

October 17, 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

"To the eye that grace gives access, God's justice and God's beauty are the same."

Christian Wiman

PRELUDE The Peace May Be Exchanged Dan Locklair

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

INTROIT God Is Here! As We Your People Meet Cyril V. Taylor

Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME Jeff Carlson

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Lord God, you are the brilliance in which there is no shadow!

All: In the church, you have lit a light which can never be put out.

One: You are the love that knows no coldness! All: You have freed us to love each other.

One: You are the life that defeats death!

All: You give us this life to live joyfully together! Be with us now!

^{*} WELCOMING EACH OTHER

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



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that we have sinned against you by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

You alone know how often we have made you mourn,

by wasting your gifts,

by wandering from your ways,

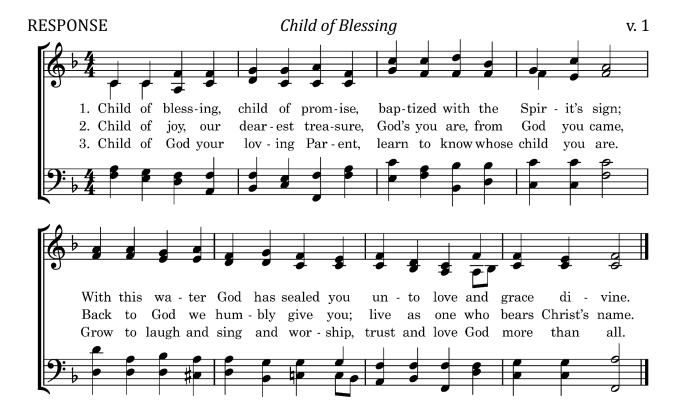
by ignoring your love.

Forgive us, we beg you.

Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Julian Owen Rodriguez

Pastor: Julian, 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. Julian 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, Julian. Inspire his life. May he sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for his 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

* RESPONSE

Child of Blessing
See previous insert

vv. 2 & 3

SCRIPTURE

Job 38:1-7

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? Or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? Or who laid the cornerstone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the children of God shouted for joy?

* 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,

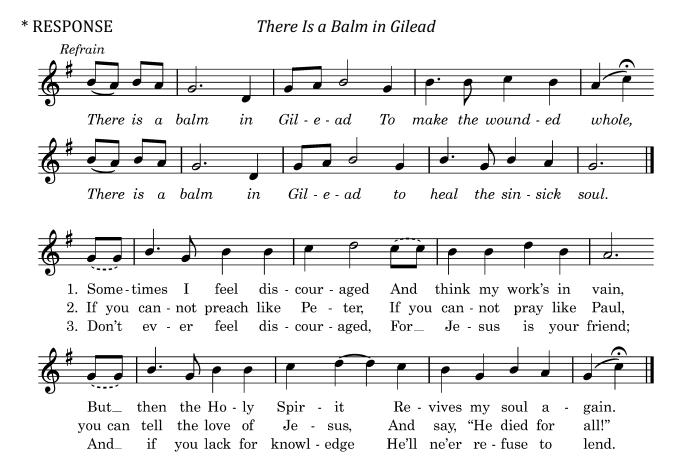
to seek justice and to resist evil,

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)





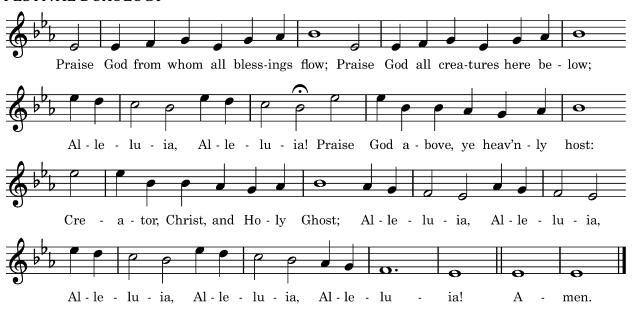
O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord: My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: Even their altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: They will be always praising thee. The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handy work, O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home. text from Psalms 84 and 90

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

Benny VanDerburgh

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

It Is Well (With My Soul)

Philip L. Bliss

St. Arbucks Quartet

arr. Brendan & Colleen Henry

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

The text for *God Is Here! As We Your People Meet* was written in 1971 by Fred Pratt Green (1903 - 2000). He was one of the most prominent hymnodists in Britain. He was born in Liverpool and became a Methodist minister. The tune, ABBOT'S LEIGH, was composed in 1941 by Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907 - 1992). Taylor, who was both a musician and a priest of the Church of England, composed 20 hymns and edited a number of hymnals.

The music for *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* (ODE TO JOY) was composed by Beethoven (1770-1827) and is the chorale melody from the final movement of his Ninth Symphony (1824). The original German text (1785) was by the famous poet and dramatist Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805), and the English text was composed in 1907 by Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Van Dyke was an American author and clergy. He was appointed ambassador to the Netherlands by President Woodrow Wilson prior to the outbreak of World War I.

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.

There Is a Balm in Gilead was arranged by William Dawson (1899–1990). Dawson was choral director for many years at the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. Along with others of his generation like Hall Johnson, he was responsible for making beautiful arrangements of spirituals that spread the performance and popularity of that music within and beyond the African American community. The Tuskegee Choir gained international stature under Dr. Dawson's leadership.

O God Beyond All Praising is by Gustav Holst (1874–1934). The tune is called THAXTED, which is the main theme of the Jupiter movement from Holst's *The Planets*. It is truly a majestic hymn. Thaxted is the village where Holst grew up. It was Ralph Vaughan Williams that adapted *Thaxted* as a hymn. The author of our text is Michael A. Perry (1942–1996). He began studies as a physicist and changed to theology.

O How Amiable was composed in 1934 by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1871-1958). It is a wonderful example of an English form of church music called a "verse anthem." The first well known composer of this form was Gustav Holst (1874 - 1934), a contemporary of Vaughan Williams. In general, the verse anthem is a simpler church anthem based on a familiar hymn tune with additional musical variations.

God Is Working His Purpose Out is a favorite hymn of Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry. The text was written by Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841–1919) in 1894. The text demanded a muscular tune, which Martin Shaw (1916–1999) provided in 1915.

Our Postlude, *It Is Well With My Soul*, was composed by Philip L. Bliss (1836-1878) in 1876. He was a largely self-taught itinerant music teacher. He was converted at age 12 at a revival and it was Dwight L. Moody (1837-1899), famous evangelist and founder of the Moody Bible Institute here in Chicago, who encouraged Bliss to become a singing evangelist. The text was written by Horatio G. Spafford (1828-1888) in 1873. He also gave the Bliss tune its name, VILLE DU HAVRE. The tune is the name of the ship carrying his wife and four daughters from Chicago to vacation in France. The ship sank in the Atlantic after a collision with another vessel, and only his wife survived. He wrote this text *after* this loss.

Our Prelude, *The Peace May Be Exchanged*, composed by American composer Daniel Locklair (b. 1949). He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Eastman School of Music. He currently holds the position of Composer-in-Residence and Professor of Music at Wake Forest University. Locklair became a professional organist at age 14.

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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Mary Brown, Fred Pearson

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

Camera Operators: Brian Hafner, Bob Ball

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are from Doug Dobmeyer and Candi Huber to celebrate 44 years of marriage.

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 17 Tilly Wilhoite, Laura Range Oct 18 Deirdre Young, Emilia Gannello, John Due Oct 19 Bob Ball Oct 20 Jeff Carlson Oct 21 Arthur Spietz, Elizabeth Beck, Gloria Joseph, Linda Patton, Mike Lohnes, Elsie Bartels Oct 22 Carolyn Grunst, Jack Brizzolara, Jennifer Heiney, Leah Mooney, Trip Campbell Oct 23 Troy Meinders, Wendy Love, Henry Winking, Jack Kahan

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! spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1025472

READING WITH ST. AUGUSTINE

Join Pastoral Associate Benny in this adult faith formation series, meeting bi-monthly on Thursday evenings. We will gather in witness to Augustine of Hippo's *Confessions*, one of the first Christian autobiographies. This will be a book group that requires little to no outside reading, a time when we will instead experience the text together in a contemplative gathering that will include periods of prayer and silence. This series will bridge other studies focused on the Biblical period and early church movement to take us to the early days of the Latin church, that period of global growth and imagination. How do St. Augustine's words stir us today? To join in or for more information, please email Benny at bvanderburgh@spucc.org.

HELP STOCK THE HOME OF OUR REFUGEE FAMILY!

Our work to co-sponsor a family with Refugee One is underway. The response from the congregation has been strong. (Thank you all!)
Currently, we need to focus on acquiring household goods for the family.
To see the list of needed items, please visit the link below, or use your phone to access this QR code. As always, we appreciate monetary donations, which can be made at www.refugeeone.org/stpauls. Please contact Mark Pellegrino, jjmarkp@yahoo.com, if you have questions.

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1017071

CREATION CORNER - What you do is important!

An average middle-class American wastes more, consumes more, eats more beef, drives more miles and generally has a much larger carbon footprint than individuals in other countries. Individual behavior can influence others and collective action is critical. Make a list of alternative choices and practices you or your family might make to reduce your carbon footprint. Do your research to assess your carbon footprint.

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, <u>lgbtqreligiousarchives.org</u>.

This week's event is October 20 at 1 p.m – Evelyn (Evi) Torton Beck, Ph.D. (pre-eminent Jewish lesbian thinker and writer, and author of *Nice Jewish Girls: A Lesbian Anthology*)

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.

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.

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 20 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 12, Part 2, One Body - 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.

OCT 21 - LPCS TASTE OF FALL - 7 p.m., On-line event

Taste of Fall is LPCS's annual, and always highly-anticipated, fall fundraiser. The purpose of this event has always been two-fold: to bring our community together to support the LPCS mission, and to highlight and support Chicago food and beverage establishments. Find out more at donate.onecause.com/tasteoffall2021.

OCT 24 - NEW MEMBER CLASS - 11:30 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room Join pastors, members and others curious about Saint Pauls for our rescheduled 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 meet in the Oscar Mayer Room after worship and childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in the sign-up).



Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1045439

OCT 24 - YOUNG ADULTS KICKOFF - PUMPKIN CARVING - 12 p.m., Courtyard



Get to know the YA group at St. Pauls while showing off your pumpkin carving skills. Pumpkins and carving kits will be provided. Please register so we can ensure enough supplies. See you there! spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1044603

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.

- Friends and family of Steve Stack at his death.
- 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.