



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
August 14,
2022
10:00 AM**

**Tenth Sunday
after Pentecost**

Healing Service



AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION IN SKOKIE, IL



Service
of
Healing

New to St. Peter's? We are so glad you are here!

Please see a

Welcome Card

**in the pew rack
for information about:**

Worship Times and Options

Open & Affirming

Childcare

Accessibility

WiFi

Ways to Give

Holy Communion

Contact Info

And much more!

*Printed copies of today's scriptures are available
in the narthex if you like to read along.*

St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Skokie
Order of Worship for
Sunday, August 14, 2022 at 10:00am
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE "Two Trumpet Tunes in D and Bb Major"
by R. Lind

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS Jenn Schneider

Those who are able please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: You are here, O Lord! You are here in this place with
Your people. You are here.

**C: You are here to tune my heart to sing of Your
wonderful grace.**

P: For Your great mercy demands my highest praise,
my loudest song!

**C: You are here to teach me the song of the angels,
that I may join them in Your praise.**

P: For Your love has richly blessed my life. You have
guided my every step with Your strong hand.

**C: You are here to assure me that You will continue to
lead me in Your righteous path.**

P: I did not choose You, O Lord. You sought me out and rescued me from danger with the blood of Your Son. I owe my life to Your marvelous grace!

C: You are here to bind my heart to You through Your goodness, for I often wander from Your love.

P: Here is my heart, O Lord. Take it, seal it, set it apart for Your praise alone.

A: You are here!

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: Yes, God is here; and before God our own love and parts of our lives fall short of God's desires for us. Before going any further, let us admit our sins and ask for restoration of our relationship with the Love of the universe.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: God our Creator, we offer our prayer as persons who often feel less than whole. We have experienced losses that have diminished us. We have found our attention to Your will divided by other claims upon us. We have discovered how difficult it is to fulfill our best intentions.

C: God our Sustainer, we offer our prayer as a people who often feel less than whole, and are in need of healing. We have sensed an incompleteness to our unity whenever the differences between us seem more important than the one Spirit who gives us common life. We have practiced a fractional faith.

We have divided our loyalties in ways that do not allow full service to You, our One and only God.

P: Forgive us and enable us to enjoy the fullness of Your love. Strengthen us and inspire us to whole-hearted devotion.

A: We pray with voices united in the name of the great healer and life-changer Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *Isaiah 53:4, 5*

P: "Surely, he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed."

Christians believe this prophecy is fulfilled in Jesus' passion and death, for our sins and those of the world. It's an expression of God's ultimate loving sacrifice for the good of the beloved, the human race, to bring us back to God forgiven and made whole in soul. Speechless though we ought to be, will the church join me in gratitude by saying . . .

C: Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Amen.

HYMN

"There is a Balm in Gilead"

SSB #23

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

The congregation may be seated.

CALL TO OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Barbara Todd

Old Testament:

I Samuel 16:14-23

Epistle:

James 5:13-16

SPECIAL MUSIC “The Heavens Are Telling”

by Haydn

Sung by Diane Meggs and Allison Hull

Those who are able please stand.

GOSPEL:

Luke 8:42b-48

RESPONSE: “Gloria Creator”

Tune # 493

A: Glory to the Creator,

And to the Christ,

And to the Holy Ghost!

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end! Amen, Amen.

The congregation may sit down

Service of Healing

PASTORAL PRAYERS

(During the prayers for healing Pastor Lanford will offer a prayer of thanksgiving over oil . . . Then he will say . . .)

P: Those who desire to be anointed and to have hands laid on them for spiritual healing may come forward down the center aisle. If you wish me to come to you, raise your hand high or ask your neighbor to identify you for me. You may come for yourself, or

you may come as a channel of God's healing power for someone else. During this time, I invite all present to make silent prayers for each one who comes forward.

THE ACT OF ANOINTING WITH OIL

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

BRIEF CLOSING PRAYER

CONTINUING PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER ('debts')

The Lord's prayer is on p. 37 of the hymnal

Those who are able please stand.

HYMN "God Whose Will is Health and Wholeness"

Please sing to the tune of hymn # 323, "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

God whose will is health and wholeness, hear your people as we pray:

Many now are facing illness; more face sickness every day.

As we lift our song toward heaven, may we use the gifts you give —

Science, justice, and compassion — to help others safely live.

Jesus taught that your commandments call for us to use the mind.

