



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
May 11, 2025
10:00 AM**

**Fourth Sunday
Of Easter**

Mother's Day





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, May 11, 2025 at 10:00am
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day

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 "Blessings" by Brickman

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS Peggy Reins

You may stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God, creator of us all, we gather to worship you.

All: We come as individuals, as family, as neighbors and friends.

One: We come here where we are known by name, welcomed with all our fragilities and strengths.

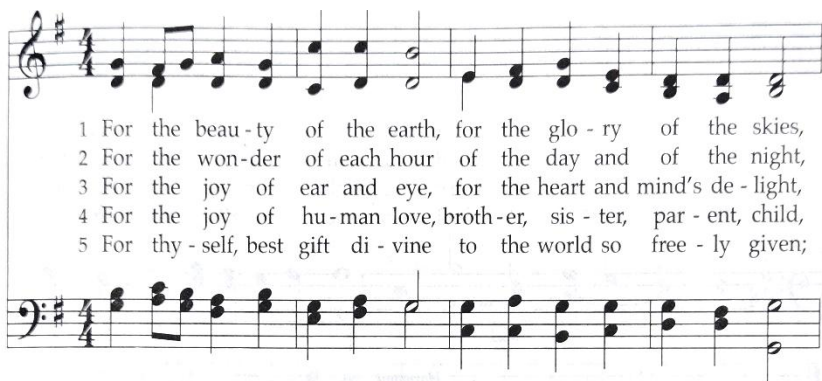
All: We gather with kindred spirits who long to live faithful to your calling.

One: Guide us, inspire us, challenge us, comfort us, and nurture us in this time of worship

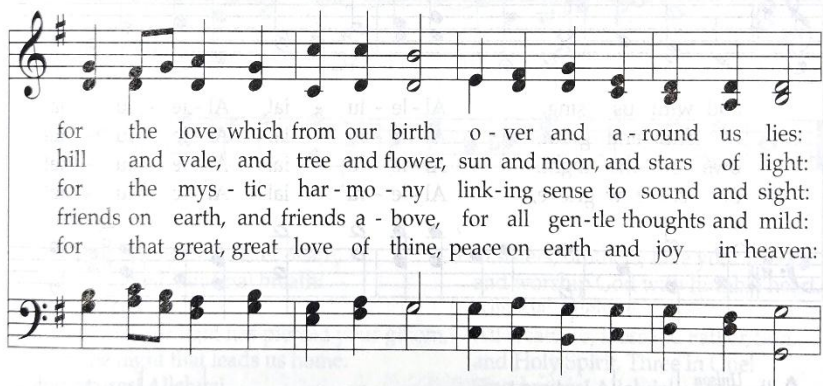
All: so that we might be enabled to return to our daily lives ready to engage fully with all of your creation.

One: Let us worship God.

GATHERING HYMN "For the Beauty of the Earth" (1-4)

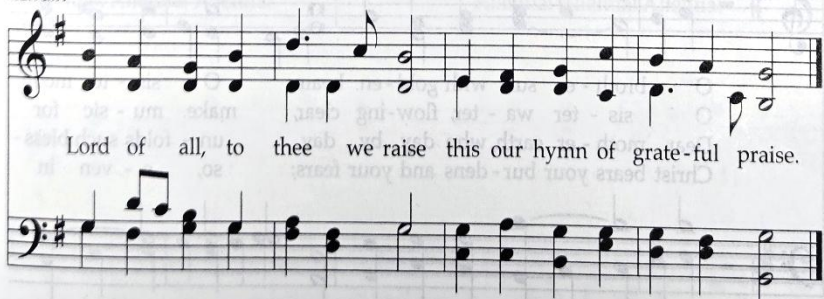


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

You may be seated.

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: We come before God ready to tell the truth, through all the joys and all the struggles of living. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A: O God, you know how hard it is to live in relationships, and yet you call us to do so. At times it is hard to be fully present to our siblings and others in our nuclear family and within this Christian family. Our patience may be short, we sometimes don't really listen, we may be tired, or angry, or hungry, or lonely, or ... whatever it is that keeps us from loving and caring for one another. Help us to know that you are always with us, loving us so that we may love others.

(quiet prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Again and again, the Risen Christ comes to us with the unending gift of love.

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

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen!

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts 9:36-43

RESPONSIVE PSALM 23

One: As God is our shepherd, we need nothing else.

**All: We rest in green pastures and walk by still waters,
which renews and refreshes our spirits.**

One: God guides us along paths of righteousness

**All: And walks with us through shadowed valleys so
we are not afraid. The shepherd's staff comforts
us.**

One: God set the banquet table for us in the presence of
our enemies.

