

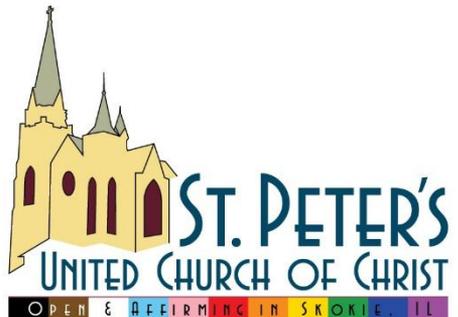


Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
February 15,
2026
10:00 AM**

**Sixth Sunday
After Epiphany**





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

GATHERING HYMN "Immortal, Invisible"



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!



CALL TO CONFESSION *From Isaiah 58:10*

One: When we become aware of God's magnificence and grace, we become aware of our own smallness and shortcomings. Still, God comes to us and lifts us with grace. Let us pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Awesome God, sometimes discipleship is difficult. We see you standing in front of us and we look for glory. Then you tell us to expect heartbreak and challenge. We get a glimpse of your glory, and we are confused, frightened, unsure what to do or say. God of grace, made known in Jesus the Christ, in the challenge and in the glory you call us to look toward you, to listen to you.

Pause for quiet reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

One: Encounters with God may overwhelm us, but still we are in the company of the Beloved.

All: For there is nothing we can do and nothing that can be done to us that will ever separate us from the love of God.

One: Hear the good news of the gospel: In Jesus our Christ, we are forgiven. We are loved. We are being made whole.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

A: 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 "Emmanuel"

**A: Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
his name is called Emmanuel.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Hebrew Scripture

Marilyn Froehlich

Exodus 24:12-18

You may wish to stand for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL LESSON

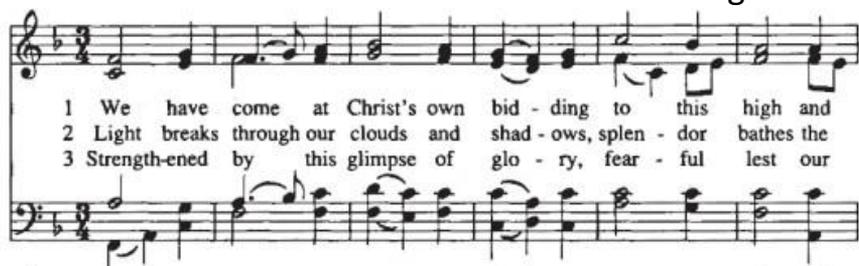
Please be seated.

Matthew 17:1-9

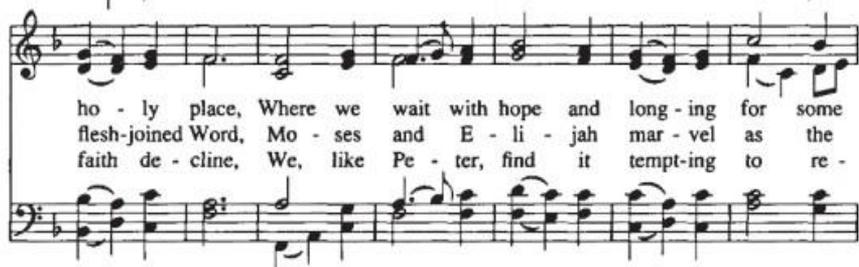
CHORAL ANTHEM "'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"

SERMON "Get Up and Do Not Be Afraid"

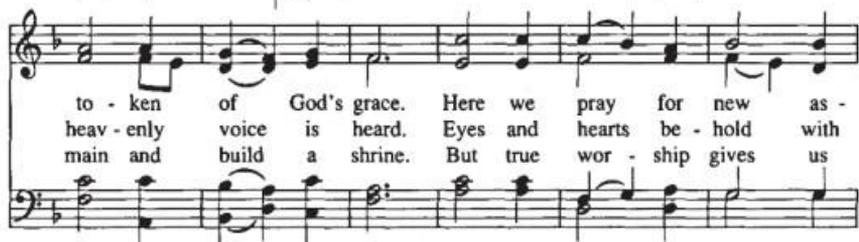
HYMN "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"



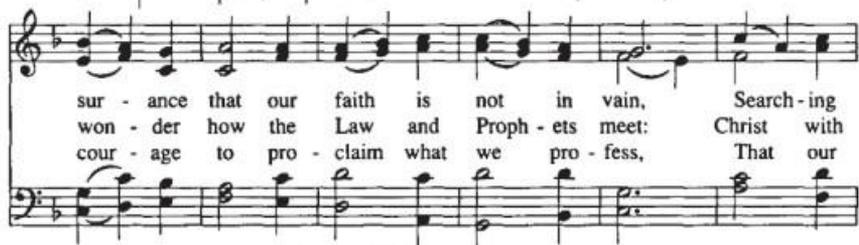
1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our



ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -



to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us



sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our



like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYER

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.**

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

Sung

A: Glo-o-oria! In excelsis Deo! Glo-o-oria! In excelsis Deo!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A: Holy One, this is the moment we've been waiting for: the space and time to give back to you from all that you first gave to us. May these gifts be used to meet the needs of those who have been waiting for relief. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Shine, Jesus Shine”

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



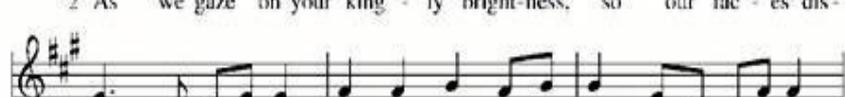
Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



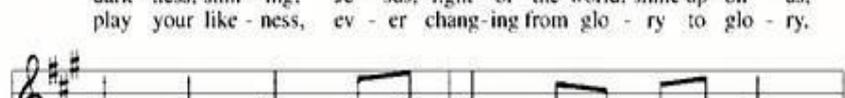
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



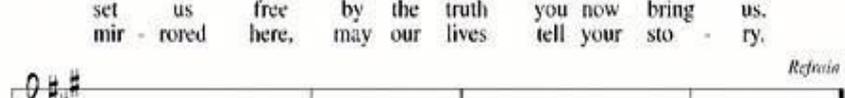
1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing: Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry.



set us free by the truth you now bring us,
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



Refrain



Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Shine, Jesus Shine”

During the Postlude, we pause to reflect as we prepare to follow God out into the world.

Today’s liturgy is adapted from:

Richard Bott, and posted on Sharing Liturgy.

William Loader (2/2001, posted on Bill Loader’s Home Page.

Reposted: https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/01/prayer-for-transfiguration-sunday_29.html.

Rev Gord on his blog, Worship Offerings.

Come Up and Down: Service Prayers for Transfiguration Sunday by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

Wait: Service Prayers for the sixth Sunday after Epiphany by Rev. Teña T. Nock, Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of Tampa, United Church of Christ.

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

INTERIM MINISTER	Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Denise Hopp
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	Jen Schneider
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Kathy Zipperer

A for the Veterans

Move-in Essentials Collection

GIVE A GIFT TO VETERANS EXITING HOMELESSNESS

Personal Hygiene:

Bath Soap ★ Hand Soap
Toothbrush ★ Toothpaste
Deodorant
Shaving Cream
Hairbrush ★ Comb
Nail Clippers

Kitchen & Cleaning:

Dishwashing Liquid
Paper Towels ★ Windex
Kitchen Trash Can
Garbage Bags ★ Dish Cloth
Mop & Bucket ★ Sponge
Broom & Dustpan

Bathroom:

Toilet Brush ★ Plunger
Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Bath Towels ★ Wash Cloth
Shower Curtain
Toilet Paper

Miscellaneous:

Flashlight ★ Light Bulbs
Sandwich Bags
Laundry Detergent
Hamper ★ Laundry Basket
Aluminum Foil
Pot Holders

VISIT STPETERUCCSKOKIE.ORG FOR MORE INFO

Feb 14th 9-12_{pm}
Feb 15th 12-3_{pm}

St Peter's UCC
8013 Laramie

Open to All!

St. Peter's United Church of Christ | 8013 Laramie Street, Skokie

BUNCO NIGHT!

\$5

donation
gets you

- drinks
- dessert
- snack bag



Games
Snacks



Raffle Prizes

**March 7th
7-10pm**

Prizes, games, and the best raffle in town!
Don't miss this fun family night out!

To reserve a table for your group:
Call Office (847-673-8166) by March 6th.

For more details, see "Upcoming Events" on stpeteruccskokie.org homepage



News in the Pews

Welcome — your presence brings joy to our worship today. Let these words from the psalms guide us: “Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his: and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. ... Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning” (Psalm 30:4-5, KJV). May God’s joy meet you right where you are.

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

Ash Wednesday is February 18th, and then Lent begins! From 11AM to 1PM, come by for “ashes to go.” Our traditional Ash Wednesday service will be at 7PM that evening.

2026 Lenten Devotionals are now available upon request. Please email or call the office with your preference of a PDF or printed copy. Thanks!

Our Soup-n-Study begins Wednesday, February 25th at 6:30PM. Join Pastor and others as we gather for a light meal and discussion. Order the study guide here: https://thepilgrimpress.com/products/listen-up-bible-studies?_pos=1& psq=Philippians& ss=e& v=1.0&variant=42446076444739

Our  for the Veterans home essentials starts this month! We are collecting household goods of all types, to put in new homes of veterans exiting homelessness. See insert for all the details. Boxes to collect items will be in Lanford Fellowship Hall. Thank you so much for your help! **BUNCO** is March 7th at 7:00PM. See flyer for more details and join us!

