

October 3, 2021 Communion 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

"Creation is not a hurdle on the road to God, it is the road itself."

Martin Buber

PRELUDE Let Us Break Bread Together

arr. Dale Wood

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

INTROIT Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face

**Chant Melody** 

**Chancel Choir** 

**CHIMES** 

WELCOME Matt Fitzgerald

# \* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of power, thank you for making us alive through your creation!

All: Thank you for green leaves turning red, and the cold crash of waves.

One: Thank you for the blood in our veins.

All: Thank you for the hope in our hearts!

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

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

# I Sing the Mighty Power of God

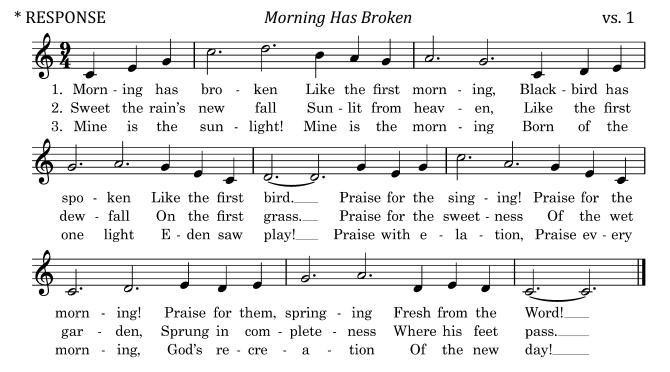


# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jeff Carlson

Great and holy God, you created the whole world. It belongs to you. We are yours, chosen to give you honor, to be united with each other as your children, to use our time and our gifts well. And yet, in each one of us There is much contradiction and resistance, much apathy, much stubbornness. Forgive us! Do not give us what we deserve. Instead, break through our sinfulness, and reunite us with you, and with each other. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER
WORDS OF ASSURANCE



SCRIPTURE Molly McGrath

Genesis 2:18-20

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner. So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.

## \* 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.

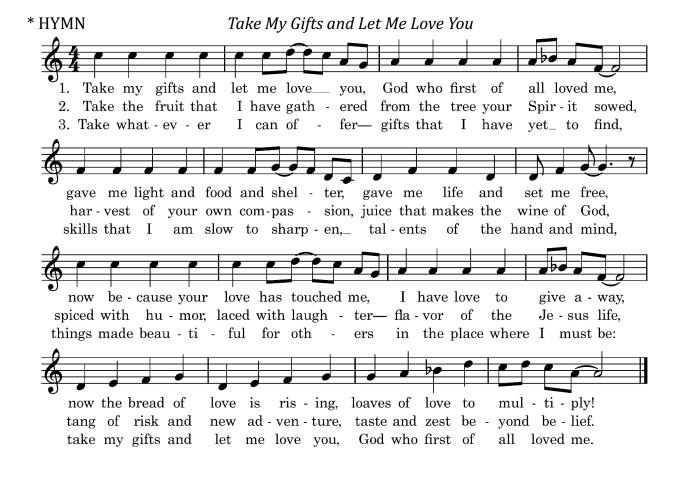
We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

vs. 2

**SERMON** 

"mayfly,wood-weasel, stingray, cormorant, mole" Matt Fitzgerald



**OFFERTORY** 

He Watching Over Israel from <u>Elijah</u> Chancel Choir Felix Mendelssohn

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish;
He will quicken thee.
He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.
from Psalm 121

You can give to St. Pauls by:

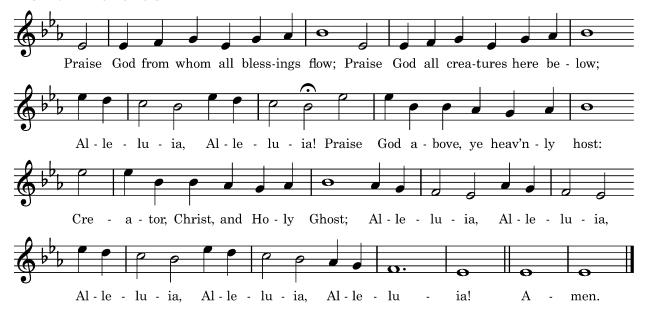
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



# \* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



# CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Jeff Carlson

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.

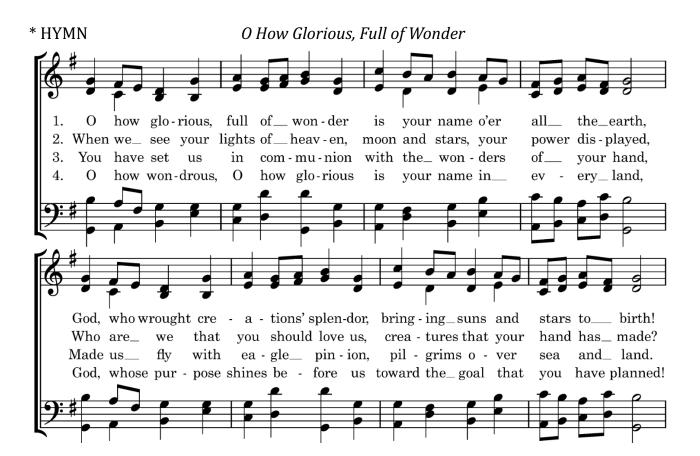
Amen.

# SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

As we observe Covid precautions, communion elements are set on tables in the Narthex and in the lobby just outside the Sanctuary side door. Please serve yourself and hold the elements in your pews until communion is celebrated. 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.

All are welcome.

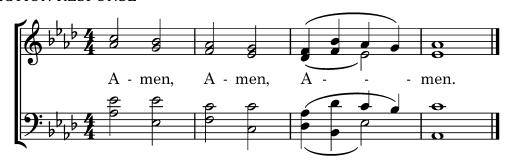
# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING





# \* BENEDICTION

# \* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE I Saw the Light Hank Williams
St. Arbucks

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 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 arranger of this organ work, Dale Wood (1934 - 2003), won a national hymn composing competition at age 13. His first choral anthem was published one year later.

Our Introit, *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face* is a chant from the Latin, ADORO TE DEVOTE, from the 13th century attributed to the Benedictines at the monastery at Solesmes, France. Its English text is by Horace Bonar (1808–1889), a Scottish minister, who wrote many poetic hymn texts. This setting is especially appropriate for a communion Sunday.

Sing the Mighty Power of God is a text by Issac Watts (1674 - 1848), the eminent English poet, who set the entire books of Psalms as poetry, which included Psalm 90, Our God Help in Ages Past. His poetry has inspired many composers. BETHLEHEM was composed by Joseph Barnaby (1838 - 1896). He was a renowned British choral director who introduced Bach's Matthew and John Passions in English to English audiences. He was knighted by Queen Victoria.

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

*Take My Gifts* is a relatively new text (1998) that was penned by Shirley Erena Murray (1931- 2020). She lived her entire life in New Zealand, wrote numerous hymn texts, married a Presbyterian minister, and was committed to both inclusive language and the use of Maori language in some texts. TALAVERA TERRACE was composed by another New Zealander, Colin Gibson (b. 1933). He wrote many hymns, both texts and music, collaborated often with Murray, and was a professor in a theater department at a university in his homeland.

Mendelssohn, like Mozart, had a very short and artistically productive life. He was born in Germany, but a great source of his popularity was outside his home country. He was especially beloved in England. Amongst his greatest accomplishments was the revival of the works of J.S. Bach, and the first "modern" performance of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* since his death. *Elijah* is performed in England almost as often as *Messiah*, which is, of course, by another "adopted" German, Handel. This chorus, *He Watching Over Israel*, is sung in the oratorio as assurance to Elijah during his sojourn in the wilderness.

The author of the text for *O How Glorious Full Of Wonder* was Curtiss Beach (1914 - 1993). He was Harvard educated and came for a long line of ministers. He wrote this text in 1958 while serving a church in Pasadena, CA. The tune, IN BABILONE, is a traditional Dutch melody first published in 1710. It was adapted as a hymn by Julius Röntgen (1855 - 1932), a Dutch Romantic composer and pianist. Brahms chose him to debut his *First Piano Concerto*.

*I Saw the Light* was composed and recorded in 1952 by Hank Williams (1923 - 1953). He was a beloved country music singer and composer. In his all-too-short life, he recorded 35 singles and 11 of those reached number one on the Country & Western charts.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Clergy:** Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

**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:** Molly McGrath

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

**Communion Coordinator:** Jana O'Brien

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Mary Brown, Doug Clark, Fred Pearson

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

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are in celebration of Robin and David Burnett's seventh wedding anniversary.

#### **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 3 Barb Javorcic, Jesse Russell, Grace Gillmore
- Oct 4 Cynthia Cata, Emily Cromwell, Kirsten Ekdahl Hull, Paul Raiman, Robin Scott, Solveig Roverud, Tom Connolly
- Oct 6 Bruce Voice, Eric Simonton, Karen E. Johnson, Mandy McMillen, Tom Henry
- Oct 7 Anya Kompare, Jenna Kent
- Oct 8 Karin Magnuson
- Oct 9 Emily Cittadine, Michael Hotz, Nancy Bingaman, Walter Crowley, Roger 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!

# **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 events are Oct. 3, 4PM – Launch party (focus on LGBTQ-RAN and its history) and Oct. 6, 1PM – Rev. Dr. Jane (Janie) Spahr (identifies as a lesbian, feminist Presbyterian minister). St. Pauls is one of 20 Sponsors and Allies of this *Queering Our Roots* Celebration. For questions, please contact Treasurer of the LGBTQ-RAN Board of Directors, Rick Peterson, <a href="mailto:rnpeterson2017@gmail.com">rnpeterson2017@gmail.com</a>.

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

Our plan to co-sponsor a family with Refugee One is taking shape. We're having a meeting at 11:30 a.m. today in the Oscar Mayer Room for those interested in learning more about this. 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

Michael Pollan says that, rather than focusing on eating nutrients, people should focus on eating the sort of food their ancestors would recognize, implying that much of what Americans eat today isn't real food, but "imitations of food." In his book, *In Defense of Food*, he distinguishes between food and "edible food-like substances."

