

September 26, 2021

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

#### Children are asked to go to Sunday School before worship begins.

Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.

# Please silence cell phones.

#### THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"Christ is always stronger in my brother's heart than in my own."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

PRELUDE Someone Asked a Question-Why We Sing Kirk Franklin

St. Arbucks Quartet

INTROIT When the Morning Stars Together Jean Slates Hawk

Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME Jeff Carlson

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: We will not fear. Though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

One: Though its waters roar and form,

though the mountains tremble with its tumult - the Lord speaks:

All: Be still and know that I am God!

One: The God of hosts is with us;

All: The God of Jacob is *our* refuge.

<sup>\*</sup> WELCOMING EACH OTHER

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if you are able to do so.

# Christians, We Have Met to Worship



Almighty God,

Your call comes like a trumpet at dawn,

and we answer;

running toward each other we become your people.

So we have faith. But we still fail.

We are moved by ambition, not concern.

We dream of benefits, not sacrifice.

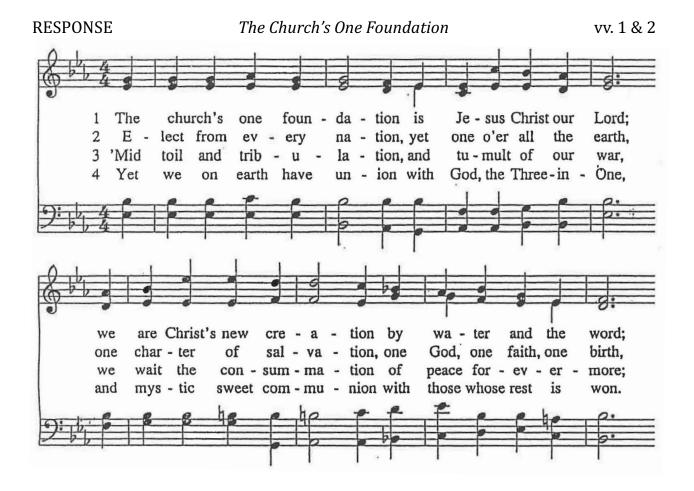
We rely on ourselves, not grace.

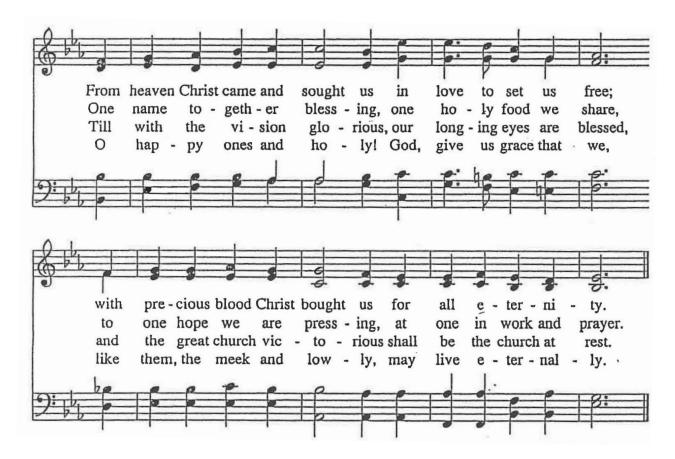
Forgive us. Revive us.

Amen.

#### MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE





#### **SCRIPTURE**

Numbers 11:28-29, James 5:13-14, Mark 9:38-40

A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

--

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

--

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us.

