

Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
August 2, 2026
10:00 AM**

**Tenth 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!

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
8013 Laramie Ave., Skokie, IL 60077
Order of Worship for
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, August 2, 2026 at 10:00am**

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 Selected

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Reins

You may stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather here in anticipation,

All: seeking an encounter with our Holy God.

One: God who comes among us when we least expect
it.

**All: God who invites us to wrestle with our questions
and doubts.**

One: God richly blesses us,

All: and calls us each by name.

Let us worship God together!

GATHERING HYMN "Great is Thy Faithfulness" SSB #2



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
 2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
 stars in their cours-es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870-1957

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INVOCATION

All: O Wrestler

**contending with us until daybreak,
holding us in the grip of your argument,
grappling with our questions and doubts,
You who strive to deepen us through struggle,
and strengthen us through adversity:
Hold on to us now
in that fierce love that will never let us go.
Bless us, as you name us, as those who have
prevailed.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Genesis 32:22-31

REFLECTION

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

One: God, you call us into a whole-hearted relationship with you. You ask us to leave behind all we possess and live out our faith with passion and integrity.

**ALL: We thank you for the deep love for us. Forgive us when we take our relationship with you for granted,
and allow other things to take priority in our lives.**

One: Give us strength to hold on to you no matter what comes our way. Give us courage to wrestle honestly with the things we don't understand and to grapple daily with what it means to faithfully follow you.

All: We are your people, chosen and named by You. Grant us Your continued blessing and mark us with your love, as we seek to live as Your disciples in the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Pause for quiet reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

One: Hear the Good News of the Gospel: God, not we, are responsible for sowing seed. God is always loving and generous.

All: **For there is nothing we can do, and nothing that can be done to us, that will ever stop God from loving us.**

One: In Jesus our Christ, we are freed. We are forgiven. We are loved. We are being made whole.

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, Hallelujah! Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

The congregation may be seated.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Paul Froelich

SPECIAL MUSIC

Selected

INTRODUCTION TO GOSPEL LESSON**CALL TO PRAYER****SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 14:13-14

JOYS, CONCERNS, PRAYER REQUESTS**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 14:15-17

PRAYER OF CONFESSION**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 14:18-21

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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**

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Jesus Took the Bread"

Matt. 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20

Unison D A F#m Bm Em7

1 Je - sus took the bread, dai - ly gift of God,
 2 Je - sus blessed the bread, thanked the God of grace,
 3 Je - sus broke the bread; then he poured the wine,
 4 Je - sus gives the bread at our ta - ble still,

Bm Bm7 GM7 C Em7 A7

formed of wheat and sweat and toil, sun, rain, and sod.
 thanked the One who made all worlds, all time, all space.
 Bro - ken bod - y, life poured out, God gives as sign.
 gives the cup to those who seek God's lov - ing will.

D A Bm Em F#m GM7 A7

In our hands we take gifts of bread and wine,
 Bless - ing, hon - or, praise, all to God be - long.
 Weak, a - fraid, and lost: that is when we're healed.
 Let us go in peace; let us free - ly give,

D A F# Bm Em A7 D

gath - ered from the fields of earth, signs of love di - vine.
 Let us lift our hearts to God in a thank - ful song.
 In our hu - man bro - ken - ness: there God is re - vealed.
 shar - ing love with all the world dai - ly as we live.

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.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**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!**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**Invitation****Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Give thanks to God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

All: God, your mercy is plentiful. Your grace is abundant. Your love is steadfast. Now that we have been fed with the bread of heaven and blessed by the peace of God, may we bring your love to all people, in all times and places. May we be your Church. Amen.

HYMN OF COMMITMENT:

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” SSB #3



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTI:AD. Jamaican folk tune, adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Selected

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

Today's liturgy is adapted from:

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and [worship.blogspot.com](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Proper%2013%20A?updated-max=2011-07-25T09:20:00-05:00&max-results=20&start=40&by-date=false), Proper 13A

<[https://re-](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Proper%2013%20A?updated-max=2011-07-25T09:20:00-05:00&max-results=20&start=40&by-date=false)

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FOR WORSHIP TODAY

INTERIM MINISTER	Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Peter Svenson
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	Greg Dennis
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Rita McMahon

News in the Pews

Many churches have designated this first Sunday in August as Friendship Day. Jesus called his followers "friends." Since we, too, are friends of Christ, we are also to be friends of one another. So welcome, friends. Let us enter into the joy of our Master.

Memorial Service for Kaye Dufern – next Saturday, August 8th at 11AM we will be having a Memorial Service with luncheon following.