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

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



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**OCT 3 - NEW MEMBER CLASS -** 11:30 a.m., Parsonage Lawn Join pastors, members, and others curious about Saint Pauls for our Fall 2021 New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love you to be part of the conversation! We'll have lunch in the backyard of the parsonage after worship, and childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in the signup). RSVP here: <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1007839">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1007839</a>

**OCT 3 - REFUGEE ONE MEETING -** 11:30 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room Our plan to co-sponsor a family with Refugee One is taking shape. We're having a meeting at 11:30 a.m. today in the Oscar Mayer Room for those interested in learning more about this.

# **OCT 6 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 11** - 12-12:45 p.m., Zoom

St. Paul's famous words about love were written to a local church only about 7 years old. They were new Christians struggling to build a community around the good news of Jesus. For Paul, Christian faith can only be lived in community and in this letter he addresses the questions and struggles of a group of early Christians that remain surprisingly similar to our own. 1 Corinthians is a timely book to read as we reenter our in-person life together. Meets weekly on Zoom. RSVP: Pastor Jeff, <a href="mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org">jcarlson@spucc.org</a>.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way of celebrating a special event in your life: an anniversary, a birthday, a holiday, or just because you like flowers! Sign up at <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/874446">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/874446</a>.

**CHURCH CENTER** – spucc.churchcenter.com is our new portal for the Saint Pauls community. See our calendar, register for events, update your contact information, join and view our photo directory, manage your online donations, see your giving history, and more!

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)** – We are seeking **CEP Laundry volunteers on Saturday mornings**. One volunteer is needed each week to greet street-based guests and launder their clothes on site at St. Pauls from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you have any interest in **cooking in-person** meals for homeless neighbors in the coming months, please contact Jennifer Kew at <a href="mailto:CEPsupper@gmail.com">CEPsupper@gmail.com</a>. If you are not interested in in-person activities, we continue to have opportunities to drop off meals for LPCS.

**CONNECTORS** reach out providing networking and support for members and friends of St. Pauls. Membership is open to all who have the time and the inclination to help. Contact Marcia Volk at <a href="marcia@volkonline.com">marcia@volkonline.com</a>.

**EMAIL SIGN-UP –** Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected? You can go to spucc.org to fill out our virtual fellowship card to begin receiving our weekly email and special congregational emails, introduce yourself and request more information about our programs!

**FAITH & PUBLIC ISSUES** – Help us connect our faith to critical public issues. Do you wish you knew more from a faith perspective about current issues that are important to our public life? Racism, climate change, immigration, to name a few? FPI programs provide opportunities to ask questions, help us understand issues in

depth, and discuss possible action. The FPI Task Force plans these programs and we could use your ideas. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for information about meetings.

**GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS** – If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, please go to forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8 to fill it out. This is an important component of our overall member engagement initiative. If you prefer to complete a paper document, please contact the office, info@spucc.org. Thank you in advance for your participation.

**GREEN TEAM** – Help us as a congregation live out what we say in our Statement of Faith: God calls us to care for creation. The Green Team welcomes your input, participation and ideas. Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro are co-chairs. If interested or to offer suggestions, email Jan at jan.fraccaro@gmail.com.

**LITTLE LIGHTS** is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year-olds. We are now accepting applications for 2021. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

**MEALS FOR LPCS** – Lincoln Park Community Services is a St. Pauls founded organization that provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for volunteers to provide meals during this time. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 35 lunches, including three vegetarian, at the 600 W. Fullerton location.

**OUTREACH & BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE** – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love you to join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information, contact Jennifer Kew, JenniferLKew@gmail.com, or Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

**SAINT PAULS SOCIAL** – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to the distribution list at eepurl.com/gQ4Eg1, or look out for future events announced in the bulletin calendar.

**SAINT PAULS TOGETHER** – Our Facebook Group, "Saint Pauls Together," is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share uplifting thoughts and stories. Check out our Facebook Page to request an invitation if you're a member or friend!

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

#### SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the 10 a.m. in-person worship service each week to read the scripture passage of the day. Learn more and sign up at: <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988</a>.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS** – If you're in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you're feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson (jcarlson@spucc.org), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** – Meeting every Wednesday at noon via Zoom. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org to get the Zoom link.

**YOUNG ADULTS** – A group for fun and fellowship for folks in their twenties and thirties. All are welcome! Volunteers needed! Any ideas for future events? Email them at youngadults@spucc.org.

**ZOOM MEETINGS** – The St. Pauls Zoom account is available to start or continue groups. Email Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org to schedule your meeting.

# **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's bulletin or Friday email to chiggins@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

Verbal announcements are due by Wednesdays at noon.

**Please limit announcements to 100 words.** Thank you!

#### SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. To have your prayer request included, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email.

Our practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it.

If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.

- For Jay and Ann Abraham, on the death of Jay's parents, John and 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.
- 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.

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

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

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



# WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith, and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children, grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are an Open and Affirming church.

We welcome all.

We are blessed by your presence and we are glad you are here.