



February 14, 2021

No matter who you are,
No matter where you are
On life's journey,
You are welcome here.

PRELUDE

The Lord Is My Shepherd

Melody "Brother James Air" by James Leith Macbeth Bain
Thomas Clancy, French Horn, with daughter Willow

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ethan and Matt Fitzgerald

One: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;
let us shout to the Rock of our salvation.

**All: Let us come before God with thanksgiving—
with music and song!**

One: It is good to praise God;
to proclaim God's love in the morning
and God's faithfulness at night.

**All: For God takes away our garments of sadness,
and clothes us with joy,
that we might sing praise, and not be silent!**

One: We will sing of God's love forever!

**All: Young and old will hear, and rejoice.
Sing new songs to God! Praise God's name!**

HYMN

Sanctuary

Cecilia Chamberlain, Leo Flores, Claire Gallemore, Jennie and Everett Hamm,
Eleanore and Brooke McGuire, Sylvia Pine, John Reed, Lee Waldschmidt
Max Waldschmidt, trumpet

Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With Thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you.

MAKING JOYFUL PSALMS IN THE CITY

Sarah Garcia

INTRODUCTORY SONG

Memories

Soloist: Miles Davidson

Chorus: Amy Beck, Breanna Coe, Lorne Frank, Jen Kew,
Joe JaQuay, Lee Lichamer, Jana O'Brien, Kecia Waldschmidt

Accompanists: Matt Plaskota and Alex Austin

Special lyrics by Jana O'Brien

Original song by Maroon 5; Composers: Levin, S. Johnson, J. Johnson, Pollack, Hindlin, Bellion, and Ford

Here's to the psalms that we love
Poems of praise to our God up above
'Cause the psalms bring back all the
memories
Of everything we've been through.
Hope for the trials of today
Ease of the pain we'll endure on life's
way
'Cause the psalms bring back all the
memories
Of how God has led us through.

There's a book in the Old Testament
Full of poems of pain and praise
That provide us joy and comfort
For our good and not good days
In the Book of Psalms, we learn that
God is with us in all ways
And whatever trials and troubles
We are always in God's gaze, yeah.

All the prophets hurt sometimes
All the faithful, too – hey hey hey hey
But everything turned out all right
Faith in God helped them get through.

Here's to the psalms that we love
Poems of praise to our God up above
'Cause the psalms bring back all the
memories
Of everything we've been through.
Hope for the trials of today
Ease of the pain we'll endure on life's way
'Cause the psalms bring back all the
memories
Of how God has led us through.

Doo doo, doo doooo doo
See how the psalms get us through
Doo doo, doo doooo
Hearing the psalms bring memories to
get us through

PSALM 6

A Sound of Lament

Margot Frank

Pity me, O Lord, for I am weak.
My mind is filled with apprehension and gloom.
Oh, restore me soon.
Come, O Lord, and make me well.
In your kindness save me.
For if I die, I cannot give you glory by praising you before my friends.
I am worn out; every night my pillow is wet with tears.
My eyes are growing old and dim with grief because of all my enemies.
The Lord has heard my weeping and my pleading.
God has answered all my prayers.

SONG

Back to Normal Life

Soloist: Meg Tazelaar

Accompaniment by Kecia Waldschmidt

Special lyrics by Breanna Coe

Based on *Into the Unknown* from "Frozen"; Composers: Anderson-Lopez and Lopez

I can hear you...but I won't.
Some folks are quarantined, while others don't.
There's a thousand reasons we should all stay safe at home
But I'm getting antsy, and I really want to roam, oh...
Stuck in the house while Covid-19 runs amuck
And if I get sick (which I'm not) it would be real bad luck.
Everyone I've ever loved is living now on Zoom.
I'm starting to go crazy being stuck inside this room.
I'm sick of social distancing!
I want this to be through!
I am wishing I could just return to the life I knew...

Back to normal life,
Back to normal life,
Back to normal life...
When will it end?

Cause it's been keeping me awake
I am tired and I'm anxious, and I'm needing a mask break...
Is there someone out there who's a little bit like me?
Who knows deep down this isn't what life's meant to be?
Every day's a little harder as I feel my panic grow
Don't you know that all of me just longs to go...Back to normal life,
Back to normal life, back to normal life...oh oh oh
This new virus we can outwit!
There's a vaccine! Can I get it?
Oh oh oh oh
Oh oh oh oh...
When will this end? Please,
don't make it go on!
How do I get back to
Back to normal life?
Ah ah ah!

