

May 9, 2021
Virtual Worship

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

John 15:17

"I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

PRELUDE

Cantilène

L. Schreiber

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

CHIMES

INTROIT

Mother Is a Priceless Jewel

Godwin Sadoh (Nigeria)

Rachel Barton Pine and Sylvia Pine, violins

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Sarah Garcia

One: Let us sing to our God a new yet timeless song.

All: She's made us this world full of wonders!

One: This whole planet stands at attention

All: To God's loving presence among and between us.

One: May we lift our voices and seed our shared ground,

All: Imagining a new world of possibility and radical love together.

HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Led by Miles Davidson

1. Love di - vine, — all loves ex - cel - ing, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing spir - it, In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all thy life re - ceive;
4. Fin - ish, then, — thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and spot - less let us be;

Fix in us — thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All thy faith - ful mer - cies crown;
Let us all — in thee in - her - it, Let us find thy prom - ised rest;
Sud - den - ly — re - turn and nev - er, Nev - er more thy tem - ples leave.
Let us see — thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in thee;

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion; Pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - meg - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve thee as — thy hosts a - bove,
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place,

Vis - it us — with thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
End of faith, as its — be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
Pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in — thy pre - cious love.
Till we cast — our crowns be - fore — thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Matt Fitzgerald

**God of all things, we confess
that we struggle to make sense
of what is asked of us
by being church.**

**Belief comes and belief goes,
yet it is hardest still for us
to call a neighbor,
a fellow churchgoer, a distant,
different other,**

**our brother, our cousin,
our kindred in this
shared faith
on this shared planet
in this shared moment
of life together. Help us better
nurture this extended family.
Help us raise our voices,
ever louder, in praise of
this fierce and loving,
compassionate and tireless
God of justice. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Allen Heinemann

Psalms 98:4-9

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

"Our New Old Song"

Benny VanDerburgh

MEDITATION

Christ, He Is My Life
Matt Plaskota, marimba

J. S. Bach

OFFERING INVITATION

Sarah Garcia

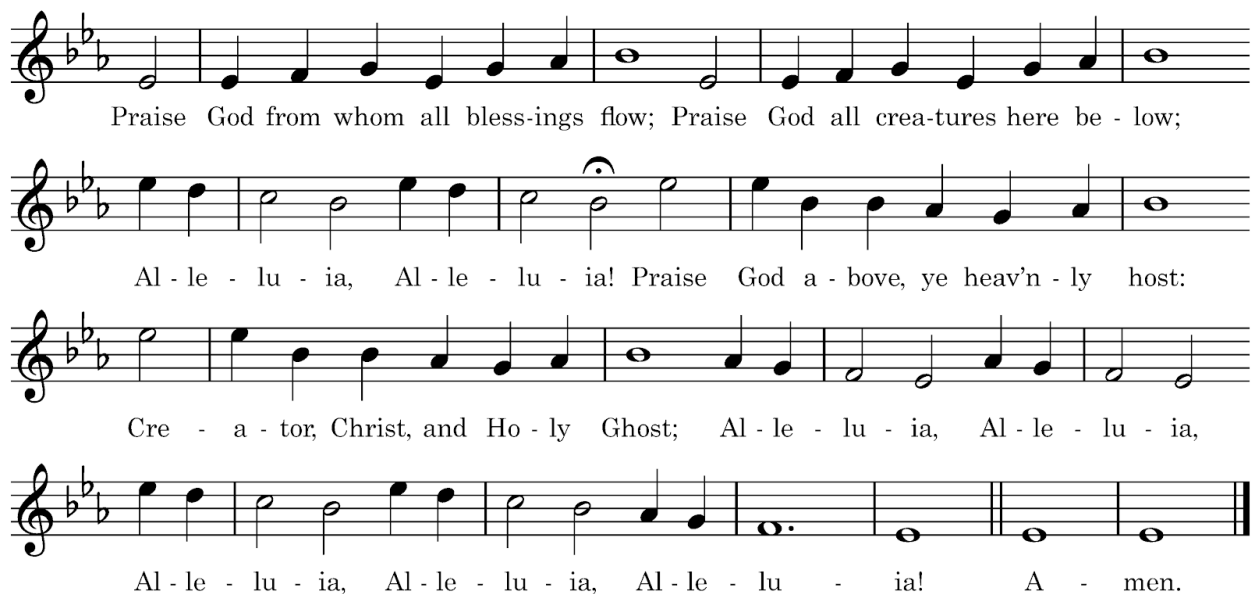
OFFERTORY

Spring Song
Tom Clancy, guitar and French horn

Tom Clancy

Give to St. Pauls at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving or with Zelle to giving@spucc.org

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:

Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

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.

