

October 10, 2021 Baptism Sunday 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

"It is much easier to count things than to know what counts."

Kate Bowler

PRELUDE

I Don't Feel No Ways Tired

Rev. James Cleveland

St. Arbucks Quartet

I don't feel no ways tired,
I've come too far from where I started from
Nobody told me that the road would be easy
I don't believe he brought me this far to leave me

INTROIT Awake, Awake to Love and Work

Kentucky Harmony

Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME Benny Van Derburgh

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day that our God has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

One: Come, let us worship the giver of life!

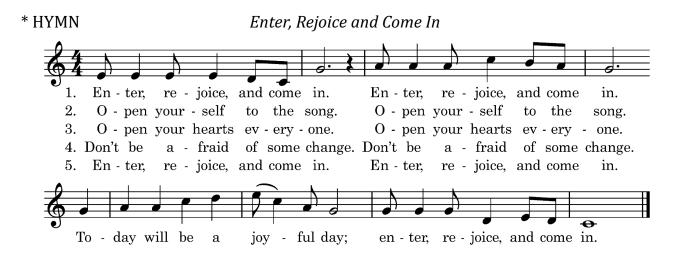
All: God is good and worthy of our praise!

One: This is the day that our God has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad!

^{*} WELCOMING EACH OTHER

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



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Benny VanDerburgh

God, we confess that we are afraid of change.

We do all that we can to secure, manipulate and control our lives, while neglecting you - our one, solid foundation.

We waste our short time upon earth in vain pursuits;

We are easily distracted and give our hearts away to fool's gold;

Self-absorbed, we ignore the people we should shower with love.

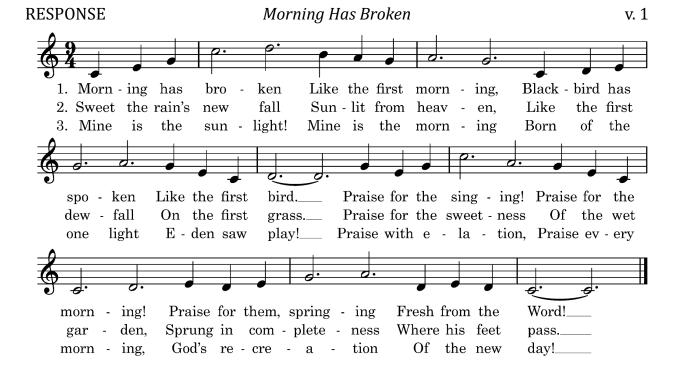
Forgive us, O God.

Teach us to live well.

Teach us to receive each day, each person, as what they are - sheer gift! Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

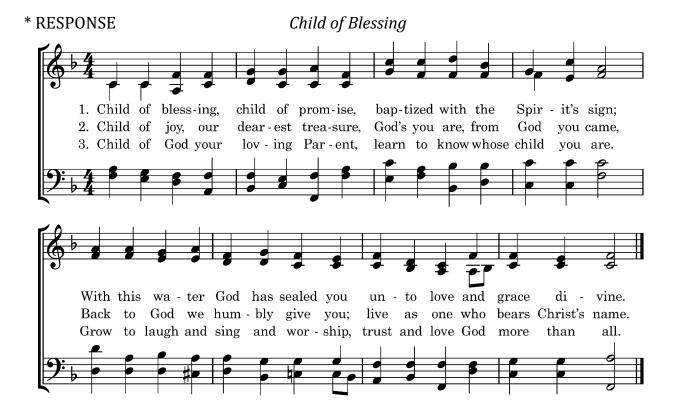
Catalina James Smedley

Pastor: Catalina, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as a child of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Catalina is now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Catalina. Inspire her life. May she sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for her parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with this family as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

All: Amen



SCRIPTURE Gerald Wilk

Psalm 90

A prayer of Moses, the man of God

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in front of your face. For all our days pass away under your wrath; our years come to an end like a sigh.

The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants!

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands— O prosper the work of our hands!

