in community organizing, Pastor Darnell Fennell of Just Love Church in Houston, Texas knows people don't have to sit still for economic injustice. He knows the wider UCC feels the same, as seen in statements such as a 2017 General Synod resolution, "A More Just Economy: \$15 Minimum Wage, Living Wages and Job Creation." So, he sought the NIN grant to introduce a couple dozen young people to local activists in the national Fight for \$15 wage campaign and involve them in learning by doing.
- The Shadow Rock UCC Sanctuary Action Team and the Rev. Ken Heintzelman, in an extension of the spirit and intent of their ministry of sanctuary in Phoenix, are in the process of establishing Hope Station Nogales, in Sonora, Mexico. Hope Station, which is funded in part by a \$10,000 grant from Neighbors in Need, is a place where people in transition who are deported from, but have family in, the U.S. can find a meal, safe lodging, and assistance.
- Peace Congregational United Church of Christ in Clemson, North Carolina is working side-by-side with other community members in the design and construction of a tiny house, a mobile residency for a person in the LGBTQ community who is no longer welcome at home. The \$20,000 project is possible with a \$10,000 grant from NIN.

To find out more about the on-the-ground impact of your Neighbors in Need dollars, visit <https://www.ucc.org/giving>.



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

## **SCRIPTURES FOR THE CONGREGATION**

**October 3, 2021**

### **Job 1:1; 2:1-10**

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the

sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

**Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere,

**"What are human beings that you are mindful of them,**

**or mortals, that you care for them?**

**You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;**

**you have crowned them with glory and honor,**

**subjecting all things under their feet."**

**Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.**

**It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."**

**John 6:27-40**

Jesus said, "Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven,

not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."