

January 24, 2021 Virtual Worship No matter who you are, No matter where you are On life's journey, You are welcome here.

#### THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"When the War is over and the sword at last we sheathe, I'm going to keep a jelly-fish and listen to it breathe."

A.A. Milne

PRELUDE Adagio, Op. 159, No. 1 Alexandr Grechaninov

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

**CHIMES** 

INTROIT When Morning Gilds the Sky Joseph Barnaby

Chancel Choir

#### WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Sarah Garcia

based on Psalm 65

One: Only in God does my soul wait in silence.

All: God is my rescue!

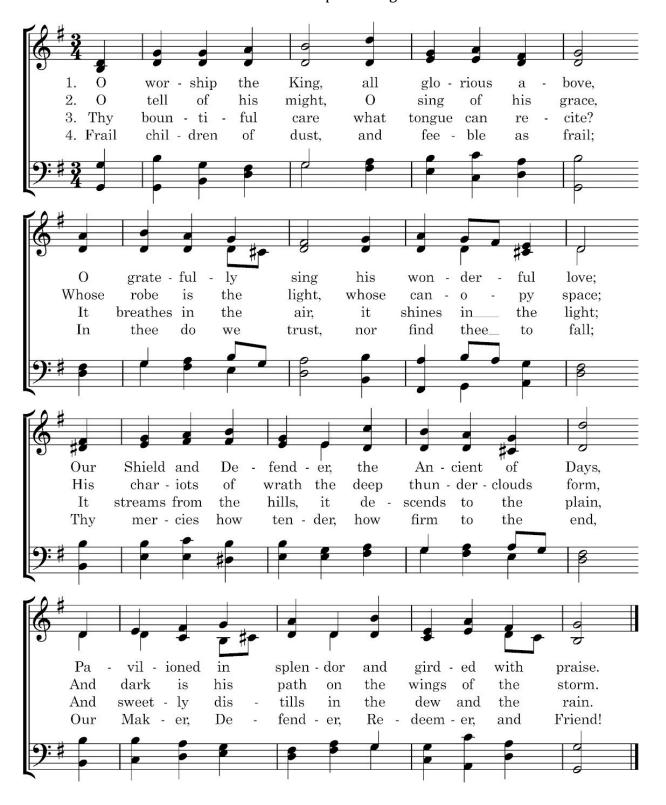
One: Only in God is my being quiet.

All: God is my hope!

One: God is my rock and my rescue, my fortress.

All: Trust in God at all times, people! Pour out your hearts.

# O Worship the King



#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Jeff Carlson

From the Lutheran Common Service Book of 1919,

found in Saint Pauls archives

O God in heaven, have mercy upon us.

Be gracious to us.

Spare us good Lord.

From all sin;

From all error;

From all evil;

Good lord, deliver us.

From sudden and evil death;

From hunger;

From war and bloodshed;

From sedition and and tempest;

From all calamity by fire and water;

And from everlasting death:

Good Lord, deliver us!

**SCRIPTURE** 

Christine Weible-Cruz

Jonah 3:1-10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying,

"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you."

So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh trusted God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. And the word reached the king of Nineveh, and he rose from his throne and took off his mantle and covered himself in sackcloth and sat upon ashes. And he had it proclaimed in Nineveh, "Human and beast, cattle and sheep, shall taste nothing. They shall not graze and they shall not drink water. And human and beast shall cover themselves with sackcloth, and they shall call out to God with all their might, and every one of them shall turn back from their evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? Perhaps God will turn back and relent and turn back from his blazing wrath and we shall not perish." And God saw their acts, that they had turned back from their evil way, and God relented from the evil that He said he would do to them, and he did not do it."

#### 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)

SERMON "...and he did not do it." Matt Fitzgerald

MEDITATION Precious Lord Thomas Dorsey

Alex Austin, string bass

OFFERING INVITATION Jeff Carlson

OFFERTORY Ninye otpushaiyeshi Alexandr Grechaninov and Gloria Patri George Matterling

(sung in Old Church Slavonic)
Chancel Choir

Granical Gran

Lord, now let thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.

For my eyes have seen thy salvation,

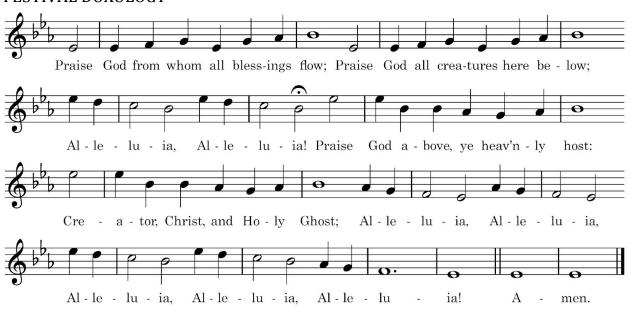
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples. A light as revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

Luke 2: 29-32

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen
from the liturgy

Give to St. Pauls with Zelle: giving@spucc.org or <a href="mailto:spucc.org/about-us/giving-to-st-pauls">spucc.org/about-us/giving-to-st-pauls</a>

#### FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Benny VanDerburgh

#### 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.

# How Firm a Foundation Led by Doug Heybour



#### **BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Gloria Patri Chancel Choir George Matterling

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen

POSTLUDE

Fugue in g minor, BWV 578
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

I. S. Bach

## 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 JANUARY**

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.

