

August 8, 2021

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.

PRELUDE I Expect to See Him Jessy Dixon

St. Arbucks Quartet

WELCOME Sarah Garcia

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Blessed is the one who calls the worlds into being! All: Blessed is the one who gives us the gift of life!

One: The waves of Lake Michigan sing their song!

All: The trees of Grant Park clap their leaves for joy!
One: Plants, animals, human beings, young and old together!

All: Let us bless the giver of every good gift!

^{*} Please stand if you are able to do so.

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Please Hum



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Fount of every blessing, forgive our foolish ways.

We confess that we are easily irritated and angered.

With our words, we wound.

With our tongues, we tear down.

With our silence we build walls.

Soften the hard places of our hearts.

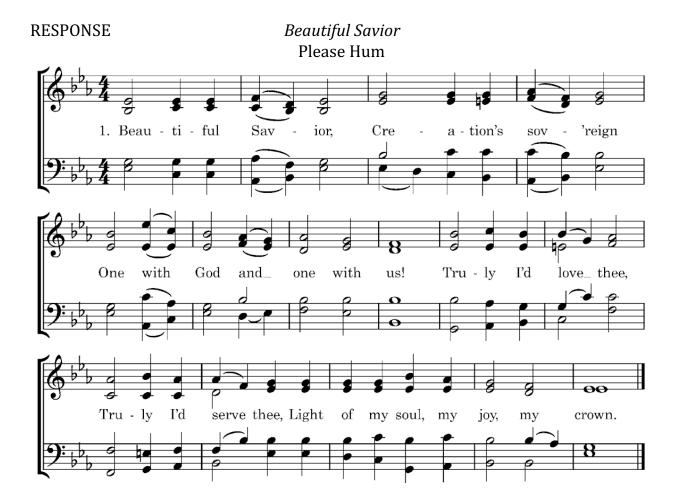
Illuminate the dark corners of our minds.

Heal our lives and heal our relationships with your friendship and love.

Through the grace of Jesus Christ, Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE



SCRIPTURE Peg Wander

Ephesians 4-5, excerpts.

So I tell you this, and witness to it in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the nations do, in the futility of their thinking. That is not the way you learned Christ. You were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true justice and holiness.

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. Be angry, but do not sin: Do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil a foothold. Thieves must steal no longer, but must work, doing something good with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. Do not let any rotten talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, so that your words may give grace to those who listen.

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

* 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)

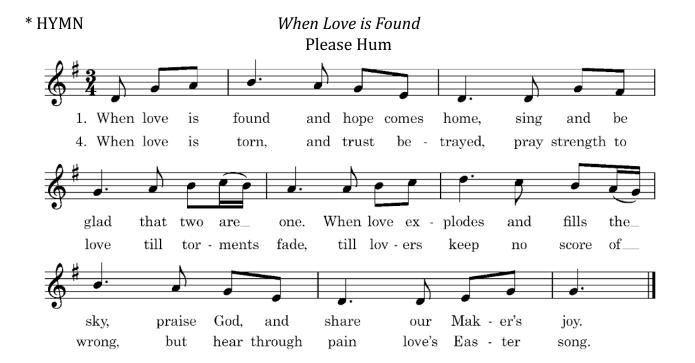
* RESPONSE

Beautiful Savior
Previous Insert, Please Hum

SERMON

"Don't Let the Sun Go Down"

Jeff Carlson



Lord, Don't Move My Mountain St. Arbucks Quartet

Doris Mae Akers arr. Brendan Henry

Now Lord don't move my mountain

But give me the strength to climb

And Lord, don't take away my stumbling blocks

But lead me all around

Lord I don't bother nobody
I try to treat everybody the same
But everytime, I turn my back
They scandalize my name

But oh Jesus You don't have to move my mountain ...

Now when my folks would slay me
These things they will try to do
But Lord, don't touch 'em
But within their heart
Make 'em give their life to you

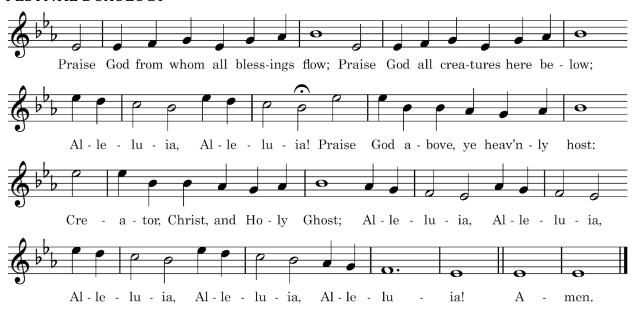
Oh Master You don't have to move my mountain ...