PSALM 46

A Sound of Hope

Diane Biegert

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.
There is a river whose streams make God's people glad.
The holy place where the Most High dwells;
God is with her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
Come and see what the Lord hath done
He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted in the earth."
The Lord Almighty is with us;
God is our fortress.

SONG

Rise

Ensemble: Chloe and Ivy Combs; Maria, Greta and Rosa Schmahl

Accompaniment by Kecia Waldschmidt

Illustration by Lee Waldschmidt

Special lyrics by Kecia Waldschmidt

Original song by Katy Perry; Composers: Perry, Kotecha, Martin and Payami

We won't just survive
With God's help, we will thrive
God's ever-present,
Our refuge and our strength
We won't need to fear
No matter how the waters roar
Or the mountains tremble, oh
And so we give you our faith!
Don't doubt it, don't doubt it
God will keep us from pain
We know it, we know it
We will not negotiate

We'll fight it, we'll fight it
Through this dark storm!
When, when the fire's at our feet again,
And the vultures all start circling,
God's whispering, "I'll be your
strength,
Be still, and rise!"
This is all our faith, exalted
When our doubts are tryin' to creep in,
believe again
God speaks to us, "Be still, and rise!"

PSALM 62

A Sound of Power

Colin Murray

Truly my soul finds rest in God;
my salvation comes from him.
Truly God is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.
How long will you assault me?
You who take delight in lies.
There is nothing to you, any of you.
You are but ants plotting to bring down mountains.
With your mouths you bless,
but in your hearts you curse,
Oh God, my soul, finds rest in you;
my hope comes from the Lord.
Truly God is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will not be shaken
Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts,
Power belongs to you, God,
and with you, Lord, is unfailing love
God you are my mighty rock.

SONG

God Will Rock You

Soloists: Zack, Lydia, and Tom Murray

Chorus: Chris and Warren Bettler, Breanna and Charlie Coe,
Claire and Corrie Gallemore, Amalee and Serena Garcia, Everett and Jennie Hamm,
Thomas and James Mix, Wayne Parman, Jareth and Gail Renfrow,
Pat Ruch, Rosa and Kimberlee Schmahl, Maira Simonton, Lee Waldschmidt;
Laura, Maurice, Matthew and Joshua Wallace, Charles Wilk

Special lyrics by Breanna Coe

Based on *We Will Rock You*, by Queen; Composer Brian May

Buddy, you assault me, throw me
Down against the wall, surely you intend to topple me,
But my God will embrace, and fill me with grace
Truly my soul has found a resting place, singin'

God will, God will rock you!
God will, God will rock you!

Buddy, you deceive me, grieve me,
Shouting out your lies, gonna catch up with you someday
But my God will embrace, and fill me with grace
Truly my soul has found a resting place

God will, God will rock you!
God will, God will rock you!

Buddy, you're an old man, poor man
Do not trust in goods, they will not bring you peace someday
But our God will embrace, and fill us with grace
Truly our souls have found a resting place

God will, God will rock you!
God will, God will rock you!

PSALM 1

A Sound of Repentance

Valerie Schimp

You are blessed when
you do not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that the sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
Instead you thrill to God's Word,
you ruminate on Scriptures day and night.
You're a tree planted in Eden,
bearing fresh fruit every month,
Never dropping a leaf,
always in blossom.
Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.
Therefore sinners will not stand
in the assembly of the righteous.
For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

SONG

W-I-C-K-E-D

Trio: Lucy Godinez (soloist), Gabby Godinez, Nancy Voigts Godinez

Featured back-up: Ellie Gillmore, Grace Gillmore, Jennie Hamm,

Eleanore McGuire, Elise Prangle, Colette Schimp

Special lyrics by Jana O'Brien

Based on *R-E-S-P-E-C-T*, by Aretha Franklin; Composer: Otis Redding

What God wants
Faithful, you got
What God needs
Don'tcha know you got it
All God's askin'
Is for a little respect
(Just a little bit)
Hey, faithful
Faithful, come on
(Just a little bit)
Yeah, faithful
(Just a little bit)

W - I - C - K - E - D
Not what God wants you to be!
W - I - C - K - E - D
Don't be B-A-D!
Real Real Real Real (Yeah, faithful)
Real Real Real Real (Faithful, come on!)

