



Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

Sunday,

June 19,

2022

10:00 AM

**Second Sunday
after Pentecost**

Father's Day



AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION IN SKOKIE, IL



Welcome to Worship!

SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM

In-person Worship. Following COVID safety protocols

Livestream on YouTube. Live at 10am then available on our channel



"The Redheaded Preacher" Podcast. On Soundcloud, includes sermon and scriptures only, posted weekly by Tuesday



Ways to Give

Text Your Gift. 844-997-2346 Super easy after a first-time setup

PayPal. [PayPal.me/stpeteruccskokie](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/display?host=stpeteruccskokie) Uncheck the "Paying for Goods or Services" box to not pass on the fees to St Peter's

Check or Cash. Mail to the address below ... this way still works fine

Vanco GivePlus App. Contact the church office to set up regular giving



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 invite all people to share worship, membership, marriage, baptism, funeral, and fellowship with us.



Contact, Follow, or Talk to Us

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

In the office Wed-Sat (times vary) and Sundays

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

Office hours Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm

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

Facebook/Instagram/YouTube: [stpeteruccskokie](https://www.facebook.com/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, June 19, 2022 at 10:00am
Second Sunday after Pentecost
Juneteenth; Father's Day**

Welcome to worship. The music before the service is intended as a time of silent prayer and preparation.

PRELUDE "This is my Father's World" arr. M. Kim

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS Judy Paige

Those who are able please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: We gather in the name of God, our Father who art in heaven.

C: We are here to pray hallowed be God's name.

P: We gather to give thanks for God's unending love and grace.

C: We praise God who runs after us when we have traveled far away.

P: We gather to draw closer to God.

C: May we experience God's love in a fresh, new way on this day.

RESPONSE: "Lift Up Your Hearts" #27 (vv. 1, 2)

1. "Lift up your hearts!" We lift them, Lord, to Thee;
 2. A - bove the lev - el of the for - mer years,
 3. Lift ev - ery gift that Thou Thy - self hast given;
 4. Then, as the trump - et call, in aft - er years,

Here at Thy feet none oth - er may we see;
 The mire of sin, the weight of guilt - y fears,
 Low lies the best till lift - ed up to heaven:
 "Lift up your hearts!" rings peal - ing in our ears,

"Lift up your hearts!" E'en so, with one ac - cord,
 The mist of doubt, the blight of love's de - cay,
 Low lie the bound - ing heart, the teem - ing brain,
 Still shall those hearts re - spond, with full ac - cord

We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord.
 O Lord of Light, lift all our hearts to - day!
 Till, sent from God, they mount to God a - gain.
 "We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord!" A-MEN.

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: We just sang we lift up our hearts to God from ‘the mire of sin’ and ‘the blight of love’s decay.’ That sounds like a call to confession to me. Please join me in the spirit of confession and prayer as we offer up this responsive confession of falling short of God’s mark for us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Merciful God, You know our courage and strength of character, but You also know that is not the whole story. Like Elijah ran away when his life was in great danger, we too have failed to trust You when things got really hot. We default to trying to handle everything on our own, which can bring us to fear all too quickly, and off we go, away from You. Forgive us, Lord God!

C: On Juneteenth, O God of freedom, we admit we have taken freedoms for granted and assumed that all in our country enjoy them, or can access them, equally. We have also been negligent in taking hold of opportunities to learn the long-lasting impacts of slavery and white privilege in this land. That we’ve only recently paid attention to Juneteenth is evidence of a running away of a different kind. Forgive us, Lord Jesus!

P: To borrow the Biblical phrase, where we have lived in the wake of “the sins of the fathers,” empower us to recognize, name, and be transformed toward You, O Christ, pursuing love, reconciliation, peace and justice for all.

A: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: Of Christ, Colossians says “For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross” (1:19, 20).

God was pleased to reconcile all things, including you and me, to God’s Self, making peace through the blood of Jesus’ cross. In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and a life guided by resurrection and everlasting hope is given to us. Thanks be to God!

