

July 1, 2018
Communion Sunday

*HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Black Hymnal no. 1

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, Victorious, your great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains high soaring above,
Your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Your life is life-giving - to both great and small;
In all life you're living, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers,
Then wither and perish - but naught dims your powers.

So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,
Your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
All praise we now render as your angels do:
In awe at the splendor of light hiding you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 451, v. 1

Be thou my vision, O God of my heart;
Nothing surpasses the love you impart -
You my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Steven Schwartzberg

Romans 13:1-11 (NRSV)

One: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, busy with this very thing. Pay to all what is due to them - taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due.

All: Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

One: Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers. We can't afford to waste a minute.

*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)

*RESPONSE

Black Hymnal no. 451, v. 4

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

SERMON

"Does God Pull Politicians' Puppet Strings?"

Matt Fitzgerald

*HYMN

This is My Song

Black Hymnal no. 591

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

OFFERTORY

Ave Verum Corpus
St. Pauls Brass

W. A. Mozart

*FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.**

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please come forward for communion.

Take the bread and eat it. Then take the cup and drink.

Deposit the cups in the baskets on the way back to your seat.

The outer ring of cups contains grape juice. The inner rings contain wine. A gluten-free bread option is wrapped and available on a separate tray. Return to your seat by the side aisles. All are welcome.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Black Hymnal No. 4

Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, teach us what our praise should be.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Layne Lebahn, Lauren Vega, Cheryl Kennedy, Fred Pearson, Bev Petrunich

Communion Coordinators: Jana O'Brien, Kevin O'Brien

Communion Servers: Jill Wachholz, Peg Wander

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

BORN THIS WEEK IN APRIL

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.

July 1 Adam Bieniek, Kathy Berghoff

July 3 John Miller, Marcia Volk, Paul Haider

July 4 Alyn Cardarelli, Christina Cruz Cedeno-Smedley

July 5 Charlotte Malley, Laura Clifford, Sean Heffernan

July 6 Jan Exworthy, Lisa Montague, Vicki Kendall

July 7 Benjamin Gibson, Drew Lumm, Hilary Schmitz, Nancy Mayer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH GRANDPARENTS - We will pair Saint Pauls "grand members" with church families who have infants and young children. As these new friendships form, each will take its own shape. Activities could include praying for each other, reading stories, visiting, etc. Saint Pauls older members are incredible people! Saint Pauls young families are remarkable, as well. Let's get to know each other. You can still sign up by emailing Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED FOR NEXT YEAR - If you enjoy being with children and are interested and willing to explore the Christian faith with them, you should consider being a Sunday School teacher. We have teaching teams so you do not have to teach every Sunday. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Sarah sgarcia@spucc.org.

ALL CHURCH RETREAT - Sign up now to join us for a weekend of relaxation, fellowship and growing in faith at the Lakeside Inn in beautiful Lakeside, MI, July 27 to 29. All church members are encouraged to come! Cost is \$300 per room and includes breakfasts and dinners. Some financial assistance available. Email Pastor Sarah sgarcia@spucc.org if you would like to sign up.

FEED THE HUNGRY - Open dates in July, August, and September for Community Engagement Program (CEP) meals. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner. Volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To find available dates and to sign up, contact Brent Carstensen at bcarsten959@yahoo.com.

PETITION TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE - Petition for the Combating Illegal Gun Trafficking Act (SB 337). This Act would require that state policy certify gun dealers. This certification may help reduce guns entering into illegal markets and allow law enforcement to crack down on corrupt gun dealers. Sign a petition being circulated by the Illinois Coalition for Gun Violence Prevention and others by requesting it from Anna Sardar at asardar@spucc.org.

ST. PAULS SUMMER CAMP FOR KIDS, July 5 - August 3.

We're offering half-day camp for 2 and 3-year-olds and full day camp for 4 to 12-year-olds. Also, we're offering before and after-care. Campers play in the local parks, go to the zoo, beach, museums, pool, and have tons of fun! Email Sarah Garcia at sgarcia@spucc.org for more information.

JULY 1 - ST. PAULS HOUSE CONCERT, 2 - 3 p.m., 3800 N. California Ave.

Enjoy live music by Windy City Winds with light refreshments following the concert in honor of Lutheran Life Communities celebrating their 125th anniversary. Free admission. All are welcome!

JULY 7 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL, 6 p.m., Pritzker Pavilion Lawn.

Join the St. Pauls Social for an evening of music at the Grant Park Music Festival. We will gather at 6 p.m. on the Pritzker Pavilion Lawn for a potluck dinner. The concert (Tchaikovsky and Bolcom) begins at 7:30. Contact Tilly Wilhoite at tilly1017@gmail.com for specifics and to RSVP.

JULY 9 - CHRISTIANITY 101, 7:30 p.m., Parlor.

Join Pastor Matt and fellow young adults for a lively discussion of the real-life questions we face in our daily lives. There is no need to prepare in advance. Email Hannah at youngadults@spucc.org with RSVP or questions.

JULY 10 - HAITIAN HISTORY BOOK DISCUSSION - RELOCATED

Laurent Dubois' book, "Haiti: The Aftershocks of History," chronicles the history of Haiti directly relevant to our contemporary attempts to struggle with issues of race, economic development, political dysfunction, and the complicated traumas of the past. Led by Steve Peterson and Steve Schwartzberg, the final session on this book will be Tuesday, July 10 at 7 p.m. in the Saint Pauls Parlor.