* 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 Morning Has Broken v. 3
See previous response

SERMON "Counting the Days" Jeff Carlson



Brother James Air Chancel Choir

James L. M. Bain arr. Gordon Jacob

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want,
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again; And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill; For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

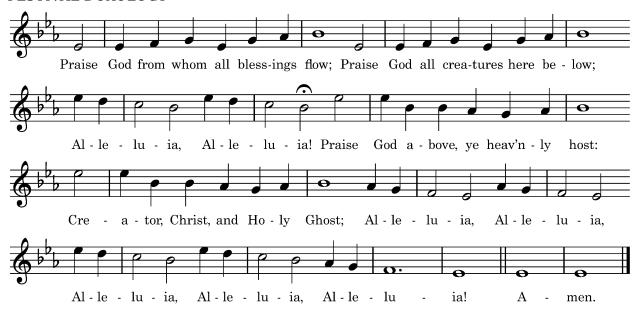
Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me; And in God's house forever more My dwelling place shall be.

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

Matt Fitzgerald

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.

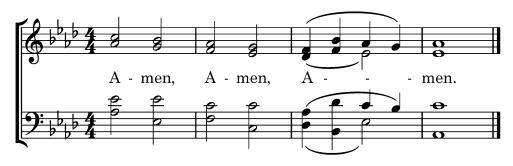
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.



* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Variations on Morning Song—Finale Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Robert Grogan

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 is *I Don't Feel No Ways Tired*, composed in 1980 by the Reverend James Cleveland (1931 - 1991). He was inspired by the exclamation of an elderly woman in his congregation. She'd had a hard life with pain, disappointment, and mistreatment "just because of who she was." She found strength in her faith, redemption in Christ, and liberation in the Holy Spirit. Her words and fortitude inspired the Reverend Cleveland. He also carried on the tradition started by Thomas A. Dorsey fusing the spirit-filled music of gospel with the energy and drive of jazz. Muzette Morgan, our longtime alto section leader and St. Pauls member, introduced this song to us.

The text for *Awake, Awake to Love and Work* was composed in 1921 by Geoffrey Anketel Studdert Kennedy (1883 - 1929), who was an Anglican minister of proud Irish descent. He spent his life working in deprived surroundings. The tune, MORNING SONG, is from another great early American shape-note hymnal, *Kentucky Harmony*. The melody is based on the English folk song *Old King Cole*.

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In was composed in the 1970's by Louise Ruspini (1900 - 2000), who also provided the text based on Psalm 100. The tune borrows from the first line of the refrain: ENTER, REJOICE.

The text for *Morning Has Broken* was written by Elinor Farjeon (1881-1965), who also wrote children's books. The tune we know so well, BUNESSAN, is a Gaelic melody.

The text for *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* was written in 1981 by a UCC pastor and teacher of theology, Ronald Cole-Turner (b. 1948). The tune, STUTTGART, was composed in 1715 by Christian Friederich Witt (1660 - 1716). Witt completed a huge hymnal, *Psalmodia Sacra*, the year before his death. Of the 774 hymns (!!!), nearly 100 were composed by him. He was Kapellmeister of the Gotha court in Stuttgart at the same time that Bach was in Leipzig, just 300 miles north. As an interesting side note, Nathan Laube, world renowned organist and friend of St. Pauls, is currently on the organ faculty at the Hochschule für Musick in Stuttgart.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need uses a text by the great English poet and hymnodist, Issac Watts (1674 - 1748). Watts set the entire book of Psalms poetically, many of which we still sing today, notably Our God Our Help In Ages Past, which we will sing later in this service. RESIGNATION is another hymn melody whose composer is unattributed and is from the great early American hymnal, The Sacred Harp.

The tune for *Brother James Air*, MAROSA, is an alternate name for RESIGNATION, a similar melody as the hymn preceding the Offertory Anthem. It was composed by James Leith Macbeth Bain (1860 – 1925). He was a healer and mystic simply known as Brother James. This arrangement was composed in 1934 by Gordon Jacob (1895 – 1984). Jacob was an English composer and professor at the Royal College of Music in London for more than 40 years. He was known for his orchestrations of composers from Byrd to Elgar to Noël Coward. The text is a poetic version of Psalm 23 taken from the *Scottish Psalter of 1650*.