HYMN

How Great Thou Art

Led by Terry and Kurt Hansen



1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der and hear the
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion and take me



all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played:____
gran - deur, and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze:____
bear - ing, he bled and died to take a - way my sin:____
- ra - tion, and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art."____



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee:____ how great thou



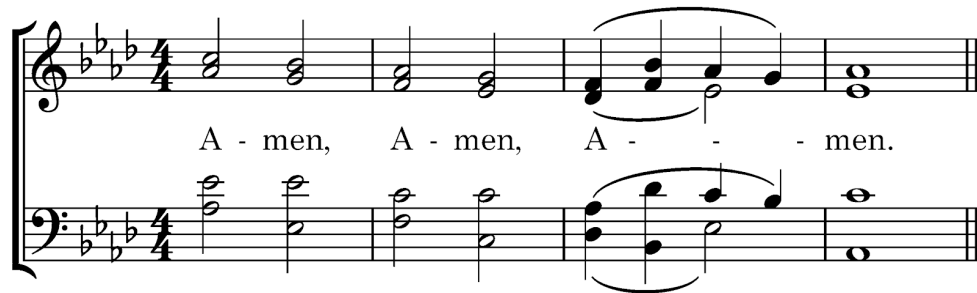
art,____ how great thou art!____ Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee:____ how great thou art,____ how great thou art!____

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

For Mother

Nancy Hays

Nancy Hays with Matt and Caroline Heffernan

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***

*Morning worship at Saint Pauls will be streamed online until further notice,
on Sundays at 10 a.m. Central, at spucc.org/streaming.*

For updates about in-person afternoon worship, see the announcements section below!

*You can also call in to listen to our services at **(312) 626-6799** at 10 a.m. Central on
Sundays. 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

Matt Plaskota

BORN THIS WEEK IN MAY

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.*

- May 9 Adam McElhinney, David Verduin, Jill Wachholz, Lydia Murray, Leigh Hamp,
John Balevic
- May 10 James Grunst, Steve Singles
- May 11 James Hamp, Marcus Ball
- May 12 Doug Dobmeyer, Kelly Erdman, Alec Riportella, Matt Heffernan
- May 13 Helen Gregg, Sarah Richmond, Om Bienvenu
- May 14 Ben Krumrei, Polina Svetlitskaya
- May 15 Mark Roschen, Nancy Heffernan, Ed Heffernan, Evie Drew, Will Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REOPENING UPDATE

We are eager to see church members and friends in person. While the entire staff hasn't yet been vaccinated, we are moving toward that goal. To see a pastor at church during the week, please contact Matt, Sarah, or Jeff by telephone or email to schedule. If you need to come to the church building for another reason on a weekday, please contact Claire, chiggins@spucc.org, or Maddy, mlockhart@spucc.org, in the church office to schedule your visit. Masks are required inside the building.

IN-PERSON AFTERNOON WORSHIP

In-person worship is each Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m., in addition to our 10 a.m. virtual worship service. Attendance is currently limited to 50 people, including staff, while we work on transitioning to new CDC guidelines. Please make sure you register everyone who will be attending. See more info and registration details at: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/category/34510

CREATION CORNER

- 200,000 BC - Humans began burning wood for warmth and cooking
- 200 BC - Coal mining started in China
- 644 AD - First windmill was used in Iran
- 1690 - Coal replaced wood due to wood depletion in Europe
- 1859 - First oil well was drilled in Pennsylvania
- 1933 - First hydroelectric power station became operational
- 1951 - First nuclear electrical power was produced in Idaho
- 1993 - First commercial wind turbine was installed in New Zealand
- Whale oil was a major player for decades until shortages occurred

It would appear that greed has long been a driving force. Thankfully, new, better and more profitable energy sources have come along.

