



Welcome



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Wednesday,**

**March 2,**

**2022**

**11:30 AM**

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**Ash Wednesday**



AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

8013 LARAMIE AVE - SKOKIE, IL - 60077

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**St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Skokie**  
Order of Worship for Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 11:30 AM  
Ash Wednesday

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## THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

*Those who are able please stand.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

P: In these forty days You lead us into the desert of repentance, that in this pilgrimage of prayer, we might learn to be Your people once more. In sacrifice and service, You bring us back to Your heart.

***C: You open our eyes to Your presence in the world, and You free our hands to lead others to the radiant splendor of Your mercy.***

P: Be with us in these journey days, for without You we are lost and will perish.

***C: To You alone be dominion and glory, forever and ever. Amen.***

## HYMN

## "God Himself is With Us"

#29 (v.1)

1. God Him - self is with us: Let us now a - dore Him,  
 2. God Him - self is with us: Whom an - gel - ic le - gions  
 3. Lord, come dwell with - in us, While on earth we tar - ry,

And with awe ap - pear be - fore Him. God is in His  
 Serve with awe in heav - en - ly re - gions. "Ho - ly, Ho - ly,  
 Make us Thy blest sanc - tu - a - ry, Grant us now Thy

tem - ple, All with - in keep si - lence, And be - fore Him  
 Ho - ly," Sing the hosts of heav - en, Praise to God be -  
 pres - ence, Un - to us draw near - er, And re - veal Thy -

bow with rev - erence. Him a - lone, God we own; To our Lord and  
 ev - er giv - en. Bow Thine ear To us here; Hear, O Christ, the  
 self still clear - er. Where we are, Near or far, Let us see Thy

Sav - iour Prais - es sing for - ev - er,  
 prais - es That Thy church now rais - es.  
 pow - er, Ev - ery day and hour. . . . A-MEN.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

P: God proves His love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**C: *Because we believe this, we can approach God's throne of grace with confidence, asking God to hear our prayers of confession and forgive us.***

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our Prayer of Confession is Psalm 51, found in our hymnal as Selection 19 on pp. 571-72. We pray responsively, with the Congregation praying the letters in bold.

## THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES (Optional)

In continuing the Confession of Sin, those who wish to receive ashes, please come forward single file down the center aisle. The rest of the congregation may sit down and remain in the spirit of prayer. After all who desire to receive ashes have done so and returned to their pews, our prayer concludes with these words:

P: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of Your salvation,

**C: *That we may show forth Your glory.***

P: By the Cross and Passion of our Savior,

**C: *Forgive us our sins and bring us with all Your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection. In His name we pray. Amen.***

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or sleep we may live with Him” (I Thessalonians 5:9-10).

By the astounding grace we meet in Jesus who died on the cross for us, taking our place, our sins are forgiven and salvation has been obtained. Let us all say,

***C: Thanks be to God!***

*Please be seated.*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Isaiah 58: 1-2

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

**HOMILY**

“A Church Repentant”

Rev. Richard Lanford

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****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*

*Those who are able please stand.*

**HYMN** "Again, O Lord and Savior" #140 (vv. 1, 2, 5)

1. A - gain, O Lord and Sav - iour, The hal - lowed days be - gin,  
 2. A - gain the lash and pur - ple, A - gain the reed and thorn  
 3. A - gain the cross Thou bear - est, And, high up - on the hill,  
 4. Thou giv - est all, O Sav - iour! How weak - ly willed are we see,  
 5. Oh, may our souls' this sea - son, Cham - bered where none may see,

That view Thy will - ing shame and death To save our souls from sin.  
 Show us the Lord of heaven and earth Now made a man of scorn.  
 Fixed to its form, Thou giv - est all, Our fail - ings to ful - fill.  
 E - ven the fol - lies of the world To sac - ri - fice for Thee!  
 With pen - i - tence and ear - nest prayer Be sanc - ti - fied to Thee! A - MEN.

**BENEDICTION**

**FOR WORSHIP TODAY**

MINISTER

Rev. Richard Lanford

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ben Westphal

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# News in the Pews

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**Welcome to St. Peter's U.C.C.** and thank you for joining us for worship on this Ash Wednesday morning. There is also a service tonight at 7:00 PM with Holy Communion.

**Our Lenten Soup-n-Study begins a week from tonight**, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. It's not too late to sign up! We will read the first chapters of both the devotional guide and of The Third Reconstruction for March 9th. This study skips the Wednesday of Holy Week, but as a whole goes through April 27th. See Rev. Lanford for a copy of the study guide soon; likewise let Peggy McCoy if you want a hard copy of the book for not much money. We'll need email addresses if the church does not have them in order to send the Zoom link for the meeting, as well as the study guides themselves (although Pastor can hand out hard copy ones starting today).

**An offering plate** is in the Narthex. Thank you.

**This coming Friday the 4th** is the World Day of Prayer.

**We celebrate the Lord's Supper** next Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.

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# Our People

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**HOSPITALIZED:** Carol Burmeister is in hospice care at Elevate St. Andrews, 7000 N. Newark, Niles, 60714. Ralph is in the assisted-living area, the floor below (Room 432). Kelly Panzke is having her spine surgeries (2, over two days) any day now.

**Women's Guild Meeting:** Wednesday, March 9th, the Women's Guild meets at the church at 9:30 AM for a meeting; the Kitchen will be cleaned and reorganized as needed, followed by the usual business and fellowship meeting.

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## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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

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## Regular Reminders!

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**Tomorrow morning** Pastor will be at a meeting of pastors and students-in-discernment (studying for the ministry) in our CMA Cluster 1 from 10 to 11:30 AM at Glenview Community Church.

**Please remember that we can always use food contributions for the Mini-Pantry!** There are now copies of a list of suggestions and items by the narthex and on the shelves where the food is kept by the offices. Take one home! Demand has increased considerably since it was first installed last September. We always appreciate what is brought in, and the need does not go away. Perhaps if you are employed you could ask about doing a collection at your job. Thank you!

**Pastor's podcast** is available wherever you listen to podcasts! Just type in "The Redheaded Preacher" and you'll find us! Pastor's weekly podcasts include the prior Sunday's scriptures and sermon, and some words and prayer from Pastor just for the listeners of the podcast!

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