90th birthday celebration for Marlene Russell – Join us for worship Sunday, August 9th and special birthday luncheon for Marlene at 11:15AM. Please RSVP to Marlene at (224) 440-6427. No presents!! Only your presence is important! Thank you!

Summer conversations before worship Sunday mornings. Join us in Lanford Hall starting at 9AM. Topics will be pulled from the UCC daily devotionals, you can sign up for them here: <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>.

Rummage Sorting – please join us Tuesdays from 10AM-12PM, Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30PM and Fridays 10AM-2PM each week to sort. No experience necessary, just a willingness to help. We'll find a job that

works for you. It's a lot of fun, and even better when you find something you need! Come see what its all about.

Rummage Sale donations collecting is on - We are collecting donations



 for the 2026 Rummage and Bake Sale, to be held Friday and Saturday, September 25th and 26th. We will take almost everything except furniture and large appliances (like old tvs). Drop off during office hours 9-1:30PM (call to let us know you are coming (847) 673-8166), on Sundays, or call the office to make other arrangements. We thank you in advance for your donations, you help keep us going!!!

Thank you to everyone who's been donating to our food pantry, and we can still use donations if you are able. Summer can be the hardest time for lower income families, who rely on free and reduced meals during the year. Your donations can help combat that!

Calling all Crafters. Our annual craft show will be on Saturday, November 7th from 10-3. If you are interested in a table, or have a question, please see Annie Noorts or email Wendy Svenson at stpeteruccbazaar@gmail.com.

Our People

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

- Ben Westphal and his family.
- The family of Kaye Dufern.
- Mark Kelly, friend of Ginger K., is now in rehab gaining strength to be able to come back to his apartment.
- The Iannotti family who lost Carol's cousin Diane, who also was extended family of St. Peter's UCC.
- Annie Noorts' friend Geo Bonamasso who is fighting 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 to Sharon Johnson, Camden Allen Loach, Richard Hook, Erik Altmayer, Arthur Daniel Svenson, Kathy Zipperer and Marlene Russell. **Happy Anniversary** to Gail & Jack Hoellerich and Gene & Leslie (Todd) Kiesel. God's blessings to you on your special day!

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector is Beth Sterba, 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."

Donations to our mini-food pantry are always needed and greatly appreciated! Donations can be left in the narthex or downstairs by the offices on the designated shelves. Thank you!



MISSION MOMENTS

Face to Face

August 2, 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Green

Matthew 14:13-21

Carrie Breck had her hands full tending to five children while making meals, washing laundry, and knitting socks for those many little feet. And yet the young homemaker, born in 1855, found the time to write poetry — lyrical words inspired by her praises to God that were always on the tip of her tongue.

It is said that many times she wondered, while busily doing chores, what it would be like to see Christ. So, with the words from 1 Corinthians 13 on her heart that spoke of seeing through a dark glass now but then seeing the heavenly promise clearly — face to face — she began writing.

Her poem would later become the beloved hymn, “Face to Face with Christ My Savior,” which was first sung in 1899.

Only faintly now I see him | With the darkened veil between | But
a blessed day is coming | When his glory shall be seen.

Five thousand people once had a blessed day that came to them unexpectedly. They gathered on the mountainside hungry to hear Jesus’ beautiful words of life — and found themselves soon hungry for something to silent their growling bellies.

Jesus' friends were quick to suggest sending them away to get their dinners in the surrounding villages. Jesus wouldn't have that. He told his friends to give the crowd something to eat. I could only imagine the shock on their faces as they just didn't know how they would feed such masses.

When told there was nothing but five loaves of bread and two fish on hand, Jesus had them bring the measly offering to him. It was then he blessed and broke the loaves and had the food distributed. Everyone had their fill and still there was enough leftover bread to overflow 12 baskets.

There will be a day when we will all come face to face with Christ our Savior. A day when all his glory shall be seen. But until then, we need to keep alert to the glimpses of glory that shine now in the dark. We need to train our eyes to see the God moments. We need to actively seek those God moments, for they are everywhere. Miracles still abound. There is always a measly loaf of bread in our lives waiting to bless, break and share.

Dazzling God, we know that while now we see dimly in a mirror, we will come face to face with You and all Your glory. Help us this day to live into the God moments, expecting miracles where they are least expected. May we go about our busy lives always with Your promise of provision in our hearts. 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.)

Genesis 32:22-31

²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.

²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man^[a] said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel,^[b] for you have striven with God and with humans^[c] and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel,^[d] saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he limped Peniel, limping because of his hip.

Matthew 14:13-21

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.

¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish."

¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.