

October 24, 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.

PRELUDE My Tribute Andraé Crouch

How Can I Say Thanks-To God Be the Glory

St. Arbucks Quartet

INTROIT Alleluia Henry Purcell

Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME Matt Fitzgerald

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, you who are thirsty, come and drink!

All: Come, you who are hungry, come and eat!

One: God gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry.

All: God watches over strangers and lifts up the orphan and the widow.

One: God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

All: Let us worship the source of all goodness and life!

^{*} WELCOMING EACH OTHER

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

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

Gracious God, we confess that we are what we have sung:

Poor and needy;

weak and wounded;

sick and sore.

We do our best to hide the truth,

But you know full well our need of you.

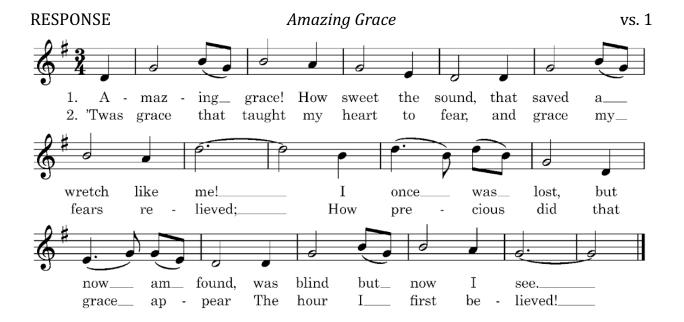
God, in your mercy, forgive our self-deception.

Feed us, sustain us and heal us,

Through the grace of Jesus Christ, Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE



SCRIPTURE Jennifer Kew

Psalm 34

A Psalm of David, when he outwitted Abimelech and got away.

I will bless the Lord at all times; God's praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt God's name together.

I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to God, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want. The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.

The face of the Lord is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all. He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

* 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)

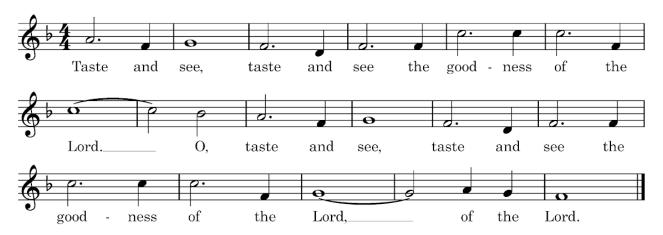
vs. 2

* RESPONSE Amazing Grace

SERMON "The Taste of God" Jeff Carlson

* HYMN Taste and See

Congregation, please join in singing the refrain:



GIVING MOMENT Michael Sanders

Alleluia! means *Praise the Lord!* in Greek. Hallelujah! means the same thing in Hebrew

You can give to St. Pauls by:

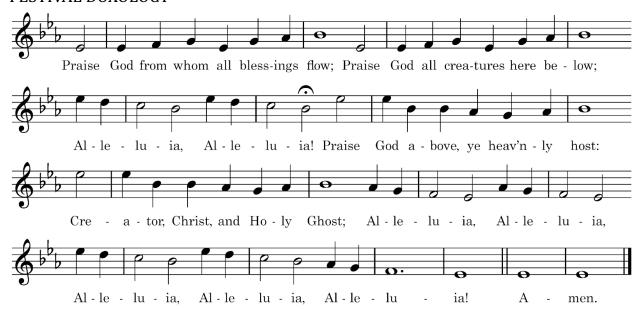
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

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.

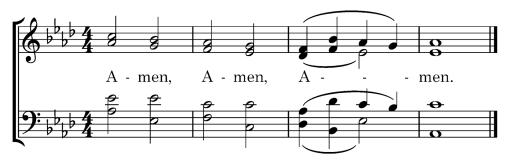
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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



* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in F, LübWV 8 Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

V. Lübeck

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

Andraé Crouch (1942 - 2015) wrote both the text and tune for *How Can I Say Thanks*, MY TRIBUTE, in 1971. Crouch is among the greatest gospel composers and performers. Both his mother and father were pastors. He first began playing service for his father's church at age 11. The opening lines of the refrain, "To God be the glory," pays homage to Fanny Crosby (1820 - 1915) by quoting her famous hymn text.