New Members Classes – The official dates for classes are Sundays; February 22nd, March 1st and March 22nd. Note a change from March 8th to the 22nd. If you are interested in joining and haven't already signed up, talk to Pastor Brenda or the office.

Bunco prizes needed! We are now looking for Bunco prizes, new items of any type and cost that we can give away during our Bunco raffles. We have 3 tables of prizes; each table has more valuable items. So, whether you have something expensive or inexpensive, we'll take it all. Talk to the office or Carol Iannotti, Heidi Tarzian or Laurie Mitchell for more details.

The Wizard of OZ starring our very own Ricky Riley will be playing from February 28th through March 1, 2026. Tickets are on Sale now, click this link or cut and paste it into your browser:

<https://specialgiftstheatre.app.neoncrm.com/nx/portal/neonevents/events?path=%2Fportal%2Fevents%2F29512>. Ricky will be one of the actors playing the Tin Man and a Munchkin. We're so excited for you Ricky!!

Our People

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

- Bill Schaller had valve replacement surgery 2 weeks ago and is doing great.
 - Judy Paige's daughter's friend Dave Stevenson in NW Memorial in the ICU with an aortic pump waiting on a Transplant.
 - Betsy, daughter of Ann Herren, is still undergoing radiation therapy for her breast cancer. This is her second breast cancer.
 - Matt Anthony, nephew of Marlene Russell, who has incurable cancer.
 - Mark Taylor.
 - Wendy, friend and colleague of Beth Sterba, who is fighting liver cancer.
 - Chad McCoy and his family.
 - Richard Hook who had a stroke.
 - Dorothy Panzke with a new health concern.
 - Annie's friend Renee is fighting a long term, rare illness. She and her family are fighting to find a remedy that will slow and maybe even reverse the progress of this illness.
 - Nicole McGinnis, childhood friend of Laura's who is fighting stage 4 cancer.
 - David, uncle of Chad McCoy, as he undergoes kidney dialysis treatments.
 - Robert Elliot, brother-in-law of Anna Riley, diagnosed with cancer stage 2.
 - 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 Sue (Burmeister) Speicher, Atlas Fink, Hunter Medaglia, Lois Jarmuth and Richard Schaller.

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector is Rita McMahon, our Nursery attendant is Laurie Mitchell. 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.



MISSION MOMENTS

Dazzling Reign

February 15, 2026

Transfiguration Sunday

WHITE

Matthew 17:1-9

The setting sun cast a warm glow against the wooden beams of the Vermont barn where my wedding reception was being held. As candles flickered on the tables, the music for the father daughter dance began playing. My father's eyes glistened when he realized the song chosen for our twirl on the dance floor was from "The Sound of Music." The movie had always been a favorite in our family as Julia Andrews traipsing through the Alps always tugged at my father's Swiss heart.

Climb every mountain, ford every stream, follow every rainbow until you find your dream.

In the movie, Mother Superior sings this to young Maria — played by Julia Andrews — who is struggling with God's call in her life. The older nun reminds Maria that following God will always mean going in surprising directions. There will be struggles, doubts and tears. But search the high and low, Mother Superior says. Follow the dream that will indeed require "all the love you can give, every day of your life for as long as you live."

The season of Lent is upon us, but before we trudge along with Jesus on the way to the cross, we find ourselves having a mountaintop experience. It is here we join Jesus who takes two of his followers to witness divine glory. Jesus is transfigured in dazzling light and the pillars of the faith, Moses and Elijah, stand with him. Jesus' friends are in awe.

It is an amazing moment meant to renew us for the journey ahead, bolstering our waning faith. But we are not meant to stay on the mountain forever. There is life to be experienced. There are mountains to climb, streams to ford, and rainbows to follow.

I chose this song for my dance with my father because I got married later in life. I was at the point where I thought saying "I do" would never come from my lips. Yet through my setbacks my father would always encourage me to hang on to faith. Follow your dream. Don't give up.

Lent is beginning. Take one last look at the dazzling glory from your mountaintop view. Now grab hold of God's hand and make your way back down into the world. Give your hopes, dreams and desires to God. As you do, make sure to give them all the love they will need for as long as you live.

God of mountain highs and valley lows, give us the strength and courage to follow You no matter how difficult or disruptive the path might seem. Help us to trust that where You lead us is to the place where the deepest desires of our hearts are found. 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.)

Exodus 24:12-18

¹²The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Matthew 17:1-9

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I^[a] will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved;^[b] with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”