C: Amen!

HYMN

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

SSB #32

Refrain

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;

blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our fac - es dis -

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry.

set us free, by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain

Shine on me. shine on me:
Shine on me. shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick
Music: SHINE, JESUS, SHINE, Graham Kendrick

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The congregation may be seated.

CALL TO OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Old Testament

Epistle Lesson

Olivia Altmayer

I Kings 19:1-15

Galatians 3:23-29

MUSICAL MEDITATION “This is My Father’s World”

M. Babcock

Sung by Rich Schneider

Those who are able please stand.

GOSPEL

Luke 8:26-39

RESPONSE

“Alleluia!”

#495

The congregation may be seated.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYERS

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

SERMON

“Fear of the Truth, Freedom and Unity in Christ”

Those who are able please stand.

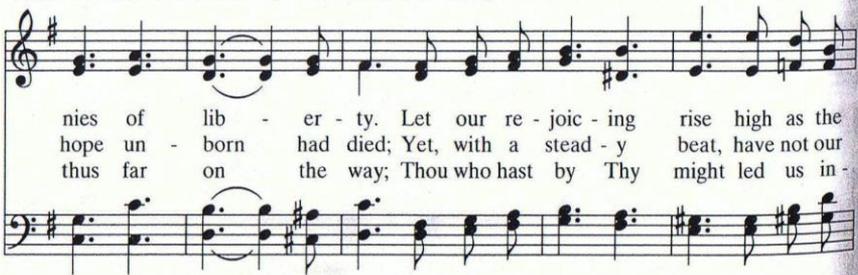
HYMN: "Lift Every Voice and Sing"



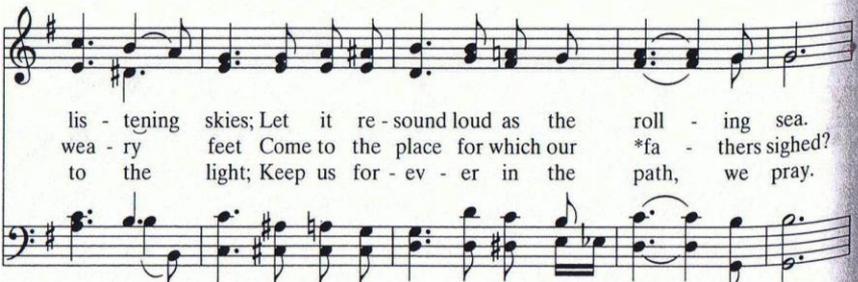
1. Lift ev-ery
2. Ston-y the
3. God of our



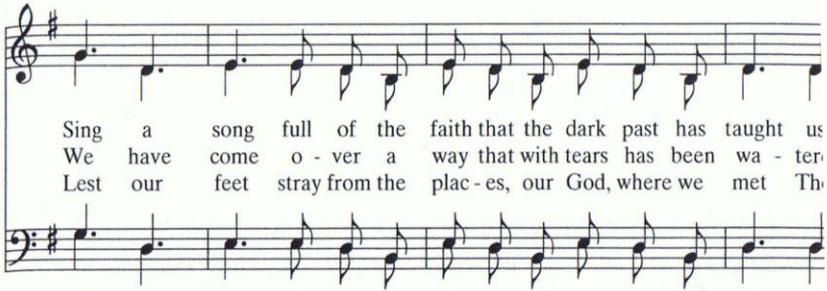
voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring, Ring with the har - mo -
road we trod, bit-ter the chas-tening rod, Felt in the days when
wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, Thou who hast brought us



