

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ORDER OF WORSHIP - May 23rd, 2021



Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

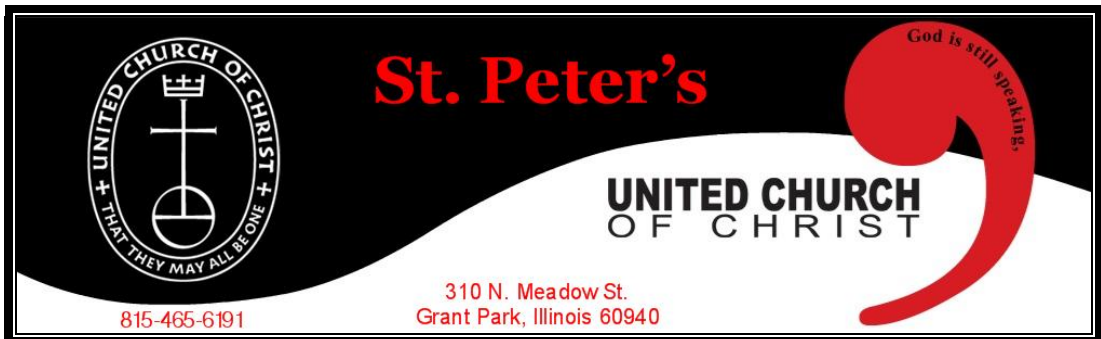
Sunday Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Church Office – (815) 465-6191

Website: www.stpetersgp.org

Email: stpetersgp@sbcglobal.net

Facebook: St. Peters UCC Grant Park



* - In the way you are able, whether in body or in spirit, please rise.

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” (*Akers*) Judy Schneider

Welcome & Announcements Owen Reynolds

*Call to Worship Owen Reynolds

Leader: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth,
darkness was over the deep, and the Spirit of God hovered over
the waters.

People: **Centuries before Christ walked among His people, the
Spirit of God was promised, that He would bring justice to
the nations.**

Leader: Jesus sent the Spirit of truth to teach us and give us peace.

People: **At Pentecost the Spirit came as a rush of violent wind and
tongues of fire.**

All: **That same Spirit is among us now. Let us worship Him
in Truth.**

*Prayer of Invocation (*adapted from the words of Devon Spier*)

**(Pray silently) – Before You gave the Law, O God, there was
thunder and lightning. There was the sound of a horn beating, a
mountain and smoke billowing, the people were trembling. Your Word
came forth from sight and sound, and the senses and feelings of Your
people called out to You above. They wanted to stay at a distance and
remain firmly in place, as if to say, “We are scared, but we are ready.”
They were eager to receive the Torah, Your Word, and they were ready
to receive Your blessing. (Pastor will continue in prayer)**

*Opening Hymn “Loving Spirit” #135

Time with Children

Recognition of Graduates

Scripture Reading Exodus 19:1, 3-10a, 16-22 Owen Reynolds

Hymn of Praise “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” (sing twice) #134

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

*Responsive Song “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” #489

Scripture Reading Ruth 1:1-19

Sermon Shavuot: A Different Kind of Pentecost Pastor Kyle

Observance of the Lord’s Supper

*Closing Hymn “Worthy of Worship” #137

*Spoken Benediction

*Postlude “Be Exalted, O God” (*Chambers*) Judy Schneider

We at St. Peter’s are praying for:

Gary Ekhoﬀ

Gene Sievers

Carter Fortin

Louise Sievers

Nancy Lewke

Linda Havelly

Austin Delaney

Mason Beseke

Rev. Frank Hoss

Ken Erickson

Mildred Katz

Pauline Mitchell

Minnie Pﬂingsten

Melissa Mort

Taylor Cleary

Joy Currier

Paul Loverin

Dennis Balgemann

Exodus 19:1, 3-10a, 16-22

1 On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai.

3 Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: **4** ‘You, yourselves, have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. **5** Now, if you obey Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is Mine, **6** you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

7 So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. **8** The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.” So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD.

9 The LORD said to Moses, “I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, so that the people will hear me speaking with you and will always put their trust in you.” Then Moses told the LORD what the people had said.

10 And the LORD said to Moses, “Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow.

16 On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. **17** Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. **18** Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain trembled violently. **19** As the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him. (cont...)

(Continued...)

²⁰ The LORD descended to the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses went up ²¹ and the LORD said to him, “Go down and warn the people so they do not force their way through to see the LORD and many of them perish. ²² Even the priests, who approach the LORD, must consecrate themselves, or the LORD will break out against them.”

Ruth 1:1-19

1 In the days when the judges ruled,[a] there was a famine in the land. So, a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. 2 The man’s name was Elimelek, his wife’s name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

3 Now Elimelek, Naomi’s husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4 They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, 5 both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

6 When Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of His people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. 7 With her two daughters-in-law, she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah.

8 Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back, each of you, to your mother’s home. May the Lord show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. 9 May the Lord grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband.”

Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud 10 and said to her, “We will go back with you to your people.”

