



Welcome

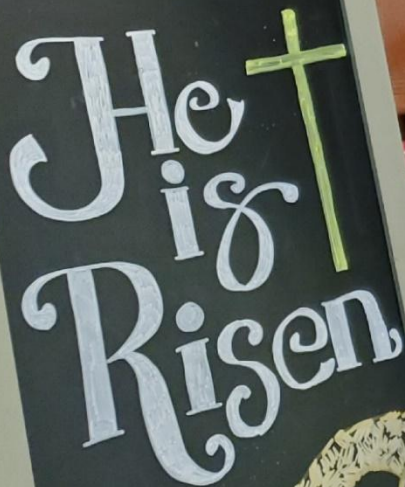
ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

Sunday,

April 5, 2026

10:00 AM

Easter Sunday



He
is
Risen





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 20, 2025 at 10:00am
Easter Sunday

Welcome to worship. The music before the service is intended as a time of silent prayer and preparation.

PRELUDE "What Wondrous Love is This?" arr. Harlan

EASTER GREETING

You may stand in body or in spirit.

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE REMOVAL OF THE SHROUD

HYMN "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" #167 (vv. 1-3)

1st verse, line 2: You may wish to sing, "All creation joins to say."

swimming

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Sons of men and an - gels say, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Once He died, our souls to save, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids Him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Made like Him, like Him we rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Where's thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - - le - lu - ia! A-MEN.

CALL TO WORSHIP

O: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

M: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

O: Darkness has been vanquished!

M: THE BRILLIANT LIGHT OF HOPE HAS COME!

O: Come let us worship and celebrate the Good News!

M: ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! AMEN!

Please be seated.

CALL TO CONFESSION**PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

A: Gracious and loving God, as we gather on this sacred day, we acknowledge that our eyes can fail to see your resurrection. When we turn-away from the light of your love, fear, doubt, and complacency become shadows in our hearts and tombs built around us. In this season of new beginnings, we recognize moments we silence voices of those who cry for justice and peace. We have shunned the paths of resurrection, regressing into despair rather standing up against it. Forgive us, O God, for the times we fail to embody your radical love, even when we are called to be beacons of light. Help us to rise up against our brokenness, to dismantle our differences, and to weave bonds of community alive with grace. Amen.

Pause for quiet reflection

Words of Grace:

One: Hear the good news of the gospel. Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: God's love transforms our despair into hope, our fear into courage, and our division into unity.

All: 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 forgiven. We are loved. We are being made whole.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen!

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: 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!**

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

*Please be seated.***THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Peggy Reins

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jenn Schneider

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 31:1-6

*You may stand in body or in spirit.***GOSPEL LESSON**

John 20:1-18

*Please be seated.***CHORAL ANTHEM “An Easter Anthem”****SERMON**

“Mary’s Song”

You may stand in body or in spirit.

HYMN

"In the Garden"

1 I come to the gar-den a-lone, while the dew is still on the
 2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their
 3 I'd stay in the gar-den with him, though the night a-round me be

ros-es; And the voice I hear, fall-ing on my ear, the
 sing-ing; And the mel-o-dy that he gave to me with-
 fall-ing; But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his

Refrain
 Son of God dis-clos-es.
 in my heart is ring-ing. And he walks with me, and he
 voice to me is call-ing.

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, And the

joy we share as we tar-ry there, none oth-er has ev-er known.

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

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.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Tune: All Creatures of our God and King

**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!

You may stand in body or in spirit.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A: God of resurrection on this glorious Easter Sunday, we rejoice in your victory of life over death. May we hear the living Christ call our names into hope and justice. Receive these tithes and offerings as our intention to search beyond our own expectations. Help us discover the transformative power of the living Jesus in our lives. In the holy name of our risen Savior, we pray. Amen.

You may be seated.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.*

Prayer of Consecration

The Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Gratitude

A: God of Resurrection, your reign knows no bounds.

Your possibilities have no limits. May we go forth from this place to live the resurrected life in spirit and in truth. May we become the good news in the world that you love. Amen.

You may stand in body or in spirit.

HYMN "Thine is the Glory"

Inside the rear cover of the hymnal

1. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; End-less is the
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets thee, Ris - en from the tomb; Lov-ing - ly he
 3. No more we doubt thee, Glo - rious Prince of Life! Life is nought with -

vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, Scat - ters fear and gloom; Let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; Aid us in our strife; Make us more than con-qu'rors,

Rolled the stone a - way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 Hymns of tri - umph sing, For her Lord now liv - eth;
 Through thy death-less love; Bring us safe through Jor - dan

REFRAIN

Where thy bod - y lay.
 Death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son;
 To thy home a - bove.

End - less is the vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won. A - MEN.

