



Christmas Cantata
Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018

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

Please silence cell phones.

Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"Beholding Christ's glory is only half our job. In our souls too the mysteries must be brought forth."

PRELUDE

Infant Holy

arr. K. Chapman
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

CHORAL INTROIT

La Anunciación (The Anunciation)

Ariel Ramirez

from Navidad Nuestra (Our Christmas) Sung in Spanish

Chancel Choir

Nathan Streeter and Lee Lichamer, soloists

Brandon Acker, guitar; Sarah Good Mosley and Mark Mosley, percussion;
and Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

A rider like a ray of red lightning,
The angel Gabriel comes flying,
With a star-tipped sabre.
He was elegant in his silver spurs.

God save you, Mary,
The prettiest young woman.
The flower is blooming.
The baby is growing in your blood.

I am the servant of the Lord.
The Lord bringing his heart,
His will be done.
The bud turns into a flower,
And it will open at Christmas.

The Angel Gabriel returns
To the place where God is found.
Where have you been little angel
That has made you so happy?

I've seen the queen of the world,
The most beautiful young woman.
Her eyes are two stars.
Her voice is the song of a turtledove.

I am the servant of the Lord.
His will be done.
The bud turns into a flower,
And it will open at Christmas.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Candle of Peace

WELCOME

Sarah Garcia

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

** Please stand if you are able to do so*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come quickly, Holy Child and shape our vision.

All: Let us see how little we need to live abundantly!

One: Come quickly, True Light, illuminate our fear.

All: Make us brave enough to be your people!

One: Come quickly, God, we are waiting, waiting, waiting.

All: Come quickly, Jesus, and reign! Amen.

* HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Red Hymnal No. 76

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
Behold the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for Heaven's employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide;
Our hearts to thee we open wide;
Let us thy inner presence feel,
Thy grace and love in us reveal.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Even as we wait on a distant heaven,
you are coming toward us.**

**It is your will to reign
from a borrowed bed
made of straw.**

That very nearness

**reveals how very far
we are from you.
Forgive us our greed and our fear.
Draw us into new life,
in the manner of Jesus Christ
soon to be born among us.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 148 v. 1

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this, the angels sing, is Christ, God's holy offering;
Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mary!

*At this time Sunday School students will be invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child, you are welcome to drop them off and
return to worship.*

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Marcia Frank

Luke 3:1-20, excerpts translated by David Bentley Hart and Eugene Peterson

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Herod was ruler of Galilee, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of the heart's transformation, for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and whatever is crooked shall be made straight, and the rough roads shall be made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! What do you think you’re doing slithering down here to the river? Do something to show that your hearts are really changed! God wants you to bear fruit! If you don’t, you’ll be chopped down like a fruitless tree and made into firewood. God’s axe is ready to swing!

The crowd asked him, “Then what are we supposed to do?”

“If you have two coats, give one away,” he said. “Do the same with your food.”

They all began to wonder “He might be the Messiah-” John spoke aloud: “I indeed baptize you in water. But there comes one much mightier than I. I’m not fit to untie his sandals. He will baptize you in a Holy Spirit and fire.”

There was a lot more of this—words that gave strength to the people, words that put heart in them. Good news! But Herod, the ruler, stung by John’s rebuke in the matter of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, crowned his long string of evil deeds with this outrage: He shut John up in prison.

* A STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,
to celebrate God’s presence,
to love and serve others,
to care for creation,
to seek justice and to resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

ANTHEM

La Peregrinación (The Pilgrimage)

Following the trail, the trail
Joseph and Mary
Across the frozen Pampas (Argentine plains)
Thistles and nettles.

Following the trail, the trail
Cutting through the fields
There is no shelter, no inn
Keep walking.

Little flower in the field,
Carnation of the air
If no one provides you shelter
Where will you be born?

Where will you be born, little flower?
Now that you are growing
Frightened dove
Sleepless cricket

Following the trail, the trail
Joseph and Mary
With a hidden god
Nobody yet knew

Following the trail, the trail
The pilgrims
Lend me an abandoned house
For my child

Following the trail, the trail
Through suns and moons
The little almond eyes
Olive skin.