You can give to St. Pauls by:

Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,
At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,
Or through Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Sarah Garcia

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.

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Please Hum



* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

I'm Gonna Live the Life I Sing About in My Song Thomas A. Dorsey
St. Arbucks Quartet

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

Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks outside in the Courtyard, weather permitting.

TODAY'S MUSIC

I Expect to See Him is by Jessy Dixon (1938 - 2011), another gospel artist and composer with deep roots in Chicago. His music was beloved outside his own community and he received seven Grammy nominations in his career. He toured the world with Paul Simon after Mr. Simon heard him and the Jessy Dixon Singers at a concert at the Radio City Music Hall in New York City. He also wrote music for artists as varied as Diana Ross and Cher.

Come O Fount of Every Blessing, to the tune NETTLETON, is from the rich American tradition of the shape-note hymnals, specifically *Wyeth's Repository Of Sacred Music*. The text was written by Robert Robinson (1735-1790), who began his professional life as an apprentice to a hairdresser before committing himself to a religious life.

Beautiful Savior was originally a German hymn, *Schönster Herr Jesu*, first found and attributed in a 17th century hymnal. The English tune name is CRUSADER'S HYMN. The translation was provided by Joseph Augustus Seiss, (1823 - 1904), who was a Lutheran pastor in this country in the mid-1800's. *Beautiful Savior* also became the *alma mater* of St. Olaf College, and is sung at the close of every concert and important events at St. Olaf and other colleges.

When Love Is Found is a text written in 1978 by Brian A. Wren (b. 1936). Wren was born in England and now resides in the United States. He is a preacher and lecturer who has written many hymn texts, including *Bring Many Names*, which is another St. Pauls favorite. The tune O WALY WALY is a traditional English melody from the 18th century. It is a basis for many folksong settings from composers like Benjamin Britten.

Lord, Don't Move My Mountain lyrics and music were written by Doris Mae Akers (1923 - 1995), a famous African American gospel composer, arranger, and singer. This is another gospel song that Mahallia Jackson sang and this arrangement is by Brendan Henry.

Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy, to the tune RESTORATION, is mined from the wonderful early 19th century American shape-note hymnals including Southern Harmony. Its composer and lyricist are unknown, but it was first published in 1835. The melody is characterized by a folk-like swing.

I'm Gonna Live the Life I Sing About in My Song was composed in 1955 by Thomas A. Dorsey (1899 - 1993). Dorsey composed more than 3,000 songs, one third of them gospel music. In fact, Dorsey is credited with creating gospel music, a fusion of jazz, blues, and deep spirituality. His most famous song is *Precious Lord*. Mahailia Jackson made the first recording of *I'm Gonna Live the Life I Sing About in My Song* in 1956.

ALTAR CLOTHS AND PARAMENTS

Our altar cloths and paraments change colors when the seasons of the church year shift and were made by members of Saint Pauls.

Purple is for the seasons of Advent and Lent, made by Deborah Rose.

White is for the seasons of Christmas and Easter, made by Lynn Dykstra Davis.

Red is for special Sundays and symbolizes the Holy Spirit (Pentecost, Reformation Sunday, Ordinations), made by Deborah Rose.

Green is for ordinary time, made by Deborah Rose.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Brian Hafner, Fred Pearson

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney **Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

Camera Operator: Chuck Kent

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota,

drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

FLOWER ON THE ALTAR are in honor of Annie and Jeff Johnson's 25th Wedding Anniversary.

BORN THIS WEEK IN AUGUST

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.

- Aug 8 Jim Javorcic, Owen Bunch, Lizzie Clark
- Aug 9 Pat Grose, Eleanore McGuire
- Aug 10 Sally Connolly, Scott Hibbard, Nate Davidson
- Aug 11 Anna-Kate Trubilowicz, Nathan Streeter, Steve Schwartzberg, Ben Smith
- Aug 12 Natalie Douglass, Rick Newbury
- Aug 13 Oriana Gannello
- Aug 14 David Burnett, Lorri Gunn Wirsum, Scott Jackson, Adria Kornick, Justin DuPont, Olivia Kearns

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

A member of our community would like to come to church regularly but is required to have an escort to leave her building. We'd like to gather a group of volunteers who will take turns accompanying her to church on Sundays. This would entail meeting her where she lives at Clark and Oak on Sunday morning, riding with her in the van and then back to her residence after church. If you feel called to be a part of this team, or to learn more, please contact Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

CREATION CORNER - Wind & Solar Energy Exceeds Coal for First Time in April

The number one contributor to climate change is the drastic increase in greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide and methane) from the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas) for electricity, heat, and transportation over the past 70 years. Just 10 years ago, half of the United States electricity came from coal. Today it's only 20%. This drastic decline comes despite the federal governmental support of the coal industry. The increase in renewable energy comes in part because of the declining costs of renewable energy generation, energy.gov/eere/renewables.