- Jan 24 Kelly Martin
- Jan 25 Michael Sanders
- Jan 26 Dan Martin, Harrison Rogers
- Jan 27 Lorne Frank
- Jan 28 Candi Huber, David Duvall, Ryan DuPont
- Jan 29 Veronica Tong
- Jan 30 Carrie Gleason, James Hammac, Jana O'Brien, Stephen Winters, Emily Range

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **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 for which you've volunteered, the pastor 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. If you have any questions or need help getting started, please email Claire at chiggins@spucc.org for profile or general assistance. Contact Melissa Miller Furgeson at bookkeeper@spucc.org for pledge and donation assistance.

#### **CALLING ALL STORYTELLERS**

There have to be a lot of good, unusual, true stories in our congregation. St. Pauls Social is looking to plan a "Moth Radio Hour" type event for those stories to be told. If you've got a story to tell, or if you'd like some help writing your story, let Pastor Jeff know in order to help us plan, jcarlson@spucc.org.

#### 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: **February 10, 17, and March 3.** Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 25 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, beginning next week. 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

#### JAN 24 - SPIRITUALS AND CULTURAL APPROPRIATION - 3 p.m., Zoom.

Join us for a lecture and discussion with internationally known composer, conductor and educator Dr. Rollo Dilworth. Dr. Dillworth will speak about the history of spirituals and also address the important issue of cultural appropriation. Email Kurt Hansen by 1 p.m. today for the Zoom link if you haven't already RSVPd, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com.

## JAN 26 - WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - 7:30 p.m., Zoom

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

# JAN 27 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoon

A Non-Biblical Bible Study. Join us as we take a look inside a first-Century Christian document called *The Didache*, or the Teaching. This fascinating writing gives us a glimpse from outside the pages of the Biblical canon into what was important to early Christians as they lived as a minority within the Roman Empire. Email Pastor Jeff if you'd like to sign up, jcarlson@spucc.org.

JAN 28 - LEARN TO KNIT WITH LEE AND ST. PAULS SOCIAL - 7 p.m., Zoom Have you ever wanted to learn to knit? Or perhaps in another life you enjoyed knitting and during this pandemic, when we are staying home more than we would like, you would like to refresh your skills. Well, our very own knitting guru, Lee Lichamer, will be teaching the art of knitting on Zoom. Have needles and a favorite color of yarn, sit back, and to learn how to cast on, knit, and pearl. RSVP to Lee at lichamer@ameritech.net by January 27. You will be sent the Zoom link on that date.

## JAN 31 - CHURCH FINANCE REVIEW - 11:30 a.m., Zoom

Join Saint Pauls Treasurer Toby Rogers after worship for a review of church finances and a time for Q&A. RSVP here for the Zoom link: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/702944.

#### **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.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP) -** CEP meals in the St. Pauls courtyard have been discontinued until warm weather returns. We are currently offering laundry services to street-based guests - hygiene services are particularly important during the pandemic. If you are looking for other ways to help our neighbors experiencing homelessness, please contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.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.

**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.

#### NG, CLASSIC NOVELS READING GROUP -

Last year we read four books from the Zora Canon, written by African American women. Readings for 2021 are being set, so stay tuned! 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.

- Nial, Gloria Joseph's husband, who is dealing with a cancer diagnosis and beginning treatments.
- Marci, Gloria Joseph's friend, who recently suffered a stroke.
- Greg Mooney and family at the death of Sheryl.
- Prayers for our democracy.
- 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 Nitzsche family at the tragic death of Dan.
- Kristin Mack and family at the deaths of her grandfather, Dennis Carlson, and granny, Charlotte.
- Ninon Freeman at the death of her mother, Alba Young.
- 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.
- Molly Dierks, in the hospital.
- Erick, an Army friend of Bruce Voice.
- Bruce Voice, recovering from surgery.
- A mother and her two children going through a very difficult time.
- Patty, friend of Petrine and Garold Ashley, as she undergoes a third knee transplant.
- Mark Huddle at the death of his father, Mike.
- Mary Train, recovering from a broken wrist.
- Amy Newman, being treated for cancer.
- Rob and Shannon Castle's friend, Mike, in treatment for cancer.
- Pat Ruch's sister, Aline, beginning treatment for brain cancer.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.

**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 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 2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614 (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
Tom Henry, Pastor Emeritus, emeritushenry@gmail.com
Benny VanDerburgh, Pastoral Intern, bvanderburgh@spucc.org
Karen E. Johnson, President of the Congregation, kejpiano@aol.com
Maddy Lockhart, Director of Operations, mlockhart@spucc.org
Melissa Miller Furgeson, Bookkeeper, bookkeeper@spucc.org
Kurt R. Hansen, Music Director, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com
Kevin Dzierzawski, Organist, kdzierza@att.net
Brendan Henry, Pianist, brendanhenrypiano@gmail.com
Nancy Voigts, Children's Choir Director, nvoigtsgod@att.net
Kecia Waldschmidt, Youth Choir Director, keciagerman@hotmail.com
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.