#### \* 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

The Church's One Foundation
See previous response

vv. 3 & 4

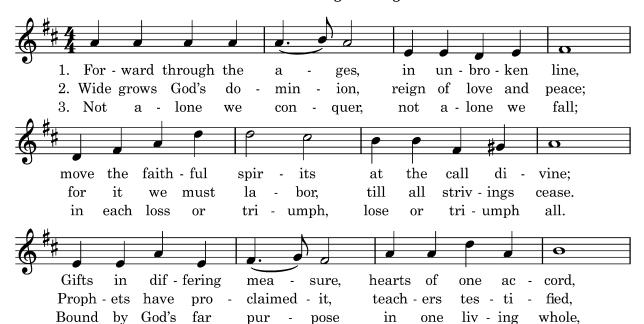
SERMON

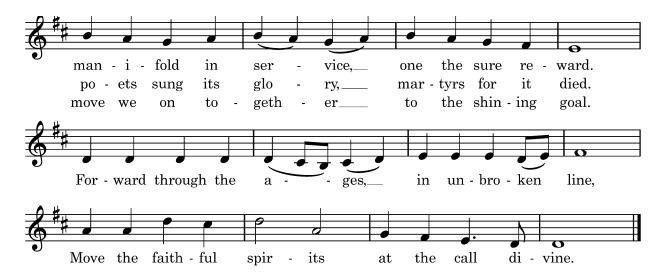
"You're Not a Priest, We're a Priesthood"

Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

#### Forward Through the Ages





MISSION MOMENT

"Green Team"

Jan Fraccaro

**OFFERTORY** 

*Psalm 150* Chancel Choir Louis Lewandowski

O praise ye the Lord,
In His sanctuary;
Praise ye the Lord
In the firmament of His power.
Praise ye Him for His mighty acts,
Praise Him for His mighty acts.
Praise ye Him, according to His majesty.

Praise ye Him with the sound of the trumpet Praise ye Him with the psaltery and harp. Praise Him with the timbrel. Praise ye Him with the dance, Praise Him with the organ and stringed instruments. Praise ye Him upon the loud cymbals. Praise ye Him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath, Praise the Lord, O praise ye the Lord, In His sanctuary; O praise ye the Lord In the firmament of His power. Praise ye Him for His mighty acts. Praise ye Him according to His Majesty. Hallelujah!

You can give to St. Pauls by:

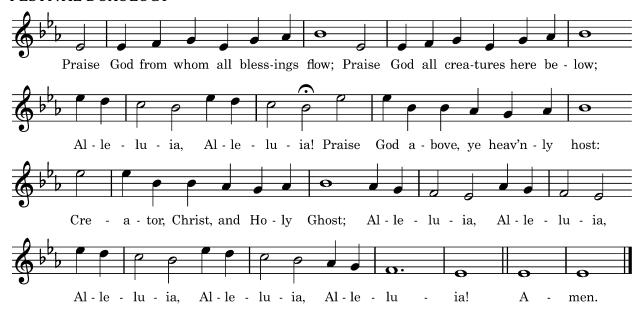
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



#### \* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

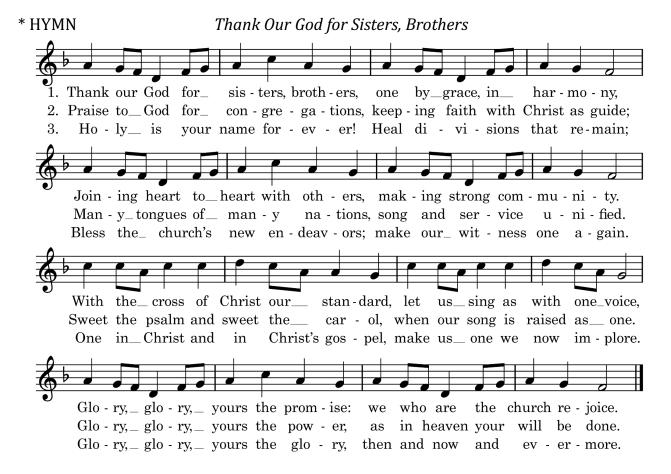
Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

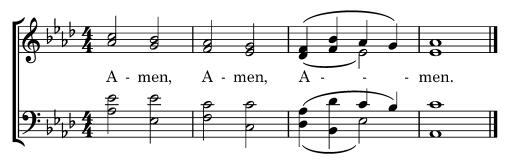
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.



#### \* BENEDICTION

#### \* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



**POSTLUDE** 

Trumpet Tune in E Kevin Dzierzawski, organ David N. Johnson

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**

Our prelude, *Someone Asked a Question-Why We Sing* was written in 1993 and features both text and music by Kirk Franklin (b. 1970). Mr Franklin also pays homage in this song to the historic hymn text *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*. He also has brought a new and contemporary edge to gospel music by adding the energy of hip-hop.

