

September 5, 2021 Communion Sunday 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. Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.

PRELUDE

Trio Sonata No. 5—Largo

J. S. Bach

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

WELCOME

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of light, in your realm of glory the poor are blessed. All: The hungry are filled, and every tear is wiped away.

One: Strengthened by this vision, we will follow you. All:

We vow to follow you in the way of holiness

your Son made known in life and death and life again!

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



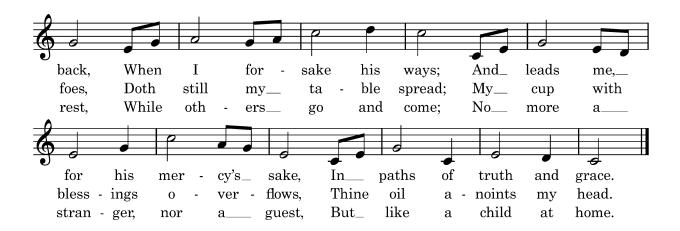
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of resurrection,
when we live as fatalists
Stuck on the dead end
Of the cross,
Without the resolute
Buoyancy of Easter people
Who have been given
Grace upon grace,
Have mercy on our souls.
Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE





SCRIPTURE Patricia Kirby

Mark 8:34-36

And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

* 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

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need See previous insert

vs. 2 & 3

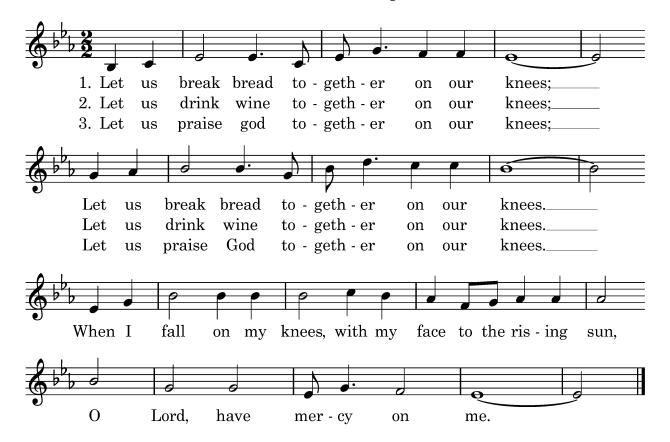
SERMON

"Stop Warring with My God"

Matt Fizgerald

* HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together



Panis angelicus (Sung in Latin)

César Franck

Mary Clayton, soprano; Adma Clayton, tenor; and Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

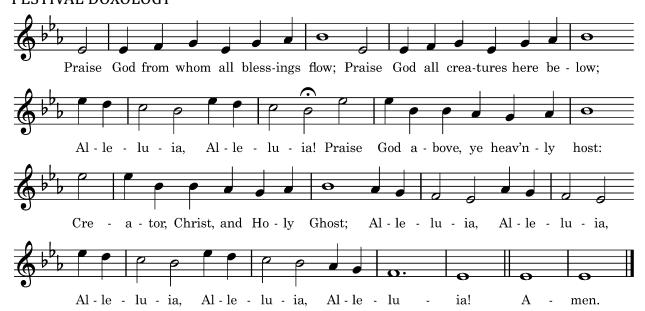
The bread of angels becomes our bread,
The bread of heaven brings an end to earthly forms.
O marvelous and wondrous sacrament:
A poor soul, a slave, and the humble one
Share same sacrifice of the Lord.

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



CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Sarah Garcia

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please come forward for communion.

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

Deposit the cups in the baskets on the way back to your seat. The outer ring of cups contains grape juice. The inner rings contain wine.

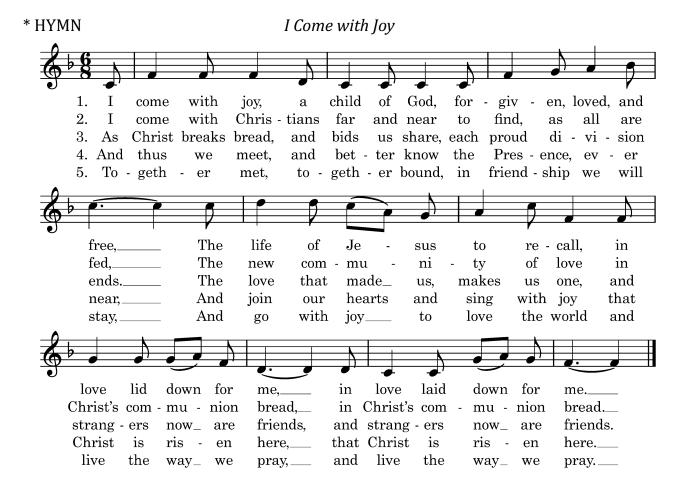
A gluten-free bread option is wrapped and available on a separate tray.

Return to your seat by the side aisles. All are welcome.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING



* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Keep Holding On
St. Arbucks Quartet

Danniebelle Hall

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.

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 MUSIC

WE WELCOME our guest soloists, Mary and Adam Clayton. Yes, they are sister and brother. Both are voice students of Kurt R. Hansen, our Music Director. Mary will begin her undergraduate studies in liberal arts at Northwestern University this fall, and her brother Adam will be a junior Voice Major also at Northwestern. Their parents Nathan and Maureen Clayton are also with us this morning.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750) had the ability and genius to even turn a musical exercise into incredible art. Prime examples would include both books of the *Well-Tempered Clavier* and the source of this morning's **Prelude**. Bach composed six trio sonatas for the organ. "Trio" means that there is one voice each for the right hand, left hand and pedal. That must be easy, right? Hardly! Every organist knows that these seemingly "simple" pieces are a supreme test of an organist's technical skill; oh, and they also are beautiful too.

