A young child with dark skin is shown from the chest up, pointing their right index finger upwards. The child's face is slightly out of focus, but their expression is neutral. The background is a plain, light color. The text 'RISK AND RESTORATION' is overlaid on the image, with 'RISK AND' in white and 'RESTORATION' in orange. The text is oriented vertically, following the direction of the child's finger.

RISK AND RESTORATION

Welcome to St Peter's UCC In-Person and Livestream Virtual Worship Service! Subscribe to our **YouTube Channel** to catch a new service at 10 am each Sunday! We also share a **podcast** weekly on our website of the scripture readings and sermon. The podcast can also be found on most podcast catchers & platforms, under "The Redheaded Preacher." Give us a like and 5-star rating to help others find us!

Open Holy Communion. We have communion the 1st Sunday of the month and we invite all Christians and seekers after God to partake of the Lord's Supper with us regardless of denominational background. To participate from home, please have a small cup of juice, wine, or other beverage you are comfortable with, and a piece of bread with you. When Rev. Lanford prompts us to "take and eat" (and "drink"), then we will all do so - physically separated, but together in spirit.

Who We Are. St. Peter's is an Open and Affirming congregation. We've been in the heart of downtown Skokie for over 152 years. 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 **welcome all people** to share worship, membership, marriage, baptism, funeral, and fellowship with us.

Attendance. We would like to get to know you better, too! If you are comfortable doing so, please put your first name and last initial in the comments section under the video, and where you are watching us from!

Donations. We have several options for giving, and your donation helps support our church and its various ministries. Now more than

ever, every contribution (large or small) is important to keep us going:

- **Text Your Gift.** Text the amount you want to donate to **844-997-2346**.
- **PayPal.** Visit [PayPal.me/stpeteruccskokie](https://www.paypal.me/stpeteruccskokie) Uncheck the "Paying for Goods or Services" box to not pass on the fees to St Peters.
- **Vanco Give+ App.** Download the Vanco GIVE+ app from **iTunes** or **Google Play**, put in the church's zip code 60077 and select St. Peter's from the drop down. Set up an account with a password (or process as a guest), select your donation frequency, amount, and add payment info. There is also an option here to offset the processing fee.
- **Mail a Check.** We are collecting mail daily, and depositing regularly throughout the week.

Contact Us. You can email us – we are accessing email from home during the Shelter-in-Place order. Or call and leave a voicemail, we are picking up messages regularly while we are not in the building. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for daily updates and messages, and check our website for additional details, weekly announcements, and more.

St. Peter's United Church of Christ

8013 Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL 60077

(Oakton and Laramie)

847-673-8166

Our network name is: ATTUNITEDCHURCH; Pass:
UNITEDCHURCH8166

www.stpeteruccskokie.org

Rev. Richard Lanford (Pastor): revlanford@gmail.com

Laura Olson (Office Manager): office@stpeteruccskokie.org

Ben Westphal (Music Director): bcwestphal@gmail.com

St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Oakton Street and Laramie Avenue, Skokie, IL
www.stpeteruccskokie.org
847-673-8166

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
Sunday, November 7, 2021, 10:00 AM
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME GUESTS!

* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

PRELUDE

"Gather Us In"

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenn Schneider

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Marcia Hilliard

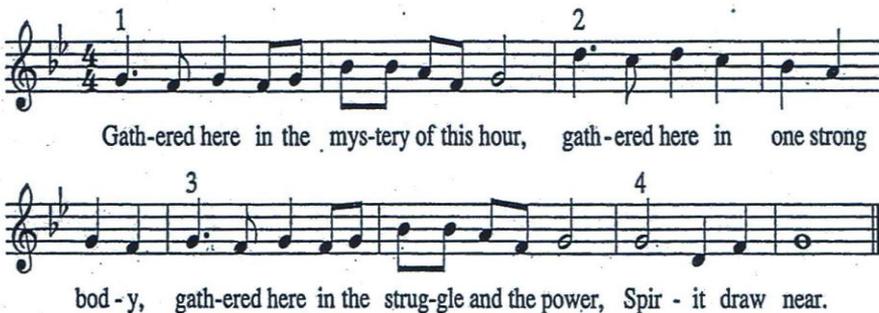
Leader: Jesus said, 'I came so that you may have life, and have it more abundantly.'

Congregation: Yet even in the season of harvest we are hungry. We gather today to be fed.

L: May God's presence fill us and refresh us anew. Let us worship God with such great expectations!