Oh, little donkey in the field
Oh, reddish-grey ox
My child is coming
Make some space for him

A thatched hut
Is my only shelter
Two friendly breaths
The bright moon

Following the trail, the trail
Joseph and Mary
With a hidden god
Nobody yet knew

El Nacimiento (The Birth)
Kris Hansen, soloist

Night foretold, night of love
God is born, petal and flower
All is silence and serenity
Peace to all men, it's Christmas

In the manger, my redeemer
He is the messenger of peace and love
When he smiles there is light
And in his little arms a cross grows

Angels sing over the entrance
God is born, it's Christmas

This is the night that was promised
By God to mankind, and now it has arrived
It's Christmas Eve, you don't need to sleep
God is born, God is here.

SERMON

“Shut up, bossy”

Matt Fitzgerald

* RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 148 v. 2

Why lies the Child in a manger bare where ox and ass are feeding?
Give heed, draw near, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Raise, raise the song on high, the mother sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the child of Mary!

GIVING MOMENT

“\$175 More for 175 More”

Don Curtis & Steve Winters

OFFERTORY

Los Pastores (The Shepherds)
Todd Coe, Nathan Streeter, Lee Lichamer
Jennifer Kew, Breanna Coe, and Nancy Pifer, soloists

Come shepherds of the field
The king of kings has been born
Come before the sun rises
It's already light and the night will soon fade

Chorus:

Basil and lemon verbena
Thyme and laurel
The child sleeps
As the sun rises

They come from Pinchas and Chuquis,
From Aminga, San Pedro, Arauco and Pomán
Before anyone else pays tribute
We will bring quesillos (puddings) and flowers. *Chorus*

Ask Julio Romero
For Peruvian horses and his pack mule
With cajas (hand drums) and guitars
We'll sing through the olive groves. *Chorus*

Oh, Christmas in Aimogasta (NW Argentina)
Aloja (liqueur) and añapa (dessert) are plentiful
The Riojan moon
Is just dying to join in. *Chorus*

Los Reyes Magos (The Three Wise Men)
They arrived, the kings, and they were three:
Melchior, Caspar and the dark-skinned Balthasar.
Syrup and honey they will bring him
And a white poncho of regal alpaca.

Fall asleep little boys and girls
For Melchior, Caspar and Balthasar
Will leave out all the gifts
For you to play with when you awake

The God Child was very pleased.
He ate the honey and wrapped himself in the poncho.
And afterwards he saw them
And the sun shone at midnight.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION *La Huida* (The Flight)

Kris Hansen, Nathan Streeter, and Lee Lichamer, soloists

Let's go! Let's go! Hurry up, little donkey!

If you don't hurry up they will catch them
Long is the path, great is the Salitral (salt flats)

They are already slitting throats
The dagger is already wet with blood

If you don't hurry up they will catch them

Let's go! Let's go! Hurry up, little donkey!

Beautiful child, don't cry, my love
We will soon reach a better land

Go to sleep now, don't cry
I will cradle you in my arms
Bass drums beating in my heart

Let's go! Let's go! Hurry up, little donkey!

***If you would like someone to pray with you today, Stephen Ministers are present
after the postlude at the front right of the Sanctuary.***

***Following Worship, all are invited to our All Church Potluck
downstairs in the Gym, and
to shop our Christmas Market in the Oscar Mayer Room.***

Magnificat, by Mary of Nazareth

**My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.**

Chancel Choir

Kurt R. Hansen, Music Director
Kevin Dziersawski, Organist and pianist
Karina Kontorovitch, sectional pianist
Sarah Good Mosley and Mark Mosley, percussion;
Brandon Acker, guitar; and Joel Kelsey, bass

Sopranos

Christie DeForest - Spanish coach
Heidi Gillmore
Gay Kelly
Jennifer Kew*
Karin Magnuson
Nancy Pifer*
Ashley Shaluga
Grace Stauskas
Kecia Waldschmidt

Altos

Cindy Ball
Amy Barton
Lois Basil
Terry Brancaccio Hansen
Carrie Bruggers
Breanna Coe*
Sally Glowiak
Karen Johnson
Winnie Kearns
Patricia Mayer
Jana O'Brien
Amy Petersen Beck

Tenors

Larry Butcher
Todd Coe*
Andy Davis
Gordon Fishburn - Librarian
Kristofer Hansen*
Doug Heyboer
Rick Peterson
Nathan Streeter*

Basses

Bill Borden
Jim Brandt
Jeff Carlson
Andrew Dow
Allen Heineman
Lee Lichamer*
Mark Mosley
Mark Swanson
Jeff Wagner

* Solos & Small ensembles

TODAYS MUSIC, Navidad Nuestra (Our Christmas), by Argentine composer Ariel Ramirez (1921-2010) embraces the promise that the Christ child is born for all of us and imagines Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and Jesus as coming to the rural people of the Pampas in Argentina. Rather than the splendid Baroque orchestra and chorus of *Messiah* by Handel, the instrumentation is for guitar, piano, drums and bass. The style of choral writing is deeply influenced by folk music of Argentina. Ramirez was a chief exponent of Argentine folk music. His most famous composition was the Misa Criola, which was written in 1964, the same year of the *Navidad Nuestra* composition. Our Chancel Choir has also sung the *Misa Criola* in the past. The Chancel Choir would like to dedicate their singing this morning to Gordon Fishburn, our beloved and delightfully picky choir Librarian.

