



Welcome to St Peter's UCC Virtual Worship Service!

Subscribe to our [YouTube Channel](#) to catch a new service at 10am each Sunday! We also share a [podcast](#) weekly of the scripture readings and sermon.

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** 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

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
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OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
Sunday, October 4, 2020 10:00 AM
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

WELCOME GUESTS!

* Indicates all who are able are invited to stand

PRELUDE: "A Theme by Thomas Tallis" arr. McGregor

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS Jenn Schneider

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Like empty jars, we come to be filled.

Congregation: Like ornamental candles, we come to be set ablaze.

P: Like aged wine in a cask, we come to be poured out.

C: Like weary travelers, we tune in to find rest.

P: Like lovers drifted apart, we come to be reconciled.

C: Like little kids, we present ourselves open to surprise!

P: Hear the Word of God and make your reply; 'My heart has heard you say,

C: Come and talk with me, O my people!
***And our hearts respond, "God, we
are coming to You!"***

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, we have no righteousness of our own. We confess we have bent and ignored Your law. Your commandments inform us but do not transform. We give lip service to Your law but seek to avoid its implication for our lives. We recognize some of our errors, but many are hidden from us. We devote our energies to accumulating possessions that function as idols in our lives. We find that we depend on them more than we honor You. Have mercy on us, and save us, we pray, from our transgressions. Help us to reorder our days. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

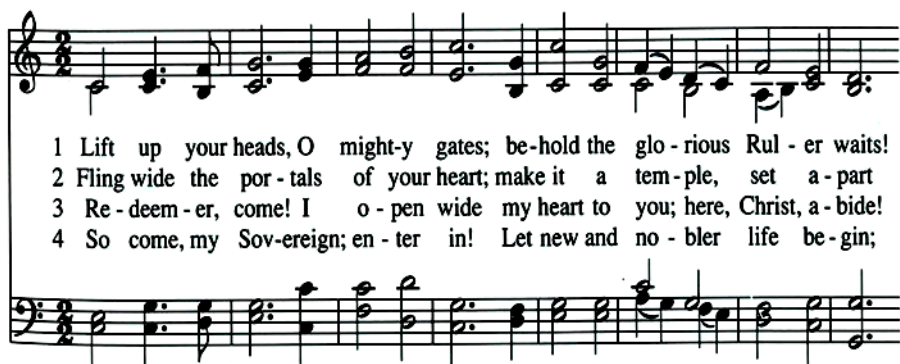
"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'"

Our sins are forgiven through the life, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, Lamb of God. Our minds and hearts are changed because of, and now are oriented by, the grace of God. In joyful grasping of the good news which lovingly grasps us, let the congregation wherever and whenever they are cry out . . .

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN:*"Lift Up Your Heads"**

SSB #9 (vv. 1-3)



1 Lift up your heads, O might-y gates; be-hold the glo-rious Rul-er waits!
 2 Fling wide the por-tals of your heart; make it a tem-ple, set a-part
 3 Re-deem-er, come! I o-pen wide my heart to you; here, Christ, a-bide!
 4 So come, my Sov-ereign; en-ter in! Let new and no-bler life be-gin;



The Sov-ereign One is draw-ing near; the Sav-ior of the world is here.
 From earth-ly use for heav-en's em-ploy, a-dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 Let me your in-ner pres-ence feel; your grace and love in me re-veal.
 Your Ho-ly Spir-it guide us on, un-til the glo-rious crown be won.

Georg Weissel, a Lutheran pastor, served a church in Königsberg, East Prussia. He wrote some twenty hymns, most of them for the great festivals of the church year. This hymn was written for Advent.

Tune: TRURO L.M.
 Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

WORDS ABOUT OFFERING**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Old Testament:

Jessica Schneider

Epistle:

Exodus 20: 1-20

Philippians 3: 4b-14

MUSICAL MEDITATION:

"Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup"

arr. Jeanne Cotter

HOMILY:

"In Wilderness: Commandments, Covenant and Christ"

***HYMN:** "Remember Me"

*(Sing to the tune of hymnal # 59, Tallis' Canon, aka
"All praise to Thee, my God, this night.")*

**Remember me — the God who saves —
For back in Egypt you were slaves;
Then by my hand I set you free.
Now keep my law. Remember me.
Remember me in bread and wine
Whene'er you share this meal of mine.
I gave my life to set you free.
With thanks and praise, remember me.
Remember me in all you do,
For I'm alive! I walk with you.
I was, I am, and I shall be.
O church I love, remember me.
Our God, we hear! We're called and freed!
Your Spirit gives us memory.
Now send us out that we may share
Your love's great story everywhere.**

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Copied from Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Upper Room Books, 2009). Pastor has the book and thereby has the right to use this text.

