

Welcome

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR

**Sunday,
June 22, 2025
10:00 AM**

**Second Sunday
after Pentecost**

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.





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, June 22, 2025 at 10:00am
Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

Selected

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Reins

You may stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP *inspired by 1 Kings 19: 8-15*

One: When we long for the special effects we think life should offer:

All: it is enough that God comes in a soft, summer shower.

One: When our hearts are cracked by the drought of doubt:

All: it is enough that God opens up the fountains of faith for us.

One: When our senses are deadened by the sales pitches of our culture:

All: it is enough, for us, that God wraps us in the silence of grace.

One: Let us worship God.

HYMN "Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise"

SSB #35

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love,
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

You may be seated

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rich Schneider

Scripture:

I Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a

CALL TO CONFESSION

P: May the One who is greater than the most powerful forces in this world, enable us to be still and know our God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A: God ever-new and ever-old, teach us to listen:

To listen with patience, when we want immediate answers;

To listen with openness to a new word, when we are more comfortable with the old;

To listen with deep respect to the roots of our faith, when we would prefer a new, flashy solution.

Teach us to hear your voice in stillness and silence, when we expect thunder and lightning,

To hear a renewed call to return, even when this means hard, incompatible work.

Teach us to listen, ultimately, with faithfulness, knowing that your voice can come in unexpected places, through unlikely people.

And, listening, give us courage to act.

Amen.

Pause for quiet prayer

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Hear the good news. God is still speaking: not in the earthquake, not in the storms, not in the mighty deeds, but in the silence, in the gentle touch, in the rains of hope
God says, again, "You are my Beloved. I love you."

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

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

All. Thanks be to God! Amen!

You may stand in body or spirit

SUNG RESPONSE "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Sung Response "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah". The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody is written on a five-line staff. The lyrics "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." are written below the staff. Chords are indicated above the staff: A, E, A, D, Bm, E. The second staff also has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody continues on a five-line staff. The lyrics "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu - ja, hal - le - lu - ja." are written below the staff. Chords are indicated above the staff: A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A.

You may be seated

PSALTER:

Psalm 42

GOSPEL LESSON:

Luke 8:26-39

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON

“Beyond the Fear”

SUNG RESPONSE

“Spirit of the Living God”

288

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Spirit of the Living God". It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score is arranged in four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me." for the first three systems, and "Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me." for the fourth system. The number "288" is printed in the top right corner of the first system.

PASTORAL AND 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.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

Chorus only:

A: God of Rainbow, fiery pillar,

leading where the eagles soar:

We your people, yours the journey,

now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A: These gifts show how much we love you, O God.
 Transform them, and us, to bring your ministry of
 justice and peace to all your people. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Live into Hope”

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op - pressed shall be the
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Selected

During the Postlude, we pause to reflect as we prepare to follow God out into the world.

Today's liturgy is adapted from:

*Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies,
<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>.*

Dr. Tom Cheatham, a minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Merryl Blair, Senior Lecturer in Old Testament at Stirling