11 But Naomi said, “Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? 12 Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— 13 would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord’s hand has turned against me!”

14 At this, they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

15 “Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.”

16 But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. 17 Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” 18 When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

19 So, the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women exclaimed, “Can this be Naomi?”



YOU earned it! All of YOU!

In celebration of St. Peter's UCC & Zion Lutheran raising over \$10,000 in support of the Fortitude Homeless Shelter, we are offering FREE Ice Cream.

Location: Grant Park Community Center

When: Wednesday, June 23rd

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Dawn Broers, founder and executive director of Fortitude, will be present to answer any questions about the Homeless Center and to provide more information.

Donations towards the Homeless Shelter will be accepted during that evening.

Congratulations to our Graduates

8th Grade: Caiden Benson Ryder Greenholt Kennedy Marcotte

12th Grade: Micaelyn Benson Ryan Dulin Jaden Ewoldt
 Clayton McKinstry Troy Reynolds Paige Sherwood
 Nicholas Timmons

College: Joshua Schroeder

Coming this Summer:

Vacation Bible School (July 16-17) – More information will be available beginning next week. Save the dates!

Fusion – Youth (entering 6th grade – 12th grade) – June 12th (5 pm) – surprise event. Also, a few other summer events are being scheduled. Come June 12th to find out what they are!



NOTES: Please remember that beginning next Sunday, May 30th, our summer worship schedule begins with worship service at 9 am.

Council meets this Tuesday at 7:00 PM

Honoring Our 2021 Graduates



High School

Micaelyn Benson- Micaelyn is undecided on a college, but will be studying either Nursing or Veterinary Science. Micaelyn played Softball, Volleyball, and Basketball in high school. She was named All-Area and Offensive Player of the Year her Sophomore year for Basketball. She was also on the Honor Roll.

Ryan Blane Dulin- Ryan will be attending Illinois Valley Community College in Oglesby, IL. He will continue to play golf on a scholarship there. Ryan is undecided and will be taking general studies.

Jaden Ewoldt- Jaden will be attending Illinois State University to study Elementary Education to become a teacher. Throughout high school she participated in Student Council, NHS, volunteered, and was Vice President of the class of 2021.

Clayton McKinstry- Clayton will be attending Spoon River College. He received an academic scholarship and has signed to play baseball there. He will be studying Agricultural Business. Clayton is the salutatorian of his class and has received the John Locke Memorial Scholarship, 4-H Scholarship, and the Ethan Allen and Caroline H. Johnson Scholarship Trust. He also achieved All-Conference and All-Area in Basketball and Soccer, along with being the River Valley Conference Scholar Athlete of the year winner.

Troy Reynolds- Troy will be attending Southern Illinois University where he will be studying Aviation and Management. He received the Academic of Excellence Scholarship from SIU and the Illinois Principal Award. Troy played Baseball for two years, did Bass Fishing for three years, and played Soccer and Basketball for four years. He also received his private pilot license in February 2021.

Paige Sherwood- Paige will be attending Bradley University's School of Nursing in Peoria, IL. She hopes to be a pediatric nurse. Paige is the Valedictorian of her class and has received Bradley University's Presidential Excellence Scholarship for four years and the James R. Hollander Memorial Scholarship. Paige is an Illinois State Scholar and has four year perfect attendance.

Nicholas Timmons- Nick will be attending Berea College in Berea, KY. He has signed on to play baseball there. Nick will be studying sports management and is undecided on his second degree. In 2019, Nick graduated from Terra State Community College with his Associate's in History. He was on Dean's List there and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. During Nick's four years of high school, he was a member of NHS, ran Cross Country for two years, played Basketball for three years, and played Baseball for four years.

College

Joshua Schroeder- Josh graduated from the University of Illinois in Chicago with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He graduated with Honors. He will be continuing his career at VanDrunen FutureCeuticles, Inc. as an Associate Analytical Chemist.



Congratulations!

LITTLE BLESSINGS

We are pleased to announce the arrival of Luke Robert O’Nions. He was born on May 4, 2021, at St. Mary’s Hospital. He weighed 7 lbs 4 oz, and was 21.25 inches long. The proud parents are Nick and Hollie O’Nions. The grandparents are Richard and Patty Dulin, the late Robert O’Nions, and great-grandmother Judy Schneider. The rose on the altar is in honor of Luke.

Outside Garage Sale

Want another opportunity to purge? Well, here's your chance! On June 10th, 11th, and 12th, the church will be selling places in the church yard for \$10 each person. You can come, set up your stuff, and sell from 9am to 5pm those days. You keep your profit and bring your own tables. The \$10 donations will go to the rummage sale profit to be spent at a later date. All payments must be made in the form of a check made out to St. Peter's UCC. If you have any questions and/or are interested in participating, please contact Jackie at 815-466-4048.

Contact Information Update

If you have not contacted the church office to update your contact information, please do so. We would like to have as up-to-date information as possible for church newsletters and special letters sent out to the congregation throughout the year. We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to hearing from you soon.