

November 14, 2021
How Sweet The Hymns
New Member 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

"Where language fails us, we live in confidence that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. Our hymns are a testimony to this ministry of the Holy Spirit. Hymns become for us a language that transcends human speech. They are the poetry of eternity within time."

Thomas E. Dipko

from the forward to the *New Century Hymnal*

PRELUDE

Lord, Don't Move the Mountain
St. Arbucks Quartet

Doris A. Akers
arr. Brendan Henry

INTROIT

Amazing Grace
Mark Mosley, alto saxophone

Black American Hymn

** Please stand if you are able to do so.*

* HYMN

O When the Saints Go Marchin' In

1. O when the saints go march - ing in, O when the
 2. O when the sun re - fused to shine, O when the
 3. O when they crown him Lord of all, O when they

saints go march - ing in,____
 sun re - fused to shine, O Lord, I want to be in that
 crown him Lord of all,____

num - ber____ when the saints go march - ing in.____
 when the sun re - fused to shine.
 when they crown him Lord of all.____

WELCOME

Kurt R. Hansen

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Fear not that language has failed you.

All: Amazing Grace is a sweet, sweet sound.

One: God calls us together as a family of faith to lift and blend our voices.

All: 'Twas grace that taught our hearts to SING

One: Lift up your voice. Be a saint. You/WE are in that number.

All: As long as life endures. AMEN!

* HYMN

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine



1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!____ O what a
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light!____ Vis - sions of
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest,____ I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!__ Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
Sav - ior am hap - py and blessed; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God,____ born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood.____
- bove____ ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.____
- bove,____ filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love.____

Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

ANTHEM

No Rocks A-Cryin'

African American Spiritual

based on Psalm 47

arr. Rollo Dilworth

Jennifer Kew, Kecia Waldschmidt, Breanna Coe,
Terry Hansen, and Kris Hansen

With my voice, I will speak for you Lord.
When I open my mouth, I will sing Your praise