Be the tree
Whose fruit is tasted
Not the chaff
Whose grain is wasted
All God's askin'
Is for a little respect
(Just a little bit)
Hey, faithful
Faithful, come on
(Just a little bit)
Yeah, faithful
(Just a little bit)

W - I - C - K - E - D
Not what God wants you to be!
W - I - C - K - E - D
Don't be B-A-D!
Real real real real
Real real real real -- yeah!

POEMS INSPIRED BY PSALM 23

POEM Written by Chloe Combs, Read by Isabel Neal

POEM Written and read by Claire Nietzsche

PSALM 23 *A Sound of Comfort* Annika and Kirsten Hull

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside still waters,
 he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
 for his name's sake.

Even though I walk
 through the darkest valley,

I will fear no evil,
 for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
 they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
 in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
 my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me
 all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
 forever.

OFFERING

Benny VanDerburgh

SONG

Shadow

Duet by Breanna and Todd Coe

Accompaniment: Kecia and Jim Waldschmidt

Special lyrics by Jana O'Brien and Pastor Sarah Garcia

Based on *Shallow* by Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper

Tell me somethin', Lord –
Are you our shepherd in this
modern world?
Because the world needs more...
There's so much that we are
searchin' for.

We're calling
Because in these times,
we find ourselves
Longin' for change
And you restore us and
soothe our pain...

Tell me something, Lord
Where's my green pasture
in this modern world?
You restore my soul
Beside still waters you can
make me whole.

Lead me on
Down righteous paths traveled
without fear,
You're close by
Your rod and staff are forever near.

Goodness and mercy follow me
always,
I'm standing on hallowed ground.
Walking beside thee, evil can't
hurt me,
I'm far from the shadow now...

In the shadow, the shadow
I fear no evil in the shadow.
In the shadow, the shadow
I'm far from the shadow now
...ahhhh...

Goodness and mercy follow me
always,
I'm standing on hallowed ground.
Walking beside thee, evil can't
hurt me,
I'm far from the shadow now...

From the shadow, the shadow
From the darkness of the shadow
From the shadow, the shadow
We're far from the shadow now.

PSALM 84

A Sound of Gratitude

Samantha Fayhe

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord Almighty!
My soul yearns, even faints,
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and flesh cry out
for the living God.
Blessed are those who dwell in your place;
they are always singing your praises.
Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
whose hearts are set on you.
They move from strength to strength,
till each appears before God.
Hear my prayer, Lord God Almighty;
listen to me,
Better is one day in your dwelling place
than a thousand elsewhere.

SONG

Isn't It Lovely?

Christina Cedeño, Philip Smedley, Catalina Smedley,
Josiah Smedley, and Toby Smedley
Accompaniment by Kecia Waldschmidt
Special lyrics by Breanna Coe
Based on *Isn't She Lovely?* by Stevie Wonder

Isn't it lovely?
Isn't it wonderful?
My soul is yearning,
To be where the streets are gold
Even the birds up in the dome,
Near your altar have found a home
But isn't it lovely, the house of God?

Isn't it pretty?
Listening to angels' songs
Boy, I'm so happy
I wish to join the throng
Better is one day in your home
Than a thousand where I must roam
But isn't it lovely, the house of God?

PSALM 121

An Uplifting Sound

Sandi and Kate Weiskirch

I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
from where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;
The Lord watches over you—
the Lord is your shade;
the sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from harm—
he will watch over your life;
the Lord will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

SONG

Watch Over

Soloist: Emma Braband

Dancing Chorus: Charlie Coe, Holland and Myers Emmrich,
Aniston and Grady Hartanov, Serena Garcia Knotts, Micah McMEnamin,
Maira and Abby Simonton, Joshua and Matthew Wallace, Lee Waldschmidt

Accompaniment by Kecia Waldschmidt

Special lyrics by Jana O'Brien

Based on *Dance Monkey* by Tones and I; Composer: Toni Watson

You know, I lift my eyes up high, what do I see?
My Lord in heaven lookin' down to protect me.
God watches over every living thing daily,
And never takes a break or ever goes to sleep.

Ooh, I see God see God see God every day
When I fall to my knees and fold my hands and pray.
God, you make me, make me, make me want to say
That I will praise your name and worship in all ways.

Watch over, watch over, watch me forevermore.
I've never seen anybody do the things God does before.
Your power moves me, moves me, moves me to the core.
And I can't wait to see the things you have in store.

You know, the mountains, moon, and sun up in the sky
Are all controlled by you, oh, God, the one most high
And when I'm fearful, I know you will hear my cry,
And, even in my darkest hours, you will be nigh.