JULY 11 - MOMS NIGHT OUT - Parents of Little Ones is having a Moms Night Out at 7:30 p.m. at Drawl, 2423 N. Clark St. RSVP to Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org.

JULY 14 - SQUARE ROOTS FESTIVAL, 6 p.m. Begin at Maggie's home before heading to Lincoln Square. Join the Young Adults Group for an outing to the folk music street fest. Bring wine or makings for your favorite cocktails. Hang out in Maggie's AC before heading over to the Square Roots Festival down the street. Suggested donation at the entrance. Contact Maggie Arden at maggie.arden@me.com to RSVP.

JULY 15 - BEACH VOLLEYBALL, 2 - 4 p.m., North Avenue Beach.

Join the Young Adults Group for an afternoon of volleyball! We'll meet at the courts adjacent to Castaways towards the south end of the beach. You don't need to bring anything more than your serves of steel and any light snacks to share. All skill levels welcome. RSVP to the Punchbowl invitations and email Derek at youngadults@spucc.org with any questions.

JULY 22 - ROCK 'N ROLL HALF MARATHON & 10K, 6:30 a.m., Grant Park.
Come run with the Young Adult group! The Humana Rock 'n Roll 10K and half marathon is a scenic lakefront course that begins and ends downtown near Grant Park. You'll be done in time to limp over to church afterwards. RSVP to the Punchbowl evite to join the running group. Questions? Email Derek at derekjaydiemer@gmail.com.

July 28 - SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Parlor. We continue our study of the book of Ephesians, an early Christian document attributed to Paul. But did he really write it? Newcomers always welcome. RSVP: jcarlson@spucc.org.

JULY 28 & 29 - VOLK'S FARM WEEKEND GETAWAY, Starved Rock.
St. Pauls women are invited to the Volk's farm the weekend of July 28-29. You may hike at Starved Rock, tour an old mansion, pick wildflowers, zipline, watch the birds, visit farm animals, or just enjoy the great companionship. Carpools usually available. Bed available for the first 12 to sign up. Email Marcia Volk for details at marcia@volkonline.com or call 773-307-6866.

OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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/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 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@aol.com and join us!

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 Anna Sardar at asardar@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.

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

GET YOUR NEW NAME TAG! - Email Virgie at vberry@spucc.org.

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.

LONG, CLASSIC NOVEL READING GROUP - We will be reading “Les Miserables” this fall. More information will be forthcoming. For more information contact Jeff Carlson at jcarlson@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.

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 Diana Laskaris dianaminlead@gmail.com.

SAINT PAULS BASKETBALL WEDNESDAYS - 7 p.m. Our weekly pickup 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 for children from birth to 3 years old in the church Nursery. Drop in anytime from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Wednesdays. Corie Gallemore at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

WANT MORE VARIETY AT COFFEE HOUR? - Sign up to bring it at <http://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=w.ProcessDateWindow>.

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, take it home 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 new 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.

- The Saint Pauls Mission Trip Team serving in Puerto Rico.
- Rob Castle's mother, Kathie, in hospice care for Alzheimer's.
- Ramiro Gonzalez and family at the loss of his brother.
- Loved ones of Rachel Rockwell, friend of Caroline Heffernan, grieving her death.
- Larry Howell, recovering from kidney stone surgery and suffering from lymphoma.
- Julie, friend of Pat Kirby, recovering from hip replacement.
- Ivy's brother and his wife, who are going through serious financial difficulty.
- Don Vossburg, former St. Pauls member.
- Debbie Martin, mother of Dan and Kevin, recovering from heart surgery.
- Paula Kearns, mother of Larry Kearns, who is battling lung cancer in Miami.
- Maryn, 6-year-old friend of the Ashley family, with a rare brain tumor.
- Betty Voice, recovering from knee surgery.
- Marti Pechnyo's friend, Jane, being treated for ovarian cancer.
- Dorothy, in hospice care.
- For real change to dramatically reduce gun violence.
- Dede Koldyke, beating cancer.
- Rodney Higginbotham's father following a seizure and possible stroke.
- Bobbi Gannello, diagnosed with lymphoma.
- Amy Newman's sister, Linda, being treated for cancer.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- All those struggling to conceive.
- All those struggling with eating disorders.

You are beloved - to others, to the world you live in, and most importantly, 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

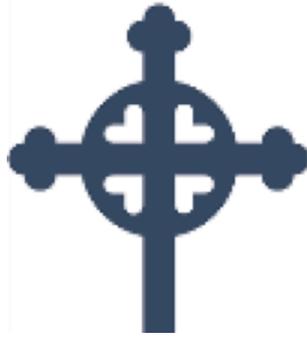
Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989 we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open to and Affirming of" LGBT women and men.

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 174 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
2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614
Oo(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858
www.spucc.org
Matt Fitzgerald, *Senior Pastor*, mfitzgerald@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*, kejplano@aol.com
Tom Henry, *Pastor Emeritus*, emeritushenry@gmail.com
Kurt R. Hansen, *Music Director*, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com
Kevin Dzierzawski, *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
Tom Vaitsas, *Pianist*, tomvaitsas@gmail.com
Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator*, kkobrien48@hotmail.com

Free Parking is available on Sundays from 9am-1pm at Children's Memorial Hospital
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.