When the Morning Stars Together is a text written by Albert Bayly (1901 - 1984), a British ship builder, who later became a minister in the United Reformed Church. He also provided librettos for cantatas by William Lloyd Webber (1914 - 1982), the composer father of Andrew Lloyd Webber, the famous music theater composer. The tune, OFFERING, was composed by Jean Slates Hawk (1925 - 2004) in 1991. She was a graduate of the Eastman School of Music. In addition to becoming a life-long church musician, she was also a music therapist.

The text for *Christians, We Have Met to Worship* was written by George Askins (17?? - 1816). He was born in Ireland and migrated to America as an adult where he became an itinerant Methodist preacher. HOLY MANNA is an unattributed melody from the great American series of shaped-note hymnals from the early 19th century including *The Sacred Harp*.

Samuel John Stone (1839 - 1900) wrote the text for *The Church's One Foundation* in 1866. He became an Anglican clergy and finished his ministry at St. Paul's in Haggerston in East London, England. AURELIA, which means "golden," was composed by Samuel S. Wesley (1810 - 1876) in 1864 and was originally set to a Wesley text *Jerusalem, The Golden*. Wesley was English and strove throughout his career to improve church music and the lives of church musicians.

**Forward Through the Ages** is known as *Onward Christian Soldiers* (1865) by many older believers. This text was penned by Frederick L. Hosmer (1840 - 1929) in 1908, as a less militant encouragement to believers. Hosmer became a Unitarian minister, who wrote more than 100 hymn texts. The tune, ST. GERTRUDE was composed in 1871 by the famous Arthur Sullivan (1841 - 1900), who composed a great deal of classical music in addition to his famous collaborative theater pieces with W. S. Gilbert. He composed the stirring tune for the Hosmer text.

**Psalm 150** is set by Louis Lewandowski (1821-1894). Originally, the text was in Hebrew. He was born in Poland. After his mother's death, and because of the family's extreme poverty, he moved to Berlin. He was aided by Alexander Mendelssohn, cousin of Felix. He was the first Jew admitted to the Berlin Academy of

the Arts. After recovering from serious health problems, he decided to devote his life to composing music for the synagogue. He was in the forefront of the growth of Reform Judaism. In 1882, he wrote the first complete setting of the Jewish Sabbath liturgy for cantor, four part choir, and organ.

The original text for *Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers* was written in 1948 by Roger K. Powell (1914 - 2003) as a rallying song for The National Council Of Churches meeting in 1952. The text was updated for our New Century Hymnal. PLEADING SAVIOR was first published in 1830 and is attributed to Joshua Levitt (1794 - 1873). Levitt was a Yale graduate and became a Congregational minister. He aided a slave to escape the South and raised funds for the defense of the Armistad captives.

**Trumpet Tune in E** was composed by David N. Johnson (1922 - 1987), an American organist. He was a lecturer at Syracuse University and earlier the organ professor at St. Olaf College. He served during World War Two in the U.S. Army Signal Corp in India, Burma and China. He was decorated for his service.

#### TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Clergy:** Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson, Benny VanDerburgh

**Music Director:** Kurt Hansen **Organist:** Kevin Dziersawski

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

drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Doug Clark, Brian Hafner, Fred Pearson

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

**Camera Operators:** Brian Hafner, Bob Ball

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are dedicated to the Nowack family at the loss of their nephew/cousin Austin Callahan, who would have been 23 years old this week.

#### **BORN THIS WEEK IN SEPTEMBER + OCTOBER**

We 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.

Sept 26	Jorie Hamm, Kristi Noonan
Sept 27	AJ Smart, Douglas Roewer, Will Carter
Sept 28	Betsy Kalmar, Toby Rogers, Brian Gallagher, Olivia Block
Sept 29	Jill Brennan, Jonathan Leaf, Andy Vahey, Hannah Fitzgerald, Miles Davidson
Sept 30	Layton Olson, Claire Terborg
Oct 1	Amy Akers, Paul Schrimpf, Ryan Stoner, Theresa Herlevsen, Katlyn McVey

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### WE'RE SPONSORING A REFUGEE FAMILY!