Watch over, watch over, watch me forevermore.
I've never seen anybody do the things God does before.
Your power moves me, moves me, moves me to the core.
And I can't wait to see the things you have in store...have in store.

PSALM 133

A Joyful Sound

Clark and Nolan Tavas

How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!
How wonderful, how beautiful,
when brothers and sisters get along!
It's like costly anointing oil
flowing down Aaron's head and beard,
flowing down the collar of his priestly robes.
It's like the dew on Mount Hermon
flowing down the slopes of Zion.
Yes, that's where God bestows the blessing
of eternal life.

SONG

We Are Family

Soloist: Kecia Waldschmidt

Guitar: Jim Waldschmidt

Chorus: Grace Ashley-McGraw, Ethan Ashley-Ferguson,

Jessica, Petrine and Gary Ashley;

Sally Fletcher and Peg Wander; Alayna, Eva, Thea and Kristin Mack;
Lee, Max, Owen, Kecia and Jim Waldschmidt; Gerald and Charles Wilk

Special lyrics by Jana O'Brien

Original song by Sister Sledge; Composers: Edwards, Rodgers

We are family
I got oil running down me.
We are family --
God's anointed in unity.

Everyone can see we're together
Praising God on high
And we fly just like birds of a
feather
I won't tell no lie
All of the people around us they say
"Can they be that close?"
Just let me state for the record
We're bound in faith in a massive
dose!

We are family
I got oil running down me.
We are family --
God's anointed in unity.

Livin' life is fun, and we've just begun
To get our share of this world's
delights
High hopes God has for our future
Of eternal life
No, we don't get depressed
'Cause we all live by our God's
Golden Rule
We're like the dew of Mount Hebron
Glistening bright like a precious jewel!

We are family
I got oil running down me.
We are family --
God's anointed in unity.

PSALM 100

A Sound of Faith

Karen Johnson

Make a joyful sound to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is she that made us, and we are hers;
we are her people, and the sheep of her pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good;
her steadfast love endures forever,
and her faithfulness to all generations.

FINALE SONG

God Will Be Found

Soloists: Margot Frank, Eleanore McGuire, Miles Davidson, Charles Wilk

Chorus: Bible Off Broadway Ensemble Performers

Instrumentalists: Kecia Waldschmidt, Owen Waldschmidt, and Nick Swinehart

Special lyrics by Kecia Waldschmidt

Based on *You Will Be Found* from "Dear Evan Hansen"; Composers: Benj Pasek and Justin Paul

Have you ever felt like nobody was there?
Have you ever felt forgotten in the middle of nowhere?
Have you ever felt like you could disappear?
Like you could fall, and no one would hear?
Well, let that lonely feeling wash away
Faith gives us a reason to believe we'll be okay
'Cause when we don't feel strong enough to stand
We can reach, reach out our hands
And oh, our God will reach back
And we know, God holds us close

Even when the dark comes crashing through
When you need someone to carry you
And when you're broken on the ground
God will be found
So let the sun come streaming in
'Cause you'll reach up and you'll rise again
Lift your voice in joyful sound
God will be found

Out of the shadows
The morning is breaking
And all is new, all is new
It's filling up the empty
And suddenly we see that
All is new, all is new
We are not alone
We are not,
We are not alone

Even when the dark comes crashin' through
When you need someone to carry you
When you're broken on the ground
God will be found!
So let the sun come streaming in
'Cause you'll reach up and you'll rise again
Lift your voice in joyful sound
God will be found!
God will be found.