May we use the gifts of science to seek health for humankind.

Bless the ones who work for healing; bless the ones who seek to be

Builders of a health care system that protects society.

God, you call for love and justice, yet our laws are far from wise:

Many don't have good insurance; lack of health care threatens lives.

**Many workers must keep working, sick or not, to pay the bills.
Turn us round when we have sanctioned greed that leads to greater ills.**

Loving God, we ask your blessing on the sick and those they love,

And we pray for those now grieving as they lift their cries above.

There is trouble all around us; illness causes pain and fear.

Give compassion, love and kindness as we serve your people here.

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HOMILY “Five P’s of Healing”

Will those who are able please rise to sing

HYMN: “O God, We Rage at Hurtful Things”

Please sing to the tune of "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

**O God, we rage at hurtful things beyond our own control,
Like all the pain that illness brings to body, mind and soul.**

There's much we cannot understand;

O Lord, we ask you, "Why?"

And yet in Christ you know firsthand the tears your people cry.

O Christ, your loving, saving touch heals children, women, men.

We pray for ones we love so much;

Lord, make them whole again.

Now work through those your Spirit sends

To heal, restore and care.

May doctors, nurses, neighbors, friends

Be answers to our prayer.

And when the journey seems too rough

And you seem far away,

Remind us, Lord: You are enough to bring us through each day.

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CHARGE

P: Go in peace,

C: Keep the faith,

P: Love one another,

C: Serve the Lord.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Gloria Tibi”

by S. Barnaby

The music after the service is intended as a time of reflection. 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

MINISTER

Rev. Richard Lanford

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ben Westphal

DEACON

Dan Guenther

LIVESTREAM

Beth Lanford

NURSERY ATTENDANT

Heidi Tarzian

News in the Pews

Good Morning! The Lord is a God nearby, not far off, Jeremiah tells us. Welcome, to each of you! God delights to draw near to you and rejoices when you come near to him.

So, what's up with the service of healing? Here's how we do it: It's during the pastoral prayer, when the prayers are for healing. Then, as prompted, coming forward to receive the anointing with oil and the laying-on of hands is, of course, voluntary. Pastor Richard will make the sign of the cross on your forehead (like the ashes on Ash Wednesday), and gently lay his hands on top of your head for some extra words of prayer and blessing. Folks are welcome to come for themselves, or on behalf of someone else. We ask that those who remain in their pews please join the others in the spirit of prayer. The words used are from The Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ.

Today is the day of the Village Inn / St. Peter's UCC Fundraiser!

Anything you order from the Village Inn (carryout, delivery, on-site), when you mention you're with the St. Peter's U.C.C. Fundraiser, will result in the church receiving 20% of the proceeds of such orders all day and evening! The hours are from 1 PM to 11 PM right now.

August 21st, in place of a regular Council meeting, is our semi-annual Congregational Meeting, in a hybrid format, held in the Memorial Room after worship ends. We will celebrate our successes, revisit our challenges, receive mid-year reports and generally have a 'check-in' halfway through our 2022 together. Please plan to participate!

The deadline for articles of the September newsletter is a week from tomorrow: Monday, August 22nd!

St. Peter's Sunday School Teachers Needed - The Board of Christian Education is actively seeking new teachers for the upcoming 2022-2023 year. Kindergarten, 3rd grade, and a combination 5th and 6th grade class. Sunday school classes traditionally begin in September and end in mid-May. Classes meet in the chapel at 9:00 A.M. for a service officiated by Pastor Lanford. Following chapel, students separate into their classrooms for lessons. The classes are approximately 30 minutes in length, ending at 9:45. Please contact Karen Christianson – Christianson.karen@gmail.com or Pastor Lanford at RevLanford@gmail.com

In two weeks, on Sunday the 28th, our worship service will be held at Lorel Park. Helpers and a truck from the Village will arrive at the Laramie Avenue entrance at 9 AM to pick up folding chairs, a Deacon's table if desired, a music stand or two, and maybe more. The service cannot be live-streamed, so we encourage folks coming in person when possible, and it will be recorded for our YouTube channel so folks can attend the service virtually, later. Those who want to stay after worship for a picnic pot luck lunch and catch up with each other are asked to bring a dish or dessert to share; we are on our own for beverages. Maybe if someone brings some various kinds of balls / gloves, we can use the park for more than just worship, grub and talk!