ADVENT WREATH - Each week during Advent we light another candle in our Advent wreath to anticipate to coming of Christ, the light of the world. These candles symbolize the gifts of hope, love, joy and peace that Christ's coming brings.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE IS A CHRISMON TREE - The white and gold ornaments represent the glory and majesty of Christ. Each one is a symbol or monogram of Christ and has been made by members and friends of St. Pauls. The tree itself is a gift to the church from the Crowley and Opp-Ekdahl families. Thanks for Lorne Frank, Greg Basil, Fernando Diaz, Cres and Doug Roewer, Gretchen Althen, Serena Garcia Knotts, and Barb Kaiser.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Bruce Voice, Brian Hafner, Ninon Freeman

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Acolyte Coordinator: Tiffany Jozwiak

Acolytes: Gisele Jozwiak, Sally Lien

BORN THIS WEEK IN DECEMBER

Donations to the Birthday Fund support A Just Harvest

We celebrate and give thanks for your life at St. Pauls. A perfect way to celebrate and help St. Pauls: give one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund.

Dec 9 Alex Nagle

Dec 10 Judy Dorrell, Ginna Gentzen, Karl Howse

Dec 11 Cindy Zinn Ball, John Gallemore, Grayson Glomp, Ed Hohlbein,
 Hugo Osorio

Dec 12 Jake Gentsen

Dec 13 Heidi Gillmore, Julia Mercer, Tom Palkon, Jenny Perricone

Dec 14 David Baker, Candy Lohnes, Thomas VandenBerk

Dec 15 Amy Hofer, Evert Martin

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST PAULS

- SUN, DEC 9 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE
-Worship - Christmas Cantata, *Navidad Nuestra* - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
-All-Church Advent Party, Potluck* - 11:30 a.m., Gym
-Christmas Market** - 11:30 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room
- SAT, DEC 15 COOKIES WITH SANTA - 10 a.m.- noon, Gym
-Decorate cookies, make crafts, drink hot chocolate, welcome our neighbors, and take photos with Santa
- SUN, DEC 16 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY
-Worship - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
-Watch for the Light, session two - 11:30 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room
- WED, DEC 19 LITTLE LIGHTS ART SHOW & CHRISTMAS CONCERT - 5:15 p.m.
- THURS, DEC 20 WINTER SOLSTICE & LABYRINTH WALK - 6 p.m.
-A service of song and reflecting on the longest night of the year
- SAT, DEC 22 THE CHRISTMAS STORIES - 10 a.m.
-This special Bible study will dig into the stories of the birth of Jesus that we hear on Christmas Eve
- SUN, DEC 23 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE
-Worship - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
-Luminary Workshop
- MON, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
-Family Service - 5 p.m., Sanctuary
-Candlelight Service - 9 p.m., Sanctuary
-Christmas story, carols, candles, sermon, and choir
- SUN, DEC 30 WORSHIP - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
-Watch for the Light, session three - 11:30 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room
- SUN, JAN 20 POLAR PEACE MARCH - 11:15 a.m.

***ALL CHURCH ADVENT POTLUCK** - Immediately following worship today. This event is one of the times the whole congregation sits down together. Celebrate Advent's blessings with friends and family. Through the generosity of our members, we will provide baked hams as a main dish.

****CHRISTMAS MARKET & BAKE SALE** - After worship, you are invited to the Oscar Mayer Room to shop our Christmas Market full of new or gently used treasures that could pique the interest of anyone you are shopping for. Funds raised by the market and bake sale will go towards the Polar Peace March.

*****POLAR PEACE MARCH** - March to support UCAN's work for non-violence, and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on this 1.5 mile walk. This family friendly event will start after the 10 a.m. worship service and conclude with soup in the Gym. Invite your friends and family to be a part of your team. Register now. YOU CAN be part of the solution to a more peaceful Chicago.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to our generous congregation for your support of UCAN's Gift Drive! We collected over 100 \$50 gift cards and counting for teens and young adults who have suffered trauma.

SPONSOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION - Does your employer make grants to charitable organizations doing good work in Chicago? We are looking for sponsors for our January 20, 2019 Polar Peace March that supports the violence prevention initiatives of UCAN. For more information contact Jan Bail, janbail@me.com.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP - Save the dates June 22-29, 2019. The trip is open to youth going into 8-12th grade. We are currently brainstorming ideas for the trip destination. Email Pastor Sarah with suggestions or to learn more about the trip.

GIVE THE VERY BEST - People are precious, and when they hurt or suffer, they deserve the best care and support we can offer. That's why St. Pauls has Stephen Ministers. Their training, commitment, and service help them give their best at providing care for our members who need it. In January 2019, we'll be training a new class of Stephen Ministers. If you'd like to know more, your best move is to contact Pastor Jeff or Stephen Leader Marti Pechnyo, mpechnyo@gmail.com.

AMERICA TO ME - Would you like to watch and discuss “America to Me” in the New Year? This 10-part docuseries follows a year in the life of students, teachers, and administrators at Oak Park-River Forest High School as they search for answers around issues of race, equity and education. If you are interested in joining this 10-week group, please contact Kirk Chernansky at bchernansky@sbcglobal.net. Meeting times will be agreed on by the group.

DECEMBER 10-14 - CHRISTMAS WRAPPING SERVICE - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m, Social Hall. Help us raise funds for the Little Lights Early Child Program by supporting our Christmas wrapping service. No time to wrap yourself? Need to hide gifts from family members before bringing home? We’ve got you covered! Drop off gifts for later pick-up, or stay while they are being wrapped. Donation prices will be from \$2-\$5 per gift to wrap.

DECEMBER 15 - CAROLING AT ST. PAULS HOUSE - 4:15 p.m.
Join the Young Adults Group for the 5th annual Christmas Caroling event at St. Pauls House. We will meet at the facility (3800 N. California Ave.) and stay for a pizza dinner afterwards. Carol books will be provided, and all singers of all abilities are welcome. Friends and guests are always welcome too! RSVP to the Punchbowl Invitation.

DECEMBER 16 - MONTHLY BRUNCH - 11:30 a.m.
Join the Young Adults Group for brunch after worship. We will gather during Social Hour and walk somewhere close. Have a suggestion of where we should go? Email Hannah at youngadults@spucc.org with your idea and RSVP.

DECEMBER 17 - *LES MISERABLES* BOOK DISCUSSION - 7 p.m., Parlor
The Long, Classic Novels Reading Group discusses the second half of Victor Hugo’s epic tale of redemption. New members are always welcome. For more information or to RSVP: Jeff Carlson at jcarlson@spucc.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP - Providing flowers for the altar is a great way to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or honor someone special in your life. You can sign up in the Social Hall or online at <http://tinyurl.com/h55pl82>. There are many Sundays available, but be sure to sign up early so you can bring flowers on your preferred date. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

AMAZON SMILE - Support St. Pauls when buying Amazon products, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible purchases to St. Pauls. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2179808>

COLLEEN HENRY WRITING CENTER - Tutors Needed

This program at Lincoln Park High School was initiated by St. Pauls and developed in connection with the English and Social Studies Departments. Tutors volunteer two hours once a week, Monday through Thursday. Training and mentoring are available. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Nancy Brandt, nhbrandt@sbcglobal.net.

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.

CONSIDER THE LILIES - Deliver our Sunday altar flowers to members and friends who need to know St. Pauls is thinking of them. If you would like to be part of this initiative, please contact Maureen Grunst at mvgrunst@gmail.com.

FAITH IN ACTION - Saint Pauls Strategic Plan calls us to be “Increasingly bold and active as we try to live out our faith in an age of rising injustice.” If you would like to receive advance notice of protests and actions that call for our faithful witness, join the Faith in Action email list by contacting Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES - Whether you're interested in supporting women or LGBTQ persons or immigrants and refugees, or interested in planning programs on critical issues, you can find St. Pauls people involved and join them now. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for more information.

FEED THE HUNGRY - We need volunteers for January 27, February 17, and February 24. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner as part of the Community Engagement Program (CEP). Volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To find available dates and to sign up, contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com

FOOD FOR THOUGHT - Visit our Food for Thought blog
<http://www.spucc.org/blogs/food-for-thought>.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER NEEDS OVERNIGHT VOLUNTEERS
To sign up: volunteer@lpcsonline.org or call 773-549-6111.