**All: There we're anointed with oil and our cup
overflows.**

One: Goodness and mercy shall never depart from us

All: as long as we dwell in the house of God.

You may wish to stand, in body or in spirit.

GOSPEL Reading

John 10:22-30

You may be seated

PASTORAL PRAYER, 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.

RESPONSE “Halle, Halle, Halle,” sung twice

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu - ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison*

A: Creator God, you have blessed our lives with relationships that both inspire and challenge. We offer these gifts so that we might continue to build relationships with one another and with your whole creation. Bless these gifts that they may bring wholeness and life abundance to all your people. We pray. Amen.
You may be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON “Kin-ship of Christ”

CLOSING HYMN "God Made From One Blood"



1 God made from one blood all the fam - ilies of earth,
 2 We turn to you, God, with our thanks and our tears
 3 Through fam - ilies we've tast - ed the val - ue of trust
 4 Help fam - ilies in all of their var - i - ous forms

the cir - cles of nur - ture that raise us from birth,
 for all of the fam - ilies we've known through the years,
 and felt what it means to be lov - ing and just,
 to face with in - teg - ri - ty strug - gles and storms;

Com - pan - ions who join us to work through each stage
 The in - ti - mate net - works on whom we de - pend
 Yet fam - ilies have al - so be - trayed their best goals,
 Grant peace to our homes that will nur - ture the bud

of child - hood and youth and a - dult - hood and age.
 of par - ents and part - ners and chil - dren and friends,
 mis - treat - ing their mem - bers and bruising their souls,
 of peace for the fam - ilies you made from one blood.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“St. Denio”

We pause to reflect during the Postlude as we prepare to follow God out into the world.

Today's liturgy is adapted from:

Kin to One Another, Copyright © 2025 - The United Church of Canada.

—The Whole World our Neighborhood: Service Prayers for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, written by the Rev. Quentin Chin Posted on the United Church of Christ Worship Ways website.

<http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

INTERIM MINISTER	Rev. Brenda Barnes Jamieson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Beth Sterba
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	Annie Noorts
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Kathy Zipperer

We will not be divided!

Solidarity Summit: A People's Agenda

IN PERSON · SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.

SEIU Healthcare
2229 S Halsted St
Chicago, IL 60608

REGISTER TODAY



You are invited to the Solidarity Summit: A People's Agenda, a Chicago-area in-person gathering. This cross-community gathering will be a train-the-trainer session focused on disrupting the use of immigration as a wedge to divide communities.

Do you want to see a multi-racial and multi-cultural society of people living with all of our human needs fulfilled and each of our human rights and dignity intact? Do you want to fight the forces of reaction? If so, please join us at this event.

While this event is free to register, we are accepting optional donations at checkout to offset the costs of the summit.

Parking is available in the back and on the street.

Lunch will be provided.

Co-hosted by:

A Just Harvest
Center for Community Health Equity (Rush and Depaul)
Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Oppression
Coalition for Immigrant Mental Health
Collaborative for Health Equity Cook County
Community Renewal Society
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group
Metropolitan Tenants Organization

MiMedico
Mobile Migrant Health Team
Nehemiah Trinity Rising
Radical Public Health
Rudy Lozano Library Committee
San Lucas United Church of Christ
Student National Medical Association
Trinity United Church of Christ Social Justice
UIC School of Public Health

Three members of St. Peter's UCC that I trust:

Please place in the offering plate, submit to the office,
or email your list to Brenda: pastor@stpeteruccskokie.org

News in the Pews



Welcome, and Happy Mother's Day! Today we remember that no matter the state of our human relations with parents, children and others, Jesus our Good Shepherd loves and cares for us without fail.

The flowers on the altar are given by the Women's Guild in honor of all our mothers.

Thank you to our volunteers, who make this and every worship service possible!

The Women's Guild meets here this Wednesday, May 14th at 11:30 AM. Featuring a special program by Jen Schneider on her recent trip to Italy, starting at 12:30PM. All are welcome!

Nominate three people you trust – as our insert says, Pastor Brenda is looking to form an Interim Steering Committee and can use your help. More details are in the May [Announcer](#). You do not need to include your name. Drop yours in the offering plate or give to Pastor. You can also email your submission. Thanks so much for your help.

Our Undy  500  is back all of May - We are now collecting underwear for the Night Ministry, who serves Chicago's most needy. We need women's and men's underwear in all sizes, *colors only*. Collection baskets are in the sanctuary and Lanford Fellowship Hall. You can bring your donation with you to worship or drop off during office hours.

