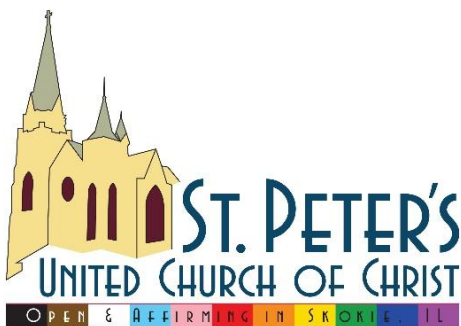


Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
July 27, 2025
10:00 AM**

**Seventh 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!

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, July 27, 2025 at 10:00am
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

During our sacred music, listen. Be attentive. Feel God's Spirit connecting all of us gathered here, those with us online and in spirit, and those who cannot be present today.

PRELUDE

"Gather Us In"

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Reins

You may stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather celebrate the presence of God.

All: We come with our failings, knowing we are welcome.

One: We come with our gifts, offering them for God's purpose.

All: We come with our dreams, knowing God will make them new.

One: Here in this place we take time together with friend and stranger.

All: For when paths cross and pilgrims gather, there is much to celebrate.

One: Let us worship God.

GATHERING HYMN "Gather Us In"



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-cr us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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CALL TO CONFESSION

One: God is the Seeking One, the beginning and end of our search. God is the Asking One, the voice and silence of our exploration. God is the Persistent One, endlessly welcoming us home. Let us bring our truth before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A: Search us, O God. Find within us the secrets we hide. Ask us, O God, and receive the pain we bear. Keep knocking at the door of our lives until we open our wills to your purpose, our lives to your life, and our yearning to your hope. Strengthen our courage; bolster our endurance; spur us onward in your way in our world through the power of the Holy Spirit and the name of Christ.

Quiet Reflection

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: God hears the difficult truths we have named aloud and in the silence of our hearts. Yet God loves us deeply and sees our possibilities. Let us say again the good news of Jesus our Christ:

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

One: Through Jesus our Christ, we are forgiven, we are loved, we are being made whole.

All. Thanks be to God! Amen!

MUSIC RESPONSE “Halle, Halle, Halle”**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Hebrew Scripture

Psalter

Peter Svenson

Hosea 1: 2-10

Psalm 85

MUSICAL MEDITATION “Spirit Song”*You may wish to stand in body or in spirit.***GOSPEL**

Luke 11: 1-13

“Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

*You may be seated.***SERMON**

“Persistent Prayer”

HYMN OF RESPONSE "We Love Your Realm, O God"

vs. 1-4

1 We love your realm, O God, all places where you reign.
 2 We love your church, O God, for Christ has given life.
 3 We rec - og - nize, with pain, that we have not a - chieved
 4 Yet Christ, our friend and guide, con - tin - ues to for - give.

We rec - og - nize, with hope and joy, the world as your do - main.
 To form com - mu - ni - ties of love that seek to heal our strife.
 The faith - ful - ness of our re - solve when we at first be - lieved.
 De - liv - ering us from our mis - takes, in - vit - ing us to live.

5 Be - yond our bro - ken - ness,
 we seek to know your ways
 Of deep com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows,
 and hymns of love and praise.

6 We know your truth will last.
 We trust your reign is sure.
 E - quip us for those dai - ly tasks
 that help your world en - dure.

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

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

A: God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar: We your people, yours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A: God of all good gifts, may our own gifts of time, talent, and treasure be used and magnified for the benefit of all your beloved. Thank you, Holy One, for enabling us to join in your kingdom come on earth. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

1 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It

D Bm G Em A7
 there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in

Em A7 Em7 A7
 there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, and
 there is dark-ness, on-ly light, and
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in

Em A7 D 1 2, 4 (Fine)
 where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.

G Em D Bm
 3 O, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek so

Em A7 D A7 D D7
 much to be con-soled as to con-sole, to be

Em F#m Bm
 un-der-stood as to un-der-stand, to be

E E7 A E A A7
 loved as to love with all my soul. to Stanza 4

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

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

Today’s liturgy is adapted from:

Church of Scotland.org.uk

and Anita Monro and posted on the **MAD-e-**

Lena blog. <http://mad-e-lena.blogspot.com/>.

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

INTERIM MINISTER

Brenda Barnes Jamieson

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ben Westphal

DEACON

Barb Bailey

LIVESTREAM RECORDING

Beth Sterba

NURSERY ATTENDANT

Mike Ryan

News in the Pews

Jesus taught his disciples the “Lord’s Prayer” we still pray, centuries later. As we worship, know that you are in company with countless generations, praising God who was and is and is to come. Welcome.