THIS WEEK RUMMAGE SORTING is on Tuesday and Thursday evenings (6:30 – 8:30 PM), plus Fridays 10 AM to Noon. Come when you can, leave when you must, all assistance will be needed and appreciated. If you can't come at these times, you are welcome to come sort during office hours OR, if you have a key come whenever the mood strikes you!

Our People

Mid-Year Congregational Paper Reports are in the narthex and at the chairlift entrance. E-Copies will be emailed Monday.

Happy birthday / anniversary! Having a birthday this week are Elliott Kerbel (today), Karen Rector, Tom Schaller, Rich Miller and Dan Guenther. Marking a wedding anniversary later this week are Stephanie and Ron Lundeen, Jim and Barb Todd, and Bonnie and Mark Loach. Blessings to you all!

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A heads-up that Office Manager Laura Olson is taking two vacation days soon: she will be out of the office on Friday, August 26th and Monday the 29th.

In September the Micah 6:8 Committee is sponsoring a “Brief Collection” for the Night Ministry’s guests and clients at their Health Van stops and in the couple of shelters they hold. More details to come!

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Jenn Schneider
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Paige
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Carolyn Kuechler
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Maria Altmayer

Regular Reminders!

Donations always needed for our food pantry. Also, if you are gardening and have extra produce, feel free to donate it to the mini-food pantry! Items can be left on the shelves under the stairs by the offices.

We are always grateful for any and all offerings to the church. No amount is too small! So many thanks to everyone who's been keeping us going with your donations! See inside the bulletin's front cover for details on how to donate.

Pastor's Podcast is now on all the Podcast platforms- iTunes, Stitcher, Overcast, Spotify, Podcast Addict, Amazon Music and more. Just look up "The Redheaded Preacher" on your podcast catcher or music streaming service then hit subscribe and you'll get the newest editions weekly! You can also get it via the church's webpage link. Give us a 5-star rating and review if you can, it helps us grow so much.



MISSION MOMENTS

August 14, 2022

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

Restore Us

In today's psalm, God's people are envisioned as a vine, planted and carefully tended by God. How might we participate with God in being planters and tenders of the church and its leaders?

Last winter, UCC President John Dorhauer and Pension Board President and CEO Brian Bodager encouraged church members to be vine tenders, as they described one of the crises facing church leadership.

"Seminary and educational debt, the debilitating nature of limited income and the uncertainty of a secure financial future represent a deepening crisis for many pastors in the United Church of Christ," they wrote in a joint letter. The Ministers' Financial Vitality Initiative (MFVI) is a program to help ministers address this problem with practical tools. Participants in the program receive financial gifts of \$9000 for debt reduction, \$1000 to seed a retirement account and the support of a cohort of fellow pastors and financial experts.

The Ministers' Financial Vitality Initiative strengthens ministry in the UCC by:

- increasing and enhancing financial literacy among UCC authorized ministers, with a particular emphasis on ministers from historically underrepresented groups within the denomination;
- assisting UCC ministers and their Ministry settings, Associations, Conferences, and the National Setting of the Church in “breaking the conspiracy of silence” that exists around pastoral finances;
- providing financial assistance to UCC authorized ministers toward repayment of educational and personal debt as well as seeding of pension funds;
- engaging key lay leaders in UCC churches in collaborative efforts to identify and address the connection between pastoral financial challenges and ministry setting financial challenges; and;
- launching a major fundraising campaign to solicit major gifts that will enable the long-term sustainability, and continued expansion of the program

You can be a vine-tender along with God, planting and nurturing growth. One way is to support the MFVI with your gift at pbucc.org.

1 Samuel 16:14-23

Now the spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him. And Saul's servants said to him, "See now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord now command the servants who attend you to look for someone who is skillful in playing the lyre; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will feel better." So Saul said to his servants, "Provide for me someone who can play well, and bring him to me."

One of the young men answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a warrior, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence; and the LORD is with him." So Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, "Send me your son David who is with the sheep." Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid, and sent them by his son David to Saul. And David came to Saul, and entered his service. Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer.

Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in my sight." And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him.

James 5:13-16

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

Luke 8:42b-48

As Jesus went, the crowds pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years; and though she had spent all she had on physicians, no one could cure her. She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his clothes, and immediately her hemorrhage stopped. Then Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and press in on you." But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; for I noticed that power had gone out from me."

When the woman saw that she could not remain hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before him, she declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed.

He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."