Graduate in the family? Let the office know so we can celebrate with you! office@stpeteruccskokie.org. Thanks!

A Just Harvest 🌾 service is this month – we are looking for 3-4 volunteers to serve the day of, as well as donations totaling \$500 to cover the cost of the meal. Contact Chad for details on serving.



Help support Ricky Riley as he raises funds for Misericordia's 🍭 Candy Days! Please use only the QR code or link below to donate and help them raise funds. Thank you so much to everyone for donating:

<https://secure.e2rm.com/p2p/fundraising/390732/participant/5513003/en-CA>

Climate Action Camp News - Plans for a Climate Action Camp at Tower Hill Camp and Retreat Center in Sawyer, Michigan are coming together. This all-new summer camp, June 16th – 20th, is for anyone interested in caring for God's creation with deepened faith. Families, faith leaders and learners, and climate justice activists are invited! Camp registration includes all meals for the duration of the camp, four nights of indoor lodging and program materials. Scholarships are available! Register now at www.outdoorministries.campbrainregistration.com

Rummage Sale donations – we will publicly be accepting donations starting the first week of June. Now's a great time to clean out your closets, basements, attics, and garages. We accept just about anything except furniture and old TVs or old computers.

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:

- Annie Noorts and the family of Ruth Uchtman, who passed last Sunday.
 - Nicole McGinnis, childhood friend of Laura's who is fighting a rare cancer and in the hospital with an internal infection.
 - Holly Davis, prayer for healing, for herself, loved ones and the world.
 - The family of Scottie Arms, brother-in-law of Annie Noorts, who unexpectedly passed away April 6th.
 - David, uncle of Chad McCoy, who is back home after heart attack and starting 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.
 - Phil, friend of Carolyn Kuechler, struggling with multiple health challenges.
 - Prayers for Julius and all immigrants, refugees and displaced people.
 - Judy Paige who is 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 his MRI looks great. He 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 Maya Lundeen, Gianna Iannotti, Georgia Loach, Jake Ryan, Jessica Schneider and Annie Noorts. **Happy Anniversary to** Christine and Maykel Salvatierra.

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector will be Jen Schneider, and our Nursery Attendant will be Laurie Mitchell.

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!



MISSION MOMENTS

Life-giving Acts (5/11/2025)

Fourth Sunday after Easter

WHITE

Acts 9:36-43

In this season of Easter — where we journey 50 days to Pentecost — we continue to see how the power of Jesus, our Risen Lord, is now in the hands of his followers as they teach, preach and heal in his holy name. Today we have one such healing.

Peter is in the city of Joppa, a prosperous port on the west coast of Israel, where he learns of the death of a faithful widow named Tabitha (Dorcas in Greek). Her great acts of charity and kindness are spoken of by the number of mourners who come to her home. Many are widows themselves wearing dresses made by Tabitha, who was a skilled seamstress.

Following in the footsteps of Jesus, Peter revives the dead woman by calling out to her, extending his hand and commanding her to get up once again. And she does. There is celebration, and news of this incredible life-giving act spreads throughout the populous city, gaining a record number of Jesus believers.

Bringing someone back from the dead is the ultimate life-giving act. But as Jesus followers in 2025, we need to remember that that life-giving act is still possible through each one of us. We might not be reviving the actual dead from their slumber, but we can bring life back to those who are among the walking dead — spiritually or emotionally. An inspiring word of encouragement reaching the ears of someone who has been belittled all their life is a life-giving act. A strong hand extended to lift the one who has been kicked to the gutter is a life-giving act.

There was a recent social media post from a resident of a tiny rural community thanking an anonymous donor for paying her ailing cat's veterinary bill. Some selfless soul, hearing of the woman's financial situation, opened wide their wallet to ease the stress and burden. A life-giving act for a worried fur mom and her elderly cat.

Life-giving acts are still possible.

And perhaps the great act in our reading today is not Peter's raising Tabitha from the dead. Perhaps the acts of life that we should applaud are the many ways Tabitha served others, performing life-giving acts daily without ever drawing attention to herself — a new dress, a listening ear, an understanding heart. Tabitha shows us this day that faithfulness is better than greatness. Tabitha showed that serving others is out we serve God. Who are the Tabithas among you this day?

God of new life, we praise you for the Tabithas who selflessly give to make this world better. We ask that you open wide our hearts and hands so that we may also perform life-giving acts to those in need who you place on our paths. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.