***RESPONSE:** "Gathered Here in the Mystery of this Hour"
(sing 2x)

Text and music: Phil Porter, 1990



The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the first two measures of the melody, with a '1' above the first measure and a '2' above the second measure. The second staff contains the next two measures, with a '3' above the first measure and a '4' above the second measure. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Gath-ered here in the mys-tery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong
bod - y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.

This chant may be sung as a round.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

L: In the poetry of the Book of Job, God addresses the complainers of every age: 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Where were you when I laid the foundations of the world? When the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?'

In awe before God, let us confess our ill-fated attempts to play God, in our lives and that of others.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We gather before you, God, thankful that You receive us when we come to You. Skillfully, through Your Spirit's fire, find the places where we hurt, and shine on them with healing light. Find the places where we run from You, and gather us home. Then mold us, shape us, make us one as the grains on many hillsides become one loaf, one bread, one body in Jesus Christ. Through Christ, forgive and renew us, and our world. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

We hear it often but this is a great time in worship to hear it again: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:16-17).

Friends, believe the good news: our God is one of love and forgiveness, reconciliation and transformation. God's love for the world which brought about the sending of Jesus is love for you and me as well. Please join me in claiming aloud this amazing grace by saying together . . .

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN:

"Gather Us In"

SSB #19



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-er 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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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Prophet:

Jeremiah 29:11-14

Gospel:

Mark 12:41-44

MUSICAL MEDITATION “Gathered Here”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYERS

The Rev. Blair Hull

SERMON: “Generosity, Hope and Foolishness”

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Exhortation and Invitation

Sursum Corda:

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 Thanksgiving
Sanctus (Singing, #521)
Prayer of Consecration**

RESPOND

153

Eat of This Bread

The musical score is written in G minor, 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of quarter note = 65. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; come and be fed, come now and dine. Eat of this bread, drink of this wine; here all are fed, here all may dine." The chords are: Eb, Ab, Ddim, Cm, Cm, Fm, Fm7, Bb sus, Bb, Eb, Ab, Ddim, Cm, Cm, Fm, Bb, Eb.

**The Words of Institution
Participation**

CLOSING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER ('debts')

**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**

***HYMN:** "The Climate is Changing"
(Please sing to the tune of "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise")

**The climate is changing! Creation cries out!
Your people face flooding and fire and drought.
We see the great heat waves and storms at their
worst.
We pray for the poor, Lord — for they suffer first.**

**We pray for the animals here in our midst
who cannot defend their own right to exist.
We pray for the mountains and forests and seas
that bear the harsh footprint of our human greed.**

**We thank you for people who treasure the earth,
whose faith has long taught them its beauty and
worth.
We thank you as well for the children and youth
who look to the future and speak out the truth.**

**We thank you for leaders, courageous and brave,
who know that the earth is worth fighting to save,
who care about justice and what they should do,
who listen to science and work hard for you.**

You love this good earth, and you sent us your Son!

May we love our neighbors — there's work to be done.

May we, by your Spirit, do all in our power to care for your earth in this critical hour.

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***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE:** "St. Denio"

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTER	Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Dan Guenther
COUNTERS	Rich Schneider/Sharon Johnson
NURSERY	Laurie Mitchell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good Morning! Welcome to this gathering of the saints, both here and in the heavenly kingdom. Let us worship God together!

Welcome back to today's guest preacher, the Rev. Blair Hull!

About Communion: For those worshipping in-person with us, we hope you picked up one of the wafer-covered Communion cups on tables in the Narthex and at the landing of the eastern, chair-lift stairs. Peeling off the top 'layer' will get you to the waferette; the next, foil, covering, will open the cup to you. If you are joining us via the live-stream, we invite folks to have ready with them some piece of bread and a cup of something (wine, water, juice) for the elements. As always, we will partake together in the Spirit (although perhaps apart in space and time) when the Pastor prompts us.

The Women's Guild meets at 11:30 AM this Wednesday the 10th; their meeting includes the annual Cookie Walk!

With Veterans Day coming later this week, we want to express to all veterans our gratitude for your services given to this country!

On Thursday, Veterans Day at 7 PM, there will be a St. Peter's U.C.C. Zoom meeting with leaders of Partners for Sacred Spaces; if you want to be included, ask the office for the link. Partners for Sacred Spaces.

We are always grateful for any and all offerings to the church. No amount is too small! As we said in the opening announcements, you can support our work (and thus, your work too) by mailing in a check, signing up for electronic giving, or using PayPal as indicated, with links, on the first main page of announcements. Depending on how you set up your PayPal account, you can arrange to pay whatever transaction fee there is yourself, or, that it will be included in your donation and deducted before it hits St. Peter's account (so St. Peter's, in effect, pays it). Thank you very much for giving!