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYERS

*RESPONSE:

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

SSB #18 (vv. 1, 2)



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.



3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Exhortation and Invitation

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Consecration

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**

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you to bear all things, believe all things,
hope all things, endure all things, with faith, with hope,
and above all, with love.

***POSTLUDE:**

Improvisation on "Let Us Break Bread Together" by Westphal

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTER

Rev. Richard Lanford

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ben Westphal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hello October! Good morning to our virtual worship service today and welcome! Let us worship God who creates all things, came as Jesus to save the world and breathes life into us through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

This is a Communion Sunday, and so we ask you to have a piece of bread, a roll, or something small like this with you, and a cup of wine, juice, water, coffee or something else, each of which will be your "bread and cup." As if we were gathered in person together, please partake of what you have when so prompted by Pastor Lanford.

IN SYMPATHY: Last Monday, Bill Todd, Jim's brother, who grew up in St. Peter's, left this life after being in a coma and in hospice care. The family will hold a time for receiving friends at the Haben Funeral Home & Crematorium Sunday from 3 to 6 PM. A memorial service, here, is the desire of the family sometime\ in November. Our prayers are also sought by Angela Washek for her soon-to-be brother-in-law Mike, whose mother died last week shortly before his imminent wedding. The family is that of Diane Kuropas.

HOSPITALIZED: June Peterson remains in hospice care at Generations on Oakton, 1660-1665 Oakton Court, Des Plaines, 60018. Sydney Hubbs, for whom Julie Jernberg asked prayers, has chosen to put off surgery. Jane

Abramchik recovers from back surgery at home. Please keep them in your prayers, along with others whom we lift up together today.

THE RUMMAGE SALE is over! Thank you X 3 to its leaders, its helpers, rummage donors, shoppers, publicizers, and anyone who supported it in any way! We have another announcement about it, though! See below:

Save the date: *Rummage clean-up will take place on October 10th at 10 AM.* We will be packing all the household items and loading them into a trailer to be picked up by the Cancer Federation. **We need boxes to pack things in, so please bring anything you have!** We will be keeping all soft items to go to Savers in February. We will continue to collect soft goods through the end of January. Savers will pay us \$0.20/pound for these items. Soft goods include clothing, shoes, purses, linens, stuffed animals, hats, belts and scarves.

The Board of Elders met via free teleconference call last Thursday afternoon. Your Micah 6:8 Committee met via Zoom that evening.

Speaking of Micah 6:8, it is easy to “love kindness,” but how do you “do justice” in these difficult times?

Seeking justice is a fundamental aspect of our Christian faith. But knowledge comes before action. To expand our understanding as a justice-seeking people, the **Micah 6:8 Committee** is planning a virtual screening and discussion of the documentary film, *“Suppressed: the Fight to Vote.”* The program will begin at **11:30 AM, Sunday, October 11th**—time enough after worship to grab a cup of java to make it a virtual coffee hour. The program will include some fellowship, a brief introduction, the film screening and discussion afterward. Over the years voter suppression has taken many forms, but it has existed since the nation’s founding. The landmark 1965 Voting Rights Act was a significant step forward, but a 2013 Supreme Court decision rolled back some of its key provisions. Within hours of the decision, many states imposed voting restrictions. *“Suppressed: The Fight to Vote,”* a film by Robert Greenwald, weaves together personal stories from voters across the state of Georgia to reveal widespread voter suppression in the 2018 midterm election. With so much at stake in the 2020 election cycle and during these unprecedented times, the 38-minute documentary opens a window on an important issue. *Mark your calendars now for this special coffee-hour program and watch for the Zoom meeting details to follow soon.*

Drive-Thru Pet Blessing: Our Pet Blessing this year will fall in line with our social distancing year! Pastor will bless your furry and you. We plan a few surprises and all while we social distance and wear masks. Donations will be shared between CARE and St. Peter's. Please tell your friends and neighbors. Should it rain, we'll hold it October 25th, same times.

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 front cover for details on how to donate.