BENEDICTION

Sarah Garcia

POSTLUDE

Joyful Sounds of the Saint Pauls Congregation

BIBLE OFF BROADWAY CAST AND CREDITS

BIBLE OFF BROADWAY 2021 ARTISTIC & PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	<i>Pastor Sarah Garcia</i>
Assistant Directors	<i>Breanna Coe, Jana O'Brien, Kecia Waldschmidt</i>
Video Production	<i>Big Thinking by the Hour – Lead B.O.B. Producers Breanna Coe – Lead Music Producer Chuck Kent Matt Plaskota</i>
Finale Sound Production	<i>Kevin Dzierzawski</i>
“Joyful Psalms in the City” Logo	<i>David Hewlett</i>
Artwork Submissions	<i>Marci Gulbrandsen Lee Waldschmidt</i>
Psalms and Poetry Workshop	<i>Isabel Neal</i>
Costuming Consultant	<i>Sue Finkle</i>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There was a time when the idea of a virtual Bible Off Broadway seemed far from possible. Then, thanks to the talent, creativity, skill, and commitment of the Bible Off Broadway team, the impossible became possible. Deep gratitude to Breanna Coe, Jana O'Brien and Kecia Waldschmidt for their incredible artistry and brilliant ideas and working with Pastor Sarah to create *Joyful Psalms in the City*. We are so grateful to all the church members who used new technology, rehearsed on Zoom, sang, danced, created poetry, and shared their love in this endeavor. This is not an easy time to put in the extra energy for another project, but you did and it made all the difference. Thank you to all the parents who helped to get their kids to practice and record videos at home – especially when the kids spend so much time in front of a screen already this year. Thank you to Marybeth and Jim from Big Thinking By the

Hour for their expertise and phenomenal production skills that made virtual Bible Off Broadway a reality. You pulled it all together and added wonderful elements that gave the show impact, polish and power. We appreciate the support of the whole St. Pauls staff in this project. Thank you to Claire for her patience and technical support. Last, but not least, our hearts will always be filled with gratitude to Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry and Sharon Phillips who began the tradition of bringing theater arts into the church 43 years ago. You continue to be our inspiration.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE FROM SARAH GARCIA

All of us would agree that the past year has been rough -- sometimes full out miserable -- but occasionally simple joy has emerged in the midst of the challenges. Worship doesn't quite feel like a full-on church experience when we can't be together. It is amazing to see what Chuck Kent and Big Thinking have done to make virtual worship beautiful and meaningful, but still we long for "real church." Knowing that longing, I was worried about trying to do Bible Off Broadway virtually. Could we do it? I had my doubts. I am so glad that my doubts were proven wrong. Virtual Bible Off Broadway is just as wonderful as our in-person production, and it is especially meaningful to experience the joy of this creativity during these hard times.

I contemplated what scripture passages would best connect with and speak to the experience we are living through and I was drawn to the *Psalms*. They are full of lament, praise and gratitude. Many of the psalms were written by people who were in exile. Our lockdown situation often feels like we are in exile from one another and from our church. A number of psalms capture the sadness, disappointment and despair of facing life's difficulties and challenges. They also embrace the hope and faith of God's people. The psalms are full of song and poetry, and those creative outlets helped our Jewish and Christian ancestors to not just survive, but thrive in the light of God's love. Today we celebrate the psalms of our Jewish and Christian tradition, and we sing new songs to share our joy, our sadness, our gratitude, and our faith.

Sincerely,
Pastor Sarah

Coffee Hour is on Zoom!

*Using a computer or smartphone app, use Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Pswd: **Coffee**
By phone, dial **(312) 626-6799**, Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Password: **530750**.*

To help contain the spread of COVID-19, worship at Saint Pauls will be streamed online until further notice. Worship services are streamed on Sundays at 10 a.m. Central, and re-streamed every day at 10 a.m., 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Central, on Saint Pauls website, spucc.org/streaming.

*You can also call in to listen to our services at **(312) 626-6799** at 10 a.m. Central on Sundays and use Meeting ID: **816 5093 8507**, Password: **459359***

If you would like someone to pray with you this week, Clergy and Stephen Ministers are available for phone calls.

VIRTUAL WORSHIP PRODUCTION TEAM

Chuck Kent

Mary Beth Hughes, Big Thinking By The Hour

Jim Courtright, Big Thinking By The Hour

VIRTUAL MUSIC PRODUCTION TEAM

Kevin Dzierzawski

Breanna Coe

Kristofer Hansen

BORN THIS WEEK IN FEBRUARY

We celebrate and give thanks for your life at St. Pauls.

A perfect way to celebrate is by giving one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund, which supports A Just Harvest.

Feb 14 Harrison Rodriguez, Natalie Cramb

Feb 15 Michelle Drew

Feb 16 Brian Hafner

Feb 17 Amalee Garcia Knotts, Dan Berghoff, Pam Vanderlinde

Feb 18 Wayne Parman

Feb 20 Sami Due, Sonya Brizzolara, Sophia Riportella

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY ON FEBRUARY 17

See the calendar for more information on Ash Pickup, in-person sin-burning, and our Ash Wednesday Zoom Service.