SUMMER CAMP!

We are excited to have you join us for summer camp this year! Along with arts and crafts, games, and water activities, campers enjoy exploring local parks and going on daily adventures! St. Pauls Summer Camp is for school aged children 6-12. Summer camp will run July 5 through July 30 with options for Full Day (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) or Half Day (9 a.m.-12 p.m.). Sign up on a weekly basis, Monday to Friday. Learn more and sign up here: <https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/823571>

PROVIDE A MEAL FOR LPCS

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 date: **May 11**. 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 these days.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)

We are seeking **CEP Laundry** volunteers on Saturday morning. One volunteer is needed each week to greet street-based guests and launder their clothes on-site at St. Pauls from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you have any interest in **cooking in-person** meals for homeless neighbors in the coming months, please contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com. If you are not interested in in-person activities, we continue to have opportunities to drop off meals for LPCS.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 13 & 20 - BOOK DISCUSSION: *CLIMATE CHURCH, CLIMATE WORLD*

7-8 p.m., Zoom

Why should people of faith engage the moral challenge of climate change – and how should we do it? This book, recently featured in the [Chicago Tribune](#), helps answer these questions and empowers the reader to join others in taking action. The author, Rev. Jim Antal, serves as Special Advisor on Climate Justice to the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. Please purchase a copy from your favorite merchant and RSVP at the link below. Discussion sponsored by our St. Pauls Green Team. <https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/827095>

MAY 26 - BOOK DISCUSSION: *HOW TO FIGHT RACISM* - 5 p.m., Zoom

How can you individually, or we as a church, act to promote racial justice? Join our three-part exploration using Jemar Tisby's *How to Fight Racism: Courageous Christianity and the Journey toward Racial Justice*. This timely book attempts to move beyond talking about racism to equipping people with practical tools to fight against it. Cindy Ball will lead the series. We will meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. The remaining one-hour session is:

- May 26 - Focus on Commitment, pp. 141-206

We encourage those purchasing books to consider independent Black, Indigenous or People of Color (BIPOC)-owned bookstores. For additional information and to register, contact Cindy Ball, cindyzinn11@gmail.com.

JUNE 14 - BOOK DISCUSSION: *THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING* - 7 p.m. Zoom
The Long, Classic Novels Reading Group invites you to read and discuss this book by T.H. White. Ursula LeGuin writes, "A fierce and damaged man, T. H. White wrote about fierce and damaged people—and children, and animals—with a brilliant, painful innocence that has no equal in literature. He is so good at hurt and shame—how did he also manage to be so funny? I have laughed at his great Arthurian novel and cried over it and loved it all my life." RSVP: Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org for Zoom link.

OPPORTUNITIES

CHURCH CENTER – spucc.churchcenter.com is our new portal for the Saint Pauls community. See our calendar, register for events, update your contact information, join and view our photo directory, manage your online donations, see your giving history, and more!

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 & 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, 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.

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 & 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 Jennifer Kew, JenniferLKew@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).

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 speaking pastor for that Sunday will send you the scripture passage and recording/uploading instructions.

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

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.

- Diane Massie's niece, hospitalized with COVID pneumonia.
- Friends of the Ashley family who are in times of crisis - Walt and Heidi, Sven and Bitten.
- Tilly Wilhoite, her brother Bert, and family, at the passing of her sister-in-law, Caryl.
- Family and friends at the death of Ruth Cuzman.
- Pauline Taylor's son, Greg, being treated for cancer.
- Colleen Henry's 100-year-old mother in hospice care.
- Jeff Johnson and family at the death of his mother, Jeanine.
- Prayers of blessing for Robin Scott as she moves to Boston for a new job.
- Family and friends of Gloria's friend, Marci, at her death.
- Al Cerkan, recovering from major back surgery.
- Friends and family mourning the loss of Larry Butcher.
- Juanita Barlow, recovering from a procedure on a blood vessel.
- Phill, brother of Bob Ball, diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia and beginning many medical treatments.
- Juggling working from home, Zoom school, and family life.
- 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.
- 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
2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614
(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858
www.spucc.org

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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
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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.