CHURCH SCHOOL

We are offering Sunday morning faith formation activities for children 2 to 11 years old. See the event page for more information. Please register by Friday for the upcoming Sunday at spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/885065.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AUG 11 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS - 12-12:45 p.m., Zoom

St. Paul's famous words about love were written to a local church only about 7 years old. They were new Christians struggling to build a community around the good news of Jesus. For Paul, Christian faith can only be lived in community and in this letter he addresses the questions and struggles of a group of early Christians that remain surprisingly similar to our own. 1 Corinthians is a timely book to read as we reenter our in-person life together. Meets weekly on Zoom. RSVP: Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

AUG 14 - POLO PLAY DATE - 10-11:30 a.m., Juniper Park Join POLO for sand and water fun at Juniper Park, 3652 N. Greenview! Wear a swimsuit for the water sprays. Please RSVP to jctong@yahoo.com. We will reschedule in the event of rain.

SEPT 20 - DISCUSSION: *THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO* - 7 p.m.

The Count of Monte Cristo is next up in this year's Long, Classic Novel Reading Group. Alexandre Dumas' epic tale of suffering and retribution, inspired by a real-life case of wrongful imprisonment, was a huge popular success when it was first serialized in the 1840s. We'll be reading it over six months, with the first of two discussions on September 20 at 7 p.m. RSVP: Pastor Jeff, jearlson@spucc.org.

SEPT 21 - UCAN HEALING GARDEN DEDICATION & RECEPTION - 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., UCAN

You're invited to the dedication of UCAN's healing garden, Petria's Place, located on their North Lawndale campus. Join in for prayer, music, refreshments, and tours of UCAN's campus. RSVP at www.ucangarden.org. For questions, please contact Rebecca Sandoval at rebecca.sandoval@ucanchicago.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

ALTAR FLOWERS – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way of celebrating a special event in your life: an anniversary, a birthday, a holiday, or just because you like flowers! Sign up at spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/874446.

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!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP) – We are seeking **CEP Laundry volunteers on Saturday mornings**. 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.

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 SIGN-UP – Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected? You can go to spucc.org 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! If you're already a member of St. Pauls and have missed signing up for our email list, you can sign up at the bottom of our website, spucc.org.

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. If you prefer to complete a paper document, please contact the office, info@spucc.org. 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 on 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.

MEALS FOR LPCS – Lincoln Park Community Services is a St. Pauls founded organization that provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for volunteers to provide meals during this time. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 35 lunches, including three vegetarian, at the 600 W. Fullerton location.

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

OUTREACH & BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love you to 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!

SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the 10 a.m. in-person worship service each week to read the scripture passage of the day. Learn more and sign up at: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988.

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 – 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.

- Carrie Bruggers at the death of her mother, Phyllis.
- Ken Traverse and his family at the death of his younger brother, Ray Traverse, from a brain tumor.
- Karaçan Thomas' grandmother in the hospital.
- Joe JaQuay at the death of his mother, Noor.
- Sue Edmunds, friend of Sue Finkle in hospice with cancer.
- Yvette, friend of Jenny Benefield, struggling greatly with severe chronic depression.
- The many who have not received the COVID-19 vaccine, to get it before it's too late. May we all find our role in helping this happen.
- The family and friends of the Mora family, and other victims of the Surfside Condo collapse.
- Janice, cousin of Darlene Braun, asking for prayers.
- Family and friends of Susann Craig at her death.
- Marti Pechnyo, recovering at home after emergency shoulder replacement surgery.
- Angi Miller's friend, Rachelle, fighting cancer.
- Friends and family of Karl Wirsum at his death.
- Friends and family of Larry Butcher at his death.
- Ivy Sanz's mother, Grace, for a quick recovery from her hospitalization with pneumonia.
- Friends of the Ashley family who are in times of crisis Walt and Heidi, Sven and Bitten.
- Al Cerkan, recovering from major back surgery.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

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 people.

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 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614 (773) 348-3829 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
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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.