SING THE PSALMS WITH JESUS

Our theme this Lent is "Sing the Psalms with Jesus." Each Sunday, we'll explore a psalm that Jesus quotes. They were his songbook. The better we know the songs that Jesus memorized, the better we know God.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)

Do you miss serving CEP meals? Team up with fellow St. Pauls members to provide a lasagna or salad as *part* of a meal for 35 shelter guests at the LPCS 1521 N. Sedgwick location on Sunday Feb 28, March 14 or March 28. If you are interested in participating, or are looking for other ways to help our neighbors experiencing homelessness, please contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com.

2021 PLEDGE & GIVING INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone who has filled out a pledge card for 2021! Your pledges help us plan and budget for the upcoming year, and your generous support of Saint Pauls is greatly needed and much appreciated. If you have yet to pledge your time, talents or treasures for 2021, you can fill out a pledge card at pledge.spucc.org.

- Please note that a pledge card is for you to state your intention to give, and does not set up a donation. To make donations towards your pledge, see our giving page for more information on all the ways to give to Saint Pauls. spucc.org/about-us/giving-to-st-pauls
- If you were using our previous giving portal to send Saint Pauls a recurring donation towards your pledge, you will need to cancel it and set up a new recurring donation in Church Center before the end of March, at spucc.churchcenter.com. Email bookkeeper@spucc.org for help.
- If your pledge has changed from last year and you would like to evenly distribute your donations throughout the year, you will need to adjust your donation amount accordingly for any method of giving you use. The easiest way to do this is through our new Give portal. You can set up recurring donations or make one-time gifts. Click your profile icon to view "My Giving" – see 2021 giving history (including Zelle, cash, and check), track pledge progress, and download future statements. Email bookkeeper@spucc.org with questions or for help.

NEW DATES: VOLUNTEER TO READ SCRIPTURE

Sundays through August are now available to volunteer to read scripture. While we worship virtually, volunteers are needed to send in a recording of the scripture reading each week. The week before the service you've volunteered for, the pastor who is preaching that Sunday will send you the scripture passage and recording/uploading instructions.

Sign up here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988.

SPUCC CHURCH CENTER

Thank you to everyone who has logged in and connected with our new portal for the Saint Pauls community! If you haven't yet, get started on a computer or smart device at spucc.churchcenter.com, or by downloading the "Church Center App" and using "60614" in the manual search during app setup. You'll see our Saint Pauls logo in the top results.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS YOUR HELP!

This St. Pauls founded organization provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for volunteers to provide meals during this time. Open dates are: **March 10, 17 and 24**. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 35 lunches, including 3 vegetarian, at the 600 W. Fullerton location on each of these days. For other LPCS volunteer opportunities, visit their website at lpcschicago.org to get involved, or contact volunteer coordinator Jameela Chaudhry at volunteer@lpcschicago.org.

PASTORS' VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Want to talk? We are here for you! You can always reach out to one of our pastors, but we are also offering regularly scheduled virtual office hours. To “drop in” during virtual office hours, contact a pastor to make an appointment.

Benny, Pastoral Intern: Mondays, 3-5 p.m.

Pastor Matt: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Pastor Jeff: Fridays, 3-5 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEB 15 - ASH PICKUP - 5-7 p.m., Church Courtyard

Come pick up ashes for the virtual Ash Wednesday service. You can also try making your own at home, carefully! Alternatively, a good substitute you may already have in the pantry is cocoa powder.

FEB 16 - HEALTH AND WELLNESS WEBINAR - 7 p.m., Zoom

Want to up your health in 2021? One great way to do it is by eating more leafy greens! Join St. Pauls Social and our member Molly McGrath, Chef and Founder of Light Work Kitchens, while she reviews the benefits of adding more dark leafies to each meal, while also demonstrating recipes for adding greens to breakfast, lunch and dinner. Cooking along welcome but certainly not required! Please RSVP to molly@lightworkkitchens.com, Zoom link will be provided on Monday, February 15.

FEB 17 - NO WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

Starting Feb 24: the *Psalms*. Email Pastor Jeff if you'd like to sign up, jcarlson@spucc.org.

FEB 17 - ASH WEDNESDAY SIN BURNING - 5:30-5:45 p.m., Courtyard

We will hold a short (15-minute) in-person liturgy in the courtyard. We will burn sins and self impose ashes. Bring yours, written on a small piece of paper. Wear a mask.

FEB 17 - ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - 7:30 p.m., Zoom

This year, we will meet on Zoom for Ash Wednesday.