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year-olds. We are now accepting applications for 2018-2019. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Virgie Berry at vberry@spucc.org.

NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS - If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.) and so that we can inform you of opportunities in our Parents of Little Ones (POLO) group. Also, let her know if you have small children and are new to the church. Contact Corie Gallemore at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

SARAH'S SISTERS gather every Wednesday morning to make 40 bag lunches to be distributed to homeless people. Come to the church kitchen at 9:30 a.m.

ST. PAULS BASKETBALL WEDNESDAYS - 7 p.m. Our weekly pick-up game is co-ed. Ages range widely and skill levels go from from enthusiastic to "I think she played in college, you guard her." All are welcome! pastormatt@spucc.org

ST. PAULS PLAYGROUP - NOW ON FRIDAYS - For children from birth to 3 years old and their parent or caregiver in the church Nursery. Drop in anytime from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Friday mornings. Corie Gallemore at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

ST. PAULS SOCIAL - Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com and stay tuned for future events.

SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY - One Saturday a month, 10-11:45 a.m. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible in this monthly study. Next meeting: December 22 when we'll dig into the Christmas story. RSVP: Pastor Jeff jcarlson@spucc.org.

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).

WANT MORE VARIETY AT COFFEE HOUR? - Sign up to bring it by emailing Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

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.

YOUTH GROUP - For kids in 4th-8th grade. Meets each Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. in the gym. Pizza dinner, fun, and Christian fellowship. Contact Pastor Sarah for more details at sgarcia@spucc.org.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Please limit announcements to 70 words. Thank you.

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. We only print requests we receive. To make a request, 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.

- Marcus, shot multiple times on Chicago's West Side.
- Gordon Fishburn, who is hospitalized following a stroke.
- The thousands who lost homes and jobs due to the floods and fires this fall, and to those who gave them shelter.
- Liz Rein at the death of her sister, Becky.
- The Deely family, for the loss of their 11-year-old son, Gabe.
- Jan Exworthy and her mother, Lucille, facing health challenges.
- Phyllis Grimm's mother facing health challenges.
- The family of Stacie B., sister of Mark P., at the death of her sister-in-law.
- Sylvia Pine, on the death of her grandfather, Terry Barton.
- The daughters and extended family of Meghan Liddy, including her friend Katie Passon. Meghan died of malaria.
- Michael, nephew of Juanita Barlow, for his recuperation from surgery.
- Joe JaQuay's father, Harry, as he begins radiation and chemotherapy.
- Kathie Castle, in hospice care for Alzheimer's disease.
- Mary, a beloved friend of Stacy and Brent, and her doctors and children, as she recovers from a brain aneurysm and is still at great risk.
- Toby Knott's aunt, Diane Smith, fighting cancer
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.
- Dede Koldyke, beating cancer.
- Amy Newman's sister, Linda, being treated for cancer.

You are beloved - to others, to the world you live in, and most important, to God. God knows your struggles and failures, as well as your joys and triumphs. Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. If you or someone you love has lost hope, is feeling completely alone or like life doesn't matter, reach out for help. Contact one of the pastors today for information about mental health care advocacy and resources that can help you and your loved ones. Contact information for the pastors is at the back of this bulletin.

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 to 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 importantly, over the past 175 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.

2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614
(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858
www.spucc.org

Matt Fitzgerald, Senior Pastor, fitzgerald@spucc.org

Jeff Carlson, Associate Pastor, jcarlson@spucc.org

Sarah Garcia, Associate Pastor for Children and Youth, sgarcia@spucc.org

Karen E. Johnson, President of the Congregation, kejpiano@aol.com

Tom Henry, Pastor Emeritus, emeritus henry@gmail.com

Kurt R. Hansen, Music Director, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com

Kevin Dzierżawski, Organist, kdzierza@att.net

Brendan Henry, Pianist, brendanpherry@hotmail.com

Nancy Voigts, Children's Choir Director, nvoigtsgod@att.net

Kecia Waldschmidt, Youth Choir Director, keciagerman@hotmail.com

Kristofer Hansen, Joyful Sounds Choir Co-Director, TheBeatB0xer1995@gmail.com

Mark Mosley, Intergenerational Orchestra Director, mwmosley@gmail.com

Kevin O'Brien, Lay Liturgical Administrator, kkobrien48@hotmail.com

Free Parking is available on Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Lincoln Avenue Parking Garage,
2300 block of North Lincoln Ave. - Vouchers Not Needed



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.