Pastor Richard Lanford is off until returning on Thursday, November 11, Veterans Day.

Having birthdays this week are Bridgette Sterba, Mike Taheny's son Mike, Paul Brzozowski, Justin Balling, Peter Svenson and Alexandra Paige. Marcia and Andre have an **anniversary this week, too!** We wish God's blessings upon them all.

Holiday Craft Show!! It's this coming Saturday, from 10 AM to 3 PM. There are no more spots for vendors available, in case anyone's asking. Baked goods are still needed! We are doing a limited small bake sale for the Bazaar this year (cookies, brownies, breads only). All items must be individually packaged when you drop them off by Friday, November 12th. Contact Wendy if you have any questions.

The deadline for ordering Christmas wreaths was Friday; pickup will be Saturday, November 20th from 1 to 4 PM.

Dorothy Taylor’s memorial service will be a week from this coming Saturday, here, at 11 AM.

HOSPITALIZED: As far as we know at this writing, Harrison Kuras’ father is still hospitalized, or possibly in hospice care, after suffering two strokes the week of October 24th.

According to the adjusted schedule, after a switch, next Sunday’s lector is Peter Svenson.

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 & sermon, and some words and prayer from Pastor just for the listeners of the podcast! Check it out!

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Jenn Schneider
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Paige
TREASURER	Chad McCoy
SECRETARY	Carolyn Kuechler
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Marcia Hilliard

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 7, 2021

Ruth 3:1-5, 4;13-17

Risk and Restoration

All Saints Day and All Souls Day are observances of the lives of ordinary people in creating and maintaining the reign of God. This week, we hear the story of generations - a grandmother Naomi, parents Ruth and Boaz, and a child named Obed (who was himself a grandfather and father).

As we celebrate the gifts of these generations, consider being in prayer with the generations this week, using this guide or another.

Monday: Pray for your ancestors in faith. Pray for those whose stories are told in scripture, and those who are known through other stories. Ask to be guided to knowledge by their wisdom, to gain understanding through their errors and to be strong in your faith as they were in theirs.

Tuesday: Pray for the ancestors in your church. Pray for those who founded your congregation, for those who built the building in which you worship, for those - both lay and ordained - who have sustained your congregation through the years.

Wednesday: Pray for the ancestors in your own family. Give thanks for the gifts you have been given by your family and pray to release any burdens you may carry that have been passed to you.

Thursday: Pray for the children in your life. Whether these are children in the church, in your own family or in your neighborhood, ask for God's guiding hand to move with and through them.

Friday: Pray for the children of the world who have no one to pray for them. Pray that God works in their lives and shows them that they are beloved.

Saturday: Pray for yourself as an ancestor. Ask to be given the courage and the wisdom to be a helpful and wholesome ancestor. Ask that you may be a blessing to future generations, as those who have blessed you have been.



8 1/2" x 11" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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BU00110

SCRIPTURES FOR THE CONGREGATION

November 7, 2021

The Lord speaks to exiled Judah during its time in Babylonian exile, refuting the false prophets' easy promises, but bringing a promise of God's own, and words of encouragement.

Jeremiah 29:11-14

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.

When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart,

I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Mark 12:41-44

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

POINSETTIAS

Orders are now being taken for Christmas

Poinsettias. This years' colors are White, Pink, Red & Marble. See below for details on each. To place an order, please fill in the form below, include payment and drop it off at the office, mail it to St Peter's, or place it in the collection plate on Sunday morning. *The deadline for ordering is Friday, December 3rd*, as we need to place the order with G & E Greenhouses, Inc. of Elburn, IL by Monday, December 6th. The plants will be delivered to the church in time to decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. You can pick up your plant(s) after the service or you can leave them to beautify our Sunday Christmas service.



Name:

Phone #:

In Honor Of:

In Memory Of:

Quantity	Color	Price	Total
	White (6-1/2 " 5+ blooms 1 plant)	\$ 13.00	
	Pink (6-1/2 " 5+ blooms 1 plant)	\$ 13.00	
	Red (6-1/2 +7 Blooms, 2 plants per pot)	\$18.00	
	Marble (6-1/2 +7 Blooms, 2 plants per pots)	\$18.00	
Grand Total			



HOLIDAY Craft Show

**NOVEMBER 13
10 AM TO 3 PM**

PHONE: (847) 673-8166

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

8013 LARAMIE AVE., SKOKIE, IL 60077

Over 30 Vendors this year including:

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