- Join Via Link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88393440222?pwd=RFczL2I5cHFEbzJpTzlSZHhnMmFXQT09>
- Join Via Meeting ID
Meeting ID: 883 9344 0222
Passcode: SPUCC
- Join Via Phone
Number: 312-626-6799 (Chicago)
Meeting ID: 883 9344 0222
Passcode: 933542

FEB 18 - WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - 7:30 p.m., Zoom

Please join us for the women's book group. We will be reading the second half of *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. All are welcome. Email Corie Gallemore for more information: corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

FEB 20 - MEMORIAL FOR AMY NEWMAN - 10 a.m.

Stream the memorial service for Amy Newman at spucc.org/streaming this Saturday at 10 a.m.

FEB 20 - REFUGEE ONE DONATION KITS - 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., Church Parking Lot

This month, Refugee One is conducting a drive to collect items for their families that have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic. For a list of items and to sign up to donate a kit, visit spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/719390.

Refugee One has been in existence since 1982 and is the largest resettlement agency in Illinois. Since its inception, it has welcomed more than 18,000 refugees and helped them find housing, employment, health care, and a variety of services to assist them in adjusting to their new home.

For more information, contact Pauline Taylor paulinetaylor933@gmail.com.

FEB 21 - LENT MOVIE GROUP - 7 p.m., Zoom

Discussion each Sunday starting next week, February 21 through March 21. Our first movie will be *Some Kind of Heaven*. It is available to stream on YouTube, Vudu and Amazon Prime. We will watch the movie on our own and then discuss it together on Zoom. Email Pastor Matt for the link, mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

FEB 23 - BOOK DISCUSSION: HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST - 7 p.m., Zoom

Prof. Ibram X Kendi may be a rigorous scholar and historian with multiple books on the bestseller lists, but he writes like a passionate, fallible human being who's just trying to get it right. Kendi leads us through the labyrinth of concepts and choices that presents itself when we begin the journey to that elusive goal—antiracism—a term that many of us had never even heard of a few years ago. And he goes with us on our journey, telling stories of all the misconceptions and mistakes he made on his own journey toward antiracism. Kendi's honesty about his trials and errors is engaging and inspiring. Pam Woll will facilitate the discussion. Please RSVP to rnpeterson2017@gmail.com.

FEB 27 - WHO DUN IT? - 7 p.m., Zoom

Join St. Pauls Social and hosts Jan Fraccaro and Andrea Koepke for a night of murder. Put your talents to work and participate in a murder mystery game! Please email your reservation to andreakoepke1@aol.com by February 20 and indicate whether you would rather be a suspect or a detective. Follow-up information will be sent after receiving your reservation.

MAR 7 - ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 11:15 a.m., Zoom

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of St. Pauls where we will vote on the 2021 budget, new members of the Church Council, including Officers and Ministry Chairs, and learn about the activities of 2020 and plans going into 2021. It is an important event in the life of St. Pauls. Members have voice and vote and Friends have voice. The meeting will be held via Zoom. The link for the meeting will be in future bulletins.

MAR 29 - BOOK DISCUSSION: *THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME* - 7 p.m., Zoom

The Long, Classic Novels Reading Group's first book for 2021 is Victor Hugo's work that had for its original title *Notre Dame de Paris*, indicating that the cathedral in the heart of Paris is the main character of this novel. Hugo wrote this book in part to make his contemporaries aware of the value of preserving the beautiful Gothic architecture falling apart around them. The cathedral is the stage for a story about good and evil and the nature of true beauty and ugliness. Coming up:

The Once and Future King - June Discussion

The Count of Monte Cristo - Sept and Dec Discussions.

To join RSVP to - jcarlson@spucc.org

OPPORTUNITIES

CONNECTORS reach out providing networking and support for members and friends of St. Pauls. Membership is open to all who have the time and the inclination to help. Contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com.

EMAIL LIST SIGN-UP - Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected, or have you been a longtime friend and missed signing up for our email? Either way, you can go here: spucc.org/connect-learn/signups to fill out our virtual fellowship card to begin receiving our weekly email and special congregational emails, introduce yourself and receive a call from a pastor, request more information about Children and Youth Programming, and more!

FAITH IN ACTION – Some people call it showing up for a protest. Others call it public witness for the values inherent in our faith. Most of us appreciate being able to do both with like-minded congregational members. We are continually building a Faith-in-Action list of people who wish to receive notice of such protests and gatherings – frequently on short notice due to swift governmental action. Please join this email list by contacting Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES – Help us connect our faith to critical public issues. Do you wish you knew more from a faith perspective about current issues that are important to our public life? Racism, climate change, immigration, to name a few? FPI programs provide opportunities to ask questions, help us understand issues in depth, and discuss possible action. The FPI Task Force plans these programs and we could use your ideas. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for information about meetings.

GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS – If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, we still need to hear from you. Please go to forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8 to fill it out. This is an important component of our overall member engagement initiative, as mentioned in the November 10, 2019 congregational meeting. If you prefer to complete a paper document, they are available on the front counter of the office next to the labeled return box. Thank you in advance for your participation.

GREEN TEAM Help us as a congregation live out what we say in our Statement of Faith: God calls us to care for creation. This is the perfect time to plan, as we prepare to reenter and reimagine our common bodily life together. Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro have volunteered to co-chair our efforts, both bringing a great deal of experience and

ideas. To attend, or to be in the email list for future meetings, email Jan at jan.fraccaro@gmail.com.

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year olds. We are now accepting applications for 2021. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

LONG, CLASSIC NOVELS READING GROUP

Last year we read four books from the Zora Canon, written by African American women. See announcement above for this year's selections. Anyone is welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Pastor Jeff for email updates: jcarlson@spucc.org.

NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS – If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie Gallemore know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.). Email Corie at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

OUTREACH AND BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love to have you join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information contact Pauline Taylor, paulinetaylor933@gmail.com, or Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES (POLO) has play dates, Moms night out, Dads night out, family pizza parties, prayer groups, and more activities to support families with little ones between the ages of 0 and 5. If you have young children and would like to get involved, please contact Joanne Tong at jctong@yahoo.com.

SAINT PAULS SOCIAL – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to the distribution list at eepurl.com/gQ4Eg1, or look out for future events announced in the bulletin calendar.

SAINT PAULS TOGETHER – Our Facebook Group, “Saint Pauls Together,” is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share uplifting thoughts and stories. Check out our Facebook Page to request an invitation if you're a member or friend!

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS – If you're in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you're feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson (jcarlson@spucc.org), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – Now meeting every Wednesday at noon via Zoom. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org to get the Zoom link.

YOUNG ADULTS – A group for fun and fellowship for folks in their twenties and thirties. All are welcome! Volunteers needed! Any ideas for future events? Email them at youngadults@spucc.org.

ZOOM MEETINGS – The St. Pauls Zoom account is available to start or continue groups. Email Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org to schedule your meeting.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's bulletin or Friday email to chiggins@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

Verbal announcements are due by Wednesdays at noon.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. To have your prayer request included, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email.

Our practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it.

If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.

- Rod Sippy, recovering from a heart procedure.
- Phill, brother of Bob Ball, diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia and beginning many medical treatments.
- Loved ones of Amy Newman at her death last week, especially her children Alyssa and Miles Van Denburg.
- Young adults trying to find their place in the world.
- Couples navigating pregnancy in a covid world.
- Juggling working from home, zoom school and family life.
- Nial, Gloria Joseph's husband, who is hospitalized with cancer
- Marci, Gloria Joseph's friend, who recently suffered a stroke.
- Greg Mooney and family at the death of Sheryl.
- Carrie Brugger's brother, Steve, and family at the death of his wife, Barb.
- Juanita Barlow's sister, Maria Dolores Guadalupe, recovering from a stroke.
- The Rieck family at the death of Shirley.
- The Nietzsche family at the tragic death of Dan.
- Jan Bail's sister, Marty, diagnosed with cancer.
- Michael VanZeyl's Aunt Betty, hospitalized, and Laura VanZeyl's parents, Lionel and Donna, coping with isolation.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, receiving care at home.

Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources

Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. If you or someone you love is feeling completely alone or like life doesn't matter, reach out for help. Help is available for every kind of issue. Contact one of the pastors today for support, referrals, and information that can help you and your loved ones.

ABOUT ST. PAULS
Making a Joyful Sound in the City!

Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBTQ women and men.

From founding Chicago's largest provider of social services to at-risk children to starting a home for the elderly, from housing protestors at the 1968 Democratic Convention to hosting Lincoln Park's first MLK day march against violence on Chicago's streets, we are proud to make a joyful sound in the city.

Most important, over the past 177 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
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www.spucc.org

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Mark Mosley, *Intergenerational Orchestra Director*, mwmosley@gmail.com
Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator*, kkobrien48@hotmail.com



WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,
grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are an Open and Affirming church.

We welcome all.

We are blessed by your presence and
we are glad you are here.