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

Rummage collecting now! Drop off during office hours (please call ahead if you don't have a key), bring on Sundays when you come to worship, or call us to arrange a time that works for you. We'll take most anything but no furniture and old TV's. Questions can be directed to Annie Noorts at:

annie.noorts@gmail.com, or call the office.

Rummage sorting – Join us **Mondays from 10AM-12PM, Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30PM and Fridays from 10AM to 2PM** to sort, no experience necessary! There are jobs for every person, talk to Annie for more information. This sale is our biggest fundraiser of the year but cannot happen without a tremendous amount of help all summer long. Please come help us!

Mini-Pantry— donations always needed. Donations can be left on the shelves by the offices and thank you so much for your help.

Pre-worship gathering – You are invited to meet before worship to talk about one of the UCC's daily devotional readings from the past week. ***We gather at 9:15am in Lanford Fellowship Hall*** for a short opening prayer and finish by 9:45am. Sign up for the Daily Devotional here: <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>.

Holiday Craft Show applications are being accepted now. If you are interested in having a table at our sale, contact Wendy or Annie for more information. For an application, email st.peteruccskokiebazaar@gmail.com, or contact the office.

Our People

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

- Sue Bailey has been diagnosed with Crohn's/Ulcerative Colitis and spinal lesions.
- 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.
- Prayers for healing for Ginger Kalensky and Dorothy Panzke.
- Robert Elliot, brother-in-law of Anna Riley, diagnosed with cancer stage 2.
- Prayers for Julius and all immigrants, refugees and displaced people.
- Judy Paige having knee therapy for the third time.
- Sharon Johnson's daughter Donna continues her battle with Lymphoma, which can be controlled but not cured.
- Susan Garcia's Aunt Janice battling cancer.
- Jane Abramchik continues to recover at home aided by a team of home caregivers and her husband Paul.
- 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, Lois Jarmuth and Bob Seitman.

If you are aware of others to include in our shared prayers, please let a church officer, an Elder, or the office know!

This week we wish a Happy Birthday to Alice Schaller, Ryan Miller, Linda Haig and Sharon Johnson.

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector will be Peggy Reins, and our Nursery Attendant will be Rita McMahon.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Peggy Reins
VICE-PRESIDENT	Barb Todd
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Annie Noorts
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Maria Altmayer

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.

We are always grateful for all offerings to the church. So many thanks to everyone who's been keeping us going with your donations! See inside the front cover for details on how to donate.

Our mini-food pantry is a daily mission this church does for the community of Skokie. If you are able, please donate!

Sign up for Coffee Hour! Regular coffee hours are on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. See our President Peggy if you are interested in signing up.



MISSION MOMENTS

Shaped by Prayer (7/27/2025) Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Luke 11:1-13

St. Augustine once wrote, “Pray as if everything depends on God.”

The problem for many of us, though, is that we feel as if our prayers are inadequate. We often wonder if we are even doing “it” right.

No wonder Jesus’ friends, upon watching him in deep conversation with God — which is the best definition for what prayer is, a conversation from the heart — asked Jesus to teach them to do the same. And so, Jesus teaches them by giving them an outline to follow known as The Lord’s Prayer. It is a beloved prayer connecting Christians throughout the world for no matter what language it is said and whether “debts” or “trespasses” is used. It is the go-to prayer when we don’t know what to pray.

But as what always happens when something like The Lord’s Prayer becomes so routine, so taken for granted, so oft recited, we forget the power of the words we are speaking.

So, let’s have a quick refresher this day on a prayer that has the power to shape us, now and always.

Our Father, who art in heaven. Jesus teaches us that the first thing we do when praying is simply start by addressing God.

Holy (hallowed) is your name. Jesus then reminds us to add words of praise and adoration.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. After acknowledging God and praising God's greatness, we are to pray for God's kingdom of love and goodness to come down from heaven, remembering always that this kingdom is not what we envision but what God has planned.

Give us this day our daily bread. We then ask for blessed provision, but notice Jesus isn't saying "my daily bread." Rather, we pray for the community, asking for provision for all who are wanting.

Forgive us our sins (or debts or trespasses). Here comes the challenging part — forgiveness. We are told as we seek forgiveness, we must also forgive all those who have wronged us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Finally, Jesus reminds us this world is filled with many temptations waiting to ensnare us in turning away from the goodness of God.

Note here, that the original prayer ended with "deliver us from evil." It is said that the early church added the ending we now have — "for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever" — as to end on a note of praise. Scholars say it first appeared in the "Didache," a document from the late first or early second century.

So, when you feel you do not know how or what to pray turn to the words of Jesus who gave us a framework that shapes our many prayers to come.

Rather than close with a written prayer, I invite you to recite, line by line, The Lord's Prayer, pausing after each sentence and lingering on the words.

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)