Theological College, Mulgrave, Australia, from worshipwords.co.uk

FOR WORSHIP TODAY

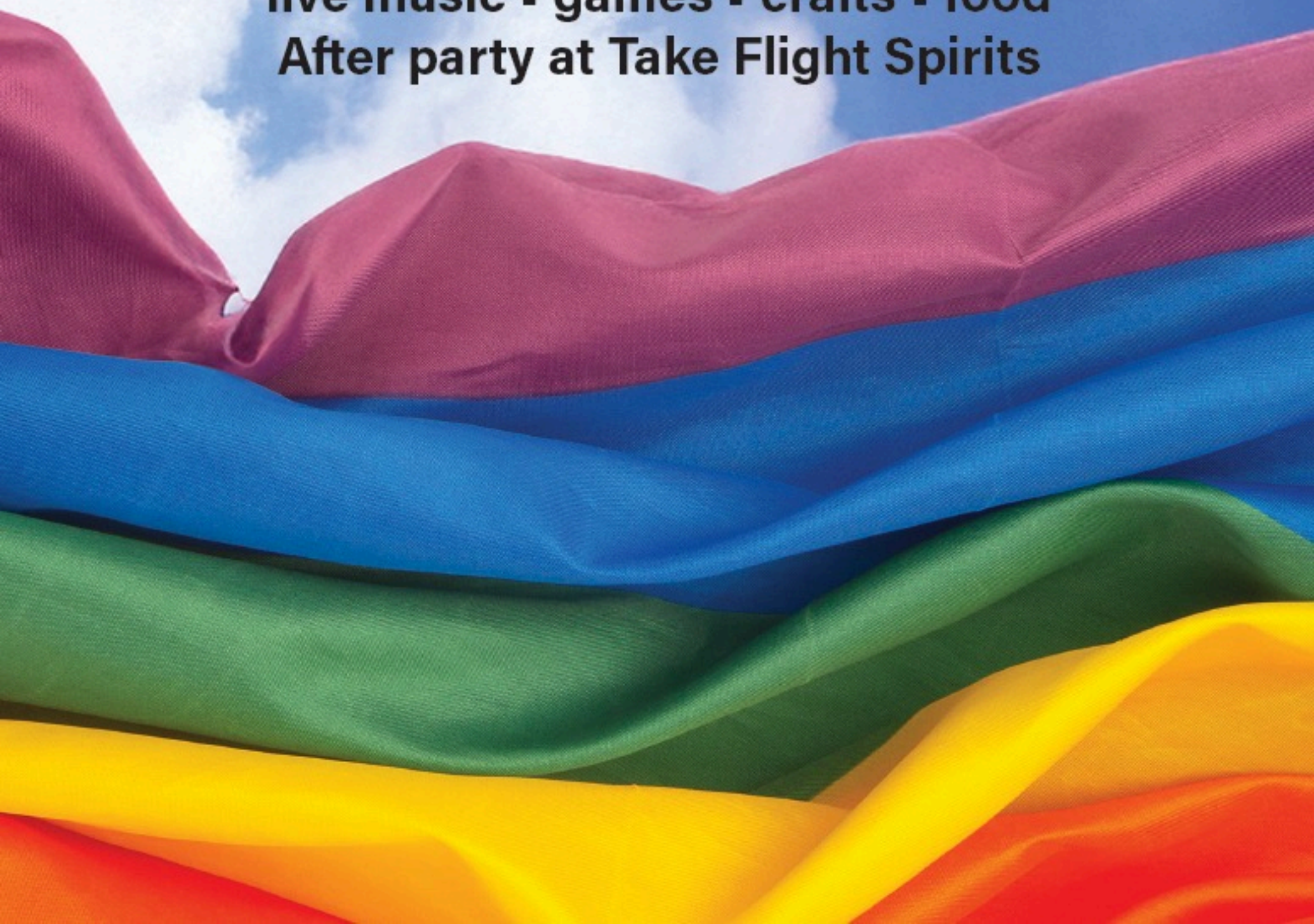
INTERIM MINISTER	Brenda Barnes Jamieson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Ben Westphal
DEACON	Jenn Schneider
LIVESTREAM RECORDING	Annie Noorts
NURSERY ATTENDANT	Denise Hopp



Skokie PRIDE

Sunday, June 22, 1-4 p.m.
Oakton Park


family-friendly ▪ entertainment
live music ▪ games ▪ crafts ▪ food
After party at Take Flight Spirits



News in the Pews

We worship in the same way that we live — in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Welcome, one and all.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to all our volunteers; without their help, this and every service would not be possible.

Celebrate  PRIDE with us! TODAY *from 1-4PM* come to the Skokie PRIDE event at Oakton Park where we'll have a booth. Volunteers for the booth are always welcome and needed, See Jenn after worship.

Saturday Morning Workdays resume! Join our hardworking trustees June 21st and 28th from 9AM-1PM. All skill levels are welcome. Contact Rich at richschneider@comcast.net for more info or just show up for as long as you are able.

Rummage collecting now! Drop off during office hours (please call ahead if you don't have a key), bring on Sundays when you come to worship, or call us to arrange a time that works for you. We'll take most anything but no furniture and old TV's. Questions can be directed to Annie Noorts at: annie.noorts@gmail.com, or call the office.