Our plan to co-sponsor a family with Refugee One is taking shape. We're going to hold information sessions on September 30 at 5:30 p.m. (virtual meeting) and October 3 at 11:30 a.m. (in-person) for those interested in learning more about this. RSVP here: <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1016794">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1016794</a>. A major part of our effort is to raise up to \$12,000 to pay for the rental of an apartment. If you'd like to donate to our efforts, please go to <a href="mailto:refugeeone.org/stpauls">refugeeone.org/stpauls</a> or use this QR code. Please contact Mark Pellegrino, jimarkp@yahoo.com, if you have questions.

#### OOMPAH! OKTOBERFEST TO GO!

Although we can't gather for our annual Oktoberfest block party this year, we still want to celebrate St. Pauls German heritage with our vibrant church community. So we'd like to offer you a Polka Party Pack! The party packs will include all the traditional and authentic foods that make our St. Pauls Oktoberfest so special: brats, hotdogs, Bavarian pretzels, German potato salad, sauerkraut, and seasonal cookies. Order forms will be available in October, and the Polka Party Packs will be ready for pick-up on October 30/31. Prost!

#### **CREATION CORNER**

In 1950, under 750 million people lived in urban areas. Now more than 4 BILLION, (more than half of the world's population) live in urban areas. There is little good news for an increased urban population unless we create more energy efficient buildings and transportation as well as access to and utilization of public transportation.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is here! If you plan to have your child participate in Sunday School this year, we ask that you please register them. Scan the QR code or find the link on our website and Friday Newsletter. This is not a weekly registration. This is a one-time registration to let us know that you intend to have your child participate so we can prepare the correct staffing and activities.



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### SEPT 26 - VACCINE CLINIC - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Parlor

Pharmacist Aisha from Walgreens on Clark Street will be providing flu, pneumonia, shingles, and COVID-19 (Pfizer and Moderna) vaccines. COVID-19 vaccine and booster eligibility is subject to Illinois regulations. COVID-19 vaccines are free, and, as in the past, there may be a charge for the other vaccines depending on your insurance. Please bring your Medicare or insurance card. You can pay by check or cash.

#### **SEPT 29 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 11 - 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, <a href="mailto:icarlson@spucc.org">icarlson@spucc.org</a>.

# OCT 3 - NEW MEMBER CLASS - 11:30 a.m., Parsonage Lawn

Join pastors, members, and others curious about Saint Pauls for our Fall 2021 New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love you to be part of the conversation! We'll have lunch in the backyard of the parsonage after worship, and childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in the signup). RSVP here: <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1007839">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1007839</a>

#### **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 <a href="mailto:CEPsupper@gmail.com">CEPsupper@gmail.com</a>. 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 <a href="marcia@volkonline.com">marcia@volkonline.com</a>.

**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 request more information about our programs!

**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. The Green Team welcomes your input, participation and ideas. Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro are co-chairs. If interested or to offer suggestions, 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.

**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.

**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!

**SARAH'S SIBS** are back and gather every Wednesday morning to make and distribute 40 bag lunches to our homeless neighbors. You are most welcome to come to the church kitchen at 9:30 a.m. and lend a hand.

#### 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: <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988</a>.

**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.

- For Jay and Ann Abraham, on the death of Jay's parents, John and Sany Abraham.
- Wes Salsbury and Marcia Knudson as Wes continues to develop strength after a months-long hospitalization and rehab stay occasioned by a fall.
- Cheryl and Bill Kennedy at the death of their beloved brother-in-law.
- Diane Massie's nephew, deployed to Kuwait.
- For Stacie B., sister of Mark P., as she deals with a setback in her health.
- Bruce and Betty Voice are now living with her son Raymond. Cards are welcome at 2763 Peach Orchard Road, Anderson, MO 64831.
- Ken Traverse and his family at the death of his younger brother, Ray Traverse, from a brain tumor.
- 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.
- Angi Miller's friend, Rachelle, fighting cancer.
- 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.

# Sound System Congregational Feedback *Please tear out and place in the basket in the Narthex.*

Sar	nctuary	
NA	ARTHEX	•

# 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.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org
Child and Youth Pastor Sarah Garcia, sgarcia@spucc.org
Pastoral Associate Benny VanDerburgh, bvanderburgh@spucc.org
Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry, emeritushenry@gmail.com

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership Please visit spucc.org/contact

St. Pauls United Church of Christ 2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614 (773) 348-3829 www.spucc.org



# 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.