OCTOBER IS KITCHEN MONTH AGAIN! - Yes, it was only two months ago we found ourselves in a month with five Saturdays and had the privilege of serving as the host church at A Just Harvest Community Kitchen. Most of you know that we are not serving in person; the meals are prepared by the Kitchen staff (using food purchased with our collective support) and served curbside. We fully expect the Kitchen to be following this model for a while yet. Our next date to host, believe it or not, is Saturday, October 31st! So, gentle friends and members of St. Peter's United Church of Christ who are pro-Jesus and pro-feeding the hungry, this is another great opportunity to be alive in Christ and make a contribution, not of sloppy joes, but of some money to help the Kitchen buy food and prepare our typical meal of sloppy joes, vegetable, salad, drink, fruit and light dessert. The Kitchen needs \$500 to purchase everything.

Please follow this link to let us know you can donate:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Tk4nlrEn4tUuoC_AwBMgdYBB3-SuVI7npjFWksYWQn0/edit Oct 2020. We really

hope to have \$500 pledged and received (by check or electronic giving to the church) before October 20th. Thank you so very much for keeping one of our long-time missions, and not only that of worship, going!

Thank you to everyone who supported our Village Inn Fundraiser last Sunday! Participation was down but we're going for another day this month, asking people to mark **Thursday, October 22nd**, as our next fundraiser / food day!**Please note it was reported in the Announcer as a Sunday but it is a Thursday.

Another opportunity to be of generous service is contribute to the Annual NorthShore CROP Walk!

Please see this month's Announcer article for the full details, or call or email Susan Garcia who is for sure raising funds through the Walk. You and others are also free to sign up on-line at the CWS/NorthShore CROP Walk site to be part of the St. Peter's U.C.C. Skokie team with Susan and raise funds too.

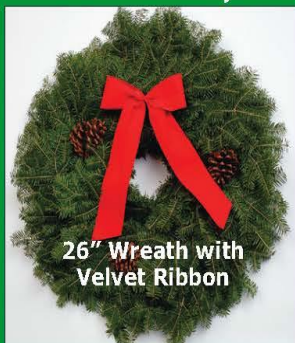
Next week the scheduled Lector is Mike Ryan.

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CHURCH LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT	Jenn Schneider
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Paige
TREASURER	Mandy Steegmueller
SECRETARY	Carolyn Kuechler
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Marcia Hilliard

Handcrafted Wreaths and Decorations

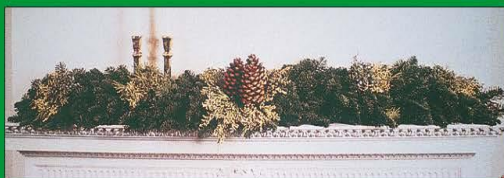


26" Wreath with Velvet Ribbon

Single Face Balsam Outdoor Wreath 26", 36", 48"
Double Face Balsam 36"



Noble Fir Mixed Wreath 20"
Indoor/Outdoor



4' Mantlepice/Centerpiece

Place your order by Friday November 6th.
(Contact Rich Schneider or call 847.673.8166)

Due to COVID-19 concerns, pickup will be on Saturday November 21st from 1 - 4 pm.

26" Single Face Balsam	\$16.00
36" Single Face Balsam	\$27.00
36" Double Face Balsam	\$41.00
48" Single Face Balsam	\$41.00
4' Noble, Cedar, Juniper Mantlepice/Centerpiece	\$41.00
12" Candle Ring Wreath	\$21.00
12" Holiday Yule Log	\$19.00
32" Evergreen Planter	\$29.00
38" Evergreen Planter	\$44.00
Fire Starter Basket	\$19.00
Balsam Door Swag	\$13.00
20" Premium Noble Fir Mix Wreath	\$22.00
24" Boxed Decorator Wreath	\$38.00
25' Balsam Garland	\$25.00
Cemetery Stand	\$6.00



32" Evergreen Planter
38" Evergreen Planter



12" Candle Ring Wreath with 4" Candle



24" Boxed Decorator Wreath



Holiday Yule Log 12"



25' Balsam Fir Garland



Firestarter Basket



Balsam Swag

CHRISTMAS WREATHS AND MORE!

We are taking orders for pine Christmas wreaths and decorations from Northern Wisconsin to adorn your home or to be placed at a cemetery.

The standard 26 inch diameter wreath, with red velvet bow and pine cones is \$16.00.

Cemetery stands are \$6.00.

Proceeds from this fundraiser help us decorate the church for the holidays with the remainder going to the General Operating Fund.

We will make arrangements for placing wreaths on the St. Peter's UCC Cemetery, if you desire.

All orders must be placed by Friday Nov 6th.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, pickup at St. Peter's will be on Saturday November 21st from 1 - 4 pm.