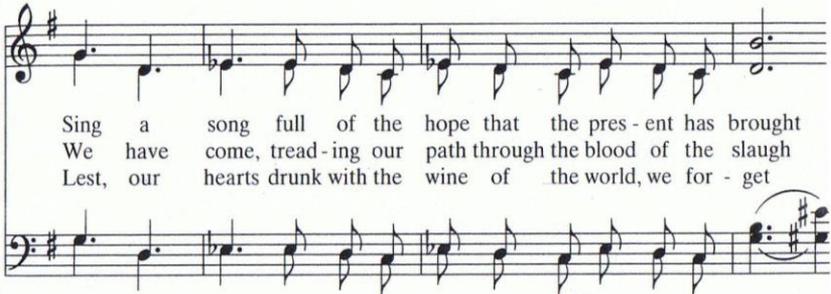
nies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the
hope un - born had died; Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our
thus far on the way; Thou who hast by Thy might led us in -



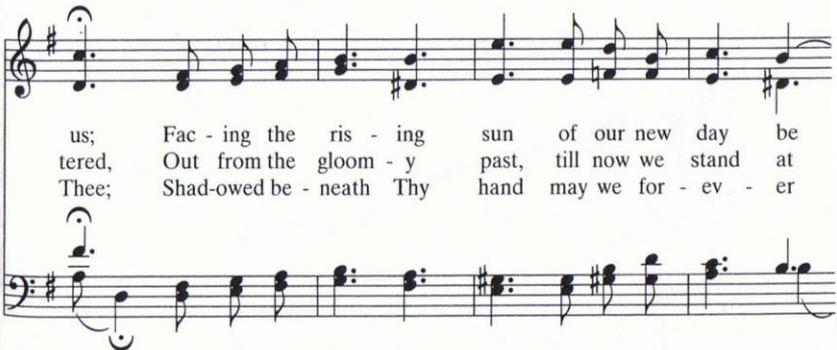
lis - tening skies; Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
wea - ry feet Come to the place for which our *fa - thers sighed?
to the light; Keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - ter
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met Th



Sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 We have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh
 Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get



us; Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be
 tered, Out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 Thee; Shad-owed be - neath Thy hand may we for - ev - er



gun, Let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 last Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *Selected Scriptures*

P: Fathers, Scripture says, “do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart.”

C: Elsewhere we are urged, “see that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,

P: “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

C: “Do not quench the Spirit.”

P: “And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To God be the power forever and ever.”

C: Amen.

POSTLUDE “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

The music after the service is intended as a time of reflection. Pastor will be pleased to greet you at the Sanctuary doors as soon as the postlude has concluded, and our livestream has stopped.

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTER	Rev. Richard Lanford
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Beth Lanford
LIVESTREAM	Peter Svenson
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Laurie Mitchell

News in the Pews

Good Morning! Welcome to worship this second Sunday after Pentecost. And a happy Father's Day to all father-figures!

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 the bulletin's front cover for details on how to donate.

THIS WEEK starting Thursday evening (6:30 – 8:30 PM) and Friday 10 AM to Noon, we are asking for help to begin this summer's rummage placement, sorting and pricing! After this week sorting will also be on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM. Come when you can, leave when you must, all assistance will be needed and appreciated.

The Rummage Committee would like to apologize for the rummage in the lobby. We will work on getting it in the gym soon!

Rescheduled: This Wednesday, June 22nd, our Women's Guild is having its annual picnic at 8825 Mason Avenue, Morton Grove. 11:30 AM!

Skokie is holding is Skokie Pride fest (family friendly) at Oakton Park next week, **Sunday, June 26th from 1 to 4 PM**. Oakton Park is at 4701 Oakton St., Skokie, IL 60076. This is a party in the Park celebrating LGBTQ Pride, with entertainment including games, crafts, food, and fun! Here's the schedule of events: 1:20 p.m. – Welcome and Intro / 1:30 p.m. – Drag Story Hour / 2:30 p.m. – Drag Performances by Cosmo Dragon and Holly Hazmat / 3 p.m. –

Music by The Q's / 3:45 p.m. – Color Fun/Dance Party / After-party at the new Sketchbook Brewing in Skokie from 4-8 p.m.

The Pride flag outside was damaged due to high winds, it will be replaced!