POSTLUDE Fanfare on "Lasst uns erfreuen"
by Lehenbauer

Let us pause to reflect together during the Postlude. Pastor will be pleased to greet you at the Sanctuary doors as soon as the postlude has concluded, and our livestream has stopped.

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

INTERIM MINISTER	Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Peter Svenson
LIVESTREAMER	Beth Sterba
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Laura Olson

**IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY
EASTER 2026**

Paul Abramchik

**In Memory of Jane
Abramchik**

Altmayer Family

**In Memory of Tom
Altmayer**

Barb & Sue Bailey

**In Memory of our
Parents and departed
Loved Ones**

Ann Herren

**In Honor of Dave Herren
and Betsy Herren**

Sharon Johnson

**In Memory of Susan &
Johnnie**

The Mitchell Family

**In Memory of John and
Nancy Kammin**

Peggy & Chad McCoy

**In Loving Memory of our
Parents**



Annie Noorts

**In Memory of my little
Charlie and our Parents
Joan & George Stahl**

Judy Paige

**In Memory of Loved
Ones**

Marlene Russell

**In Memory of Loved
Ones**

Alice & Bill Schaller

**In Memory of Loved
Ones**

Beth Sterba

**In Honor of my Parents
Barb and Jim Todd**

Craig Stoker

**In Memory of Howard
Stroker**

Wendy & Roy Svenson

**In Honor of my
Grandsons Lincoln, Felix,
Arthur and Fredrik**

James & Barbara Todd

**In Memory of our Loved
Ones**



News in the Pews

CHRIST IS RISEN — HE IS RISEN INDEED! We greet those who are visiting with us today in the name of our risen Savior. We are gathered as a community of Christians. Our center is Jesus Christ. We are here to know again the touch of his forgiving and healing hand. Please be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Brenda and sign our attendance sheets.

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

Immediately after worship join us for our Egg Hunt!

The Church office is closed this Monday in observance of Easter.

Holy Humor Sunday jokes needed! Next Sunday, April 12th will be a special service in which humor will be on the forefront! If you have any good jokes, you are invited and asked to share them on Holy Humor Sunday—so get them ready. We are also encouraging funny hats, socks, and kazoos! Talk to Pastor Brenda if you have any questions.

“The Revolutionists,” by Lauren Gunderson, presented by Skokie Heritage Museum and St Peter’s UCC on Saturday April 18th at 5pm, followed by a Q&A with the cast and light refreshments from Kneads & Wants Bakery. Dramatized by Violet Surprise Theatre, The Revolutionists is a hysterical and historical (or, more accurately, *herstorical*) play that invites audiences to experience the French Revolution from a female perspective. So don’t pardon our French. Pardon our Frenchwomen and their très merciless treatment during the Reign of Terror. Buy tickets here:

https://www.downtownskokie.community/revolutionists?fbclid=IwY2xjawQmZOVleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETFUM2V6TVJhS3B1d0U3bzk3c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODlwMDg5MgABHj6b6EQdrM3k9bBKESb0cw9YgoyDoUbR7-INRetftcGuYHSbp2X-x0_cmLFH_aem_sb72r3rNuzKc8q4IUbfGNQ

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 Henry Aguayo. God's blessings to you on your special day!

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector is Paul Froelich, our Nursery attendant is Mike Ryan. 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

Stepping Toward New Life

April 5, 2026

Easter Day

White

John 20:1-18

There has always been something powerful about Mary's lonesome walk to the tomb that first Easter morning as each grief-filled step leads to renewed hope. And the beauty is that while we know what awaits her — not a lifeless body, but rather the Risen and Resurrected Lord — she doesn't.

In her pre-dawn funeral march, she has no clue that with just a few more difficult steps she will understand how God's promises are true. She will be awed to see how death doesn't get the victorious last word. She will hear the blessed new hellos that come after the heart-breaking good-byes.

Whenever I find myself moving in slow motion and the weight of loss makes it hard to take even one tiny shuffle forward, I take my side next to Mary. I imagine walking with her to the tomb of death that will be revealed as the tomb of life. I walk with her noticing how the darkness gradually

changes color. One step forward and the black sky turns to gray. Another step forward and the gray lightens with twinges of pink. Yet another step and the pinks give way to dazzling golden hues. Each step, a step of faith. Each step, a step of promise. Each step leading to the promise of a resurrected life.

It happened to Mary, and it can happen to you on this day, the Resurrection of Our Lord Sunday!

Remember Mary and find the courage in your losses of life to keep stepping forward, for those are the steps leading to hope and healing. Those are the steps that will reveal to us the loving compassion of our Risen Lord and Friend.

God of Resurrection Hope, we praise You for the new day dawning. In Jesus, our hopes are renewed. In Jesus, grief will turn into joy. In Jesus, our tombs will indeed be made empty. May the steps of faith we take be strengthened by Your Love and may we never step moving forward toward Your beautiful promises. 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.)