To place an order:

- **please fill in the form and return with payment** by mailing it to St Peter's.
- or, **email your order to office@stpeteruccskokie.org** and send payment separately via mail, text the amount, or use PayPal. For information on how to use any of these methods, please see the weekly bulletin.

Please make checks payable to:
St. Peter's UCC.

Name		
Address		
I will pick up my order up at church		
Please place on cemetery for:		
Item Description	Price	Quantity
26" Single Face Balsam Wreath w/ Velvet Ribbon for Home or Cemetery	\$16.00	
Cemetery Stands	\$6.00	
36" Single Face Balsam Wreath	\$27.00	
36" Double Face Balsam Wreath	\$41.00	
48" Single Face Balsam Wreath	\$41.00	
4' Noble Mix Mantel piece / Centerpiece	\$41.00	
12" Mixed Noble Candle Ring Wreath w/ 4" Candle	\$21.00	
12" Holiday Yule Log	\$19.00	
Outdoor Evergreen Planter (32")	\$29.00	
Supersized Outdoor Evergreen Planter (38")	\$44.00	
Fire Starter Basket	\$19.00	
Balsam Door Swag	\$13.00	
20" Premium Noble Fir Mix Wreath	\$22.00	
24" Decorator Wreath Boxed w/ Velvet Ribbon	\$38.00	
25' Balsam Garland	\$25.00	



THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2020

FOOD FUNDRAISER

Order from Village Inn Pizza in Skokie (8050 Lincoln Ave) on this day for carryout, delivery or call ahead to dine in and tell your server you are here for St. Peter's UCC Fundraiser and we get 20% of your total. Help our missions and a local small business and help yourself to a meal you didn't have to cook!

All procceds go to help keep St. Peter's UCC going strong!
Anyone can order food for us on this day, so tell your friends and neighbors! Thanks so much for your support!

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 4, 2020

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Wisdom for the Way *Neighbors in Need Offering* *World Communion Sunday*

Why ten commandments? Why not eleven or thirty-nine or a hundred? Some scholars have speculated that there were ten because, even if the devout could not take the heavy stone tablets with them, they would always have their fingers. As long as one can count all one's fingers, the thinking goes, you could remember all the commandments. But why remember them anyway, if you can just look them up? Memorizing, or learning a text by heart, is a way to take it deep within. In this case, we memorize the commandments to take their messages of radical connection with God and others into our lives.

Brian Sirchio, ordained United Church of Christ pastor and beloved church musician and composer, believes that an even better way to memorize the commandments than counting on one's fingers is to set them to music. As his song *Live the 10* demonstrates through music, the commandments aren't just words to be learned, but ways for living that are more deeply understood as they are more deeply known and practiced.

*In the 20th chapter of Exodus, it's plain what God expects of us
It says 1--no other gods; 2--no graven image; 3--don't take God's name in vain;
4--honor the Sabbath; 5--honor your parents; 6--thou shalt not kill;
7--no adultery; 8--thou shalt not steal; 9--don't bear false witness;
10--thou shalt not covet...
Now check this out...now remember right off there's only one Lord,
And I didn't say two and I didn't say four and whatever you do you
don't bow down before anything you make with your hands. And when
you smack your thumb hard with a hammer someday don't get all mad
and shout out God's name, 'cause God's not to blame for your lousy
aim and that's right--that's right! And remember the Sabbath, or
whatever you call it, that means pray and rest--don't be a
playaholic--and you love mom and dad even when they're not wise
and don't ever kill (does that go for flies? Hey that's a good
question man.) And when you marry someday don't you be a cheat, and
don't you ever steal, and don't lie through your teeth, and don't
want the things that your friend's got so bad you'd take it if you
could...*

You can learn Bryan Sirchio's song about the Ten Commandments, and other scriptures worth knowing by heart by checking out his music on his website <http://www.sirchio.com/>.



SCRIPTURES FOR THE CONGREGATION

October 4th, 2020

Exodus 20:1 - 20

1Then God spoke all these words: 2I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 3you shall have no other gods before ☐ me.

4You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, 6but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation ☐ of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. 9Six days you shall labor and do all your work. 10But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. 11For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

12Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

13You shall not murder. □

14You shall not commit adultery.

15You shall not steal.

16You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

18When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid□ and trembled and stood at a distance, 19and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.” 20Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

Philippians 3:4 - 14

Paul wrote, “If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: 5circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

7Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9and be found in him,

not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, □ the righteousness from God based on faith. 10I want to know Christ □ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, 11if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

12Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; □ but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13Beloved, □ I do not consider that I have made it my own; □ but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly □ call of God in Christ Jesus.