Rummage sorting – Join us Wednesdays from 6-8PM and Fridays from 10AM to 2PM to sort, no experience necessary! There are jobs for every person, talk to Annie for more information. This sale is our biggest fundraiser of the year

but cannot happen without a tremendous amount of help all summer long. Please come help us!

Mini Pantry supply – thank you so much to everyone who has been donating. It seems to be going faster during the warmer weather. We are trying to keep up, so keep those donations coming.

New pre-worship gathering – You are invited to meet before worship to talk about one of the UCC's daily devotional readings from the past week. ***We gather at 9:15am in Lanford Fellowship Hall*** for a short opening prayer and finish by 9:45am. Sign up for the Daily Devotional here: <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>.

The office will be closed Friday, July 4th 🌞 for Independence Day.

Laura vacation – Laura will be taking July 7th through the 18th off, returning July 21st. Sharon Johnson will be filling in as much as possible during that time, her office days will vary, but hours will be 9AM – 12PM. Please call ahead if you are stopping by but don't have a key.

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.

Next Sunday we celebrate 🏳️🌈 PRIDE in worship. Join us!

Our People

Please keep St. Peter's extended family in your thoughts and prayers. Other folks that need your prayers include:

- Annie's friend Renee is fighting a long term, rare illness. She and her family are fighting to find a remedy that will slow and maybe even reverse the progress of this illness.
- Nicole McGinnis, childhood friend of Laura's who is fighting stage 4 cancer.
- David, uncle of Chad McCoy, as he undergoes 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.
- Prayers for Julius and all immigrants, refugees and displaced people.
- Judy Paige 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 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 Happy Birthday to Alexander Martinek and Gena Zelenka. **Happy Anniversary to** Aaliyah and Eric Svenson, Adrianna and Ken Paige and Jane and Paul Abramchik.

According to the schedule and barring any switches, next Sunday's Lector will be Mark Loach, and our Nursery Attendant will be Kathy Zipperer.

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!

Sign up for Coffee Hour! Regular coffee hours are on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. See our President Peggy if you are interested in signing up.



MISSION MOMENTS

In God's Presence (6/22/2025) Second Sunday after Pentecost GREEN 1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a

I remember one sweltering June day, where the heat was making my Manhattan studio even more stifling, my parents called inviting me to come with them across the river to New Jersey for a hike in the woods. With sweat trickling down my neck, I eagerly accepted.

Their car arrived and I jumped into the backseat enjoying the air conditioning that was blasting. I closed my eyes as tires jostling over potholes gave way to smooth roads and city crescendos turned into country lullabies. We finally arrived at our favorite trail dotted with evergreens and gurgling streams. Into the woods we went, deeper and deeper until we spotted a large rock to rest upon and enjoy a cool drink.

As I sat still, I thought how amazing it was that such a simple gift as a stone seat from God was enough to renew me. I then listened to the silence all around. It was beautiful. There were no irate taxi drivers shouting at jaywalkers. There was no mass of people jostling me about on crowded concrete sidewalks. There were no street vendors filling the air with cries of great deals.

As I listened to the silence, I noticed, too, that my body was relaxing as well. I had never realized till then what the constant assault on my senses was doing to me not just emotionally and spiritually, but also physically.

It was then I recaptured a childhood lesson received in the woods so many years ago: That the God moments are all around, you just need to still your racing mind and slow your busy steps to notice them.

I wonder if Elijah, a prophet on the run and fearing for his life, felt that stress melting away when he sheltered in a cave. He too allowed the external stresses to cloud the internal truth that God's presence was always with him — but not in the ways Elijah expected.

Hungering for that blessed assurance of God with him, Elijah quickly stood on the mountain as told, hoping to experience God. A great wind blew. But no God. Then an earthquake shook all around. No God. Then flames of a fire licked and whipped before him. Again, no God. Finally, sheer silence enveloped Elijah. And in that silence was God.

I sat on the rock knowing that my noisy whirlwind of a life was not feeding my soul. I knew I had to let go of not only the busyness but also of my assumptions and expectations as to who God was and where God was to be found.

What is the rock you sit upon this day? How are you being invited to let go of your God assumptions and expectations and trust the silences in your life? For it is there, God is found.

Ever-present God, help us to sit comfortably in the silences of life for it is there we will finally hear your beautiful whispers of life spoken to us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)