In addition to next Sunday being Pride Sunday, this coming Saturday, June 25th, is the 65th Anniversary of the United Church of Christ's creation at the Convening Synod in Cleveland, 1957!

Today would have been a Council Sunday and those who would have submitted reports have been asked to do so last week. For those who are available, let us convene after worship to make some decisions regarding questions asked us by the Open House Chicago planning committee. Not just one or two people can answer those questions and make those decisions, so will available Council folks please convene in the Memorial Room. Thank you!

Our People

New Members/Seekers class – Classes are beginning soon. Please let Pastor know if you'd like to be included, all are welcome!

Hospitalized: As of this writing, Dorothy Panzke remains at Elevate Care Irving Park for physical therapy: 4340 N Keystone Ave, Chicago, IL 60641, Room 103. This is a room number change! Jenn Schneider's knee surgery went well last Tuesday. She and Wendy (hip surgery) are both recovering at home; keep them in prayers! Ralph Burmeister is in hospice at Celebrate Senior Living, 7000 N. Newark Avenue, Room 432, Niles, IL, 60714.

Happy birthday! Having birthdays this week are former Sunday School student and Youth Fellowship member Clementine (Muhrrer) Hoening and Laurie Mitchell. May God bless them on their days!

According to the schedule, next Sunday's Nursery Attendant will be Beth L.; the Lector will be Peter Svenson.

The Scriptures invoked in the Charge and Benediction are Colossians 3:21; I Thessalonians 5:15-19; and I Peter 5:10, 11.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

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

Regular Reminders!

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 can be found wherever you listen to podcasts - iTunes, Stitcher, Overcast, Spotify, Podcast Addict, Amazon Music and more. Just look up "The Redheaded Preacher" on your podcast catcher or music streaming service then hit subscribe and you'll get the newest editions weekly! You can also get it via the church's webpage link. Give us a 5-star rating and review if you can, it helps us grow so much.



MISSION MOMENTS

June 19, 2022

Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a

In God's Presence

Father's Day

Today's scripture tells the story of Elijah, worn out by political maneuvering, isolated and afraid. At the very end of his rope, Elijah was ready to give up. God did not give up on him, though, and spoke to him, giving him clarity and a renewed sense of purpose. Strengthened, he was able to go back out to follow God's way. How about you? Are you also feeling isolated and weary? If so, take heart. God is near! Listen for God's guidance as you remember that your actions and your voice matter now more than ever.

You need look no further for clarity and purpose than the many Our Faith, Our Vote resources available online from the Justice and Local Church Ministries advocacy office in Washington DC. There, you will find nonpartisan resources that will help you study issues through the lens of your faith and conscience, as well as get information on how church communities may and may not legally be involved in this congressional election year.

Sandy Sorensen, director of the Justice and Local Church Ministry Washington DC office, advises that churches can legally “hold voter registration drives, take action for democracy protections, and generate voter mobilization as we near midterms — including rides to polls, getting folks registered, etc. It will also be critical in these divisive times to establish relationships with state and local elections officials to support fair elections...Urge legislators to pass democracy protections. Engage in media advocacy around voting rights in your community through op-eds, letters to the editor, social media and other outlets. Learn what your state legislature is doing to change election laws in your state.”*

The UCC is a longtime supporter of the Poor People’s Campaign, and its actions to ensure equal access to elections, including marches near the date of Juneteenth, which have taken place both on the ground in local cities and online in the past few years. Find out what the Poor People’s Campaign has planned in your area, if you would like to connect with others interested in these issues.

*Holznagel, Hans. “National Ministries Eager to Work with Local Churches on Full 2022 Agenda.” United Church of Christ accessed 4 Jan. 2022, <https://www.ucc.org/national-ministries-eager-to-work-with-local-churches-on-full-2022-agenda/>.

1 Kings 19:1-15

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not

in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

Galatians 3:23-29

Paul writes, "Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Luke 8:26-39

Then Jesus and the disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but

in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"— for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.