Issac Watts (1674 - 1748) penned the text for *Our God Our Help in Age Past* in 1719. It is a poetic setting of Psalm 90. We sing Watts' setting of Psalm 23 before and as part of the Offertory Anthem. The tune, ST. ANNE, was likely composed in 1708 by William Croft (1677 - 1727) in London. He became the organist at Westminster Cathedral. As a side note, Bach's famous *Prelude and Fugue in E Flat Major BWV 552* (1735-36) is often referred to as "St. Anne," because Bach seems to quote that tune in the final theme of the "triple fugue." There is no way Bach would have heard or known that tune, but it certainly is an interesting apocryphal story.

Variations on Morning Song-Finale was composed by Robert Grogan. He was the Carillonneur and Organist at The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. He both recorded and composed.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson, Benny VanDerburgh

Music Director: Kurt Hansen Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

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

drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Scripture Reader: Gerald Wilk

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Mary Brown

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

Camera Operators: Brian Hafner, Bob Ball

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in memory of Betty Pellegrino.

BORN THIS WEEK IN 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.

Oct 10	Alec Valadez, Meg Tazelaar
Oct 11	Christine Weil, Mike Stensaas, Rachel Barton Pine, Flynn Lechtenberg
Oct 12	Shelley Kellerm Steve Herrin, Everett Hamm
Oct 13	Alan Iverson, Julia Brizzolara
Oct 14	Kendra Bultemeier, Jimmy Schmitz, Maxwell Nagy, Trevor Hafner
Oct 15	Alicia Braun, Maggie Stepf, Aidan Rodriguez, Andrew Malley,
	Bennett Roark, Elizabeth Raterman, Sarah Moulton, Thea Mack,
	Wynne Emmrich

Oct 16 Lydia Richardson, Hannah Barton, Lucille Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 and pay online, or in-person on upcoming Sundays, and pick up on October 30/31. Prost!

LITTLE LIGHTS CARDS FOR A CAUSE FUNDRAISER

Help support our Little Lights early childhood education program and enjoy beautifully embellished greeting cards! You can choose between 5 greeting card boxes with 30-50 greeting cards each for \$30, and Little Lights will receive 40% back in program funding. The cards come with coordinating envelopes, and the box itself is sturdy and attractive enough to use for future storage needs. You can place your order here now: https://forms.gle/YgLzGGm72XgWL79M6

<u>The deadline to order is today</u>, October 10th. Order now and please, share the info with your family and friends. Thank you for your support!

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS

The Emergency Contact Form developed by The Connectors has been updated. You may follow this link for additional information and to consider whether this form could be useful for you: spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271

QUEERING OUR ROOTS CAMPAIGN

Join the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer – Religious Archives Network (LGBTQ-RAN) for a five-week series of *Queering our Roots* Zoom events celebrating its 20th Anniversary! LGBTQ-RAN is a grassroots activist venture that electronically preserves the history and encourages the scholarly study of LGBT religious movements around the world. Attendance in these Zoom events is free, but registration is required, lgbtqreligiousarchives.org.

This week's event is October 13 at 1 p.m. – Rev. Jonathan Thunderword (HIV/AIDS Ministry; identifies as a Black Transman "Freethinker")

St. Pauls is one of 20 Sponsors and Allies of this *Queering Our Roots* Celebration. For questions, please contact LGBTQ-RAN Treasurer Rick Peterson, rnpeterson2017@gmail.com.

WE'RE SPONSORING A REFUGEE FAMILY!

Our plan to co-sponsor a family with Refugee One is taking shape. 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 refugeeone.org/stpauls or use this QR code. Please contact Mark Pellegrino, jjmarkp@yahoo.com, if you have questions.



CREATION CORNER - Overpopulation Is the Elephant in the Room

The world's population is more than 7.3 billion. It perhaps will reach 9.7 billion by 2050, and more than 11 billion by 2100. According to the U.N. Population Fund, about 350 million women in the poorest countries may not have wanted their last child, but they did not have the means or knowledge to prevent pregnancy. Reaching a sustainable population is as much about boosting women's rights issues as reducing consumption of resources, according to a recent BBC study.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCT 13 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 12 - 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.

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 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: 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).

SUNDAY SCHOOL – If you plan to have your child participate in Sunday School this year, we ask that you please register them. 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, spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/985445

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.

- Loved ones of Jim Hammac at his death.
- For Jay and Ann Abraham, on the death of Jay's parents, John and Sandy 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.
- 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.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@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.