Christopher Wordsworth (1807 - 1885) wrote the text for *Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven* He wrote more than 120 hymn texts and he was also the nephew of the famous poet William Wordsworth. The words are set to the famous Welsh tune, HYFRYDOL by Rowan Hugh Prichard (1811 - 1887), composed when he was only 19.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need uses a text by the great English poet and hymnodist, Issac Watts. Watts set the entire book of *Psalms* poetically, many of which we still sing today, notably *Our God Our Help in Ages Past*. RESIGNATION is another hymn melody whose composer is unattributed and is from the great early American hymnal, *The Sacred Harp*.

Panis angelicus by César Franck (1822 - 1890) uses a text that is very appropriate for a communion service. Composed in 1872, it is one of Franck's best known works. Franck included it as part of a larger and earlier work, *Mass for 3 Voices*, composed in 1860. The original was for solo voice, harp, cello, and organ. The text is from the 13th century and is by St. Thomas Aquinas from his hymn, *Sacris solemniis*, for the Feast of Corpus Christi.

The tune and text for *Let Us Break Bread Together*, the well known communion hymn, are unattributed but became widely known after being printed in 1926 in *The Second Book of Negro Spirituals*, which was currated and compiled by the famous poet, James Weldon Johnson, and equally prominent composer, J. Rosamond Johnson. The history of the text and tune probably predates the Civil War.

The text of *I Come with Joy* was written by Brian Wren (b. 1936), who is a pastor in the Congregational Church in England. He wrote the hymn as a summary of a series of sermons on the meaning of communion. The tune is an old American hymn, DOVE OF PEACE, from the Southern Harmony hymnal, part of the Sacred Harp tradition. It was arranged by Austin Lovelace (1919 - 2010), who was Organist and Choirmaster for a number of years at First United Methodist Church in Evanston.

Our Postlude, *Keep Holdin' On*, was composed by Danielbelle Hall (1938 - 2000), a highly respected gospel musician, recording artist and songwriter. She was the fourth of eight children and she and her sisters grew up singing gospel music together.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Mary Brown, Brian Hafner, Fred Pearson

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

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Camera Operator: Chuck Kent

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

drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are from Char and Larry Damron in celebration of their 51st wedding anniversary.

BORN THIS WEEK IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

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.

- Aug 29 Karen Schmidt-Hein, Laura Nowack, Stephen Patton
- Aug 30 Ashley Pensinger-Sok, Ed Keller, Jessica Seaton, Tracy Nach
- Aug 31 Cecilia Badanes, Riley Conway, Timothy Liu
- Sept 1 Brent Carstensen, Jill Lawrence
- Sept 2 Carol Weston, Gretchen Althen, Mary Train
- Sept 3 Erika Keegan, Natalie Mutch
- Sept 4 Doug Hamilton, Beatrix Kompare, Jake Saltarelli

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPONSORING A REFUGEE FAMILY by the St. Pauls family is being explored, whether they be from Afghanistan or elsewhere. We're waiting for next steps from our partners at Refugee One. As we've done in the past, co-sponsorship will involve financial assistance; furnishing an apartment with all the essentials; stocking the pantry; meeting the family when they arrive; mentoring and accompanying the family to appointments; introducing them to getting around Chicago, and more. There are many ways to get involved. If you're interested in being a part of this project, please contact Pastor Jeff for updates. jcarlson@spucc.org.

HELP FOR HAITI

Church World Service and the United Church of Christ are both collecting funds for immediate relief and longer-term recovery for thousands of Haitians reeling from the one-two punch of the deadly destructive 7.2 earthquake August 14 in western Haiti followed by Tropical Storm Grace. If you'd like to contribute, you may do so at: cwsglobal.org/donate/haiti-2021 or, ucc.org/ucc-haiti-appeal

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School begins September 12th! 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 get the link in the Friday Email or website. This is not a weekly registration like it was for summer. This is a one-time registration to let us know that you intend to have your child participate in Sunday school, so we can prepare the correct staffing and activities. Sunday school is open to children 2 years old up to high school. We are not offering Sunday school or childcare for children under the age of 2 at this time due to Covid safety concerns.

CREATION CORNER - Keeping Up to Date

The Advanced Clean Truck regulation requires manufacturers of commercial vehicles to start selling electric trucks in 2024, and to sell only electric trucks in California by 2045. The regulation will result in 100,000 zero-emission trucks in California by 2030, and 300,000 by 2035. Great job, California.

SHARING OUR HARVESTS

The Green Team of St. Pauls and Ramiro are hosting a table at Coffee Hour over the next few Sundays for extra bounty from members of our congregation's gardens. Please drop off your extra vegetables in the kitchen before worship and stop by to pick up anything you'd like after church.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SEPT 8 - BIBLE STUDY: WHEN SHOULD WE (NOT) ASSERT OUR RIGHTS? 1 CORINTHIANS 8-9 - 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, icarlson@spucc.org.

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, jcarlson@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 & 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.

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.

- Cheryl and Bill Kennedy at the death of their beloved brother-in-law.
- Diane Massie's nephew, deployed to Kuwait.
- Kelli Fitzgerald and family at the death of her mother, Delcie.
- Friends and family of Marilyn Parsons at her death.
- For Stacie B., sister of Mark P., as she deals with a setback in her health.
- Family and friends of Carole Knuti at her passing.
- Bruce and Betty Voice are now living with her son Raymond. Cards are welcome at 2763 Peach Orchard Road, Anderson, MO 64831.
- 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.
- 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.

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
Ben Emmrich, President of the Congregation, bemmrich@gmail.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.