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

The text for *Amazing Grace* is by John Newton (1725-1807), who was a slave ship captain, but became an Anglican clergy and fervent abolitionist. He once said that writing this text saved his soul. The tune, NEW BRITAIN, is most likely an African American spiritual and was first published in 1829.

Taste and See, both the text and tune, I WILL BLESS THE LORD AT ALL TIMES, are composed and written by James E. Moore (b. 1951) and was first published in 1983. Moore is a Black Catholic composer. A native of Virginia, he now resides, teaches and conducts a professional choir in Vienna. The text is a contemporary communion hymn.

Randall Thompson, (1899-1984), wrote the *Alleluia* in 1940 on a commission from Serge Kousevitsky, Music Director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. It was performed by the entire student body for the opening exercises of the Berkshire Music Center, summer home of the BSO. A historical note: this anthem was sung to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on the night before he was assassinated. A high school choir that was supposed to have sung for the meeting in Memphis that evening was delayed by bus trouble and missed the meeting. The students were upset, and when Dr King found out they had arrived late, he asked them to please sing for him in his motel room. The students crowded into that small place and sang this inspiring work, the last music in this world that Dr. King would hear.

The text for *Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer* was written in Welsh in 1745 by William Williams (1717-1791). He was called the "Issac Watts of Wales." Hestudied medicine but became a Calvinist Methodist clergy. The translation to English was made in 1771 by Peter Williams (1722-1796), who was also Welsh and became a Calvinist Methodist. The tune, CWM RHONNDA, is a great Welsh melody composed in 1905 by John Hughes (1873-1932). Hughes composed this for a Baptist song festival in Wales.

Our postlude, *Prelude and Fugue in F*, LübWV 8 was composed by German Baroque composer Vincent Lübeck (1664-1740). He was a contemporary of Bach, and actually had a much more prestigious post than Bach at the court and St. Nicholai in Hamburg. His church in Hamburg had one of the largest pipe organs in northern Europe. He was also more famous in his lifetime than Bach. Very few of his works survive, and most of those are for organ.

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: Jennifer Kew

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Fred Pearson

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

Camera Operators: Brian Hafner, Bob Ball

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

Alayna Mack

Oct 30

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 25 Mary Frances Winking, Nancy Davidson, Pat Ruch, Tanner McSwain, Anne Pechnyo, William Beck
 Oct 26 Colette Schimp, Kaitlyn Nowack, Joshua Wallace
 Oct 27 Claudia Walvoord, Eva Mack
 Oct 28 Julie Womack
 Oct 29 Pam Woll, Pattie Miller, Eileen Schrimpf, Sophie Doerr

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAST DAY TO ORDER 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 today, and pick up on October 30/31. Prost! spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1025472

HELP STOCK THE HOME OF OUR REFUGEE FAMILY!

We're happy to announce we've reached our fundraising goal due to the tremendous generosity of the congregation and our friends. Thank you!

Next, we need to focus on acquiring the remaining household goods for the family. To see the list of needed items, please visit the link below or use your phone to access the list via this QR code. Please contact Mark Pellegrino, jjmarkp@yahoo.com, if you have questions.

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1017071

LITTLE LIGHTS CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER THIS TUESDAY

Help support our Little Lights program Tuesday, October 26th from 4-8pm by ordering from Chipotle at the 2400 N Lincoln Ave location. Let someone else cook dinner while giving back to St. Pauls early childhood program at the same time! Order online for pickup using code K963GJ8, or order in-person and show the flyer attached in the Friday email.

CREATION CORNER - Companies Failing to Live Up to Promises

Top food, beverage, and consumer goods companies promised ten years ago to end deforestation in their supply chains by 2020. This goal has not been achieved. Progress has been made by some companies, but the problem of supply chain issues remains a serious problem.

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 27, 1:00 pm – Archbishop Carl Bean (represented by Bishop Zachary Jones because Bean died September 7 after an extended illness; presiding prelate of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement; founder of Minority AIDS Project)

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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!

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. If you didn't have a chance to register for a pumpkin carving kit but still want to hang out and join the fun, you're more than welcome!

OCT 27 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 13 All you need is love! - 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.

OCT 28 - READING WITH ST. AUGUSTINE - 5 p.m., Cloud Room

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.

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!

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.

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.

- Rejoice with Erika and Andrew Keegan at the birth of son Garrett Covey.
- Friends and family of Steve Stack at his death. For service details, see <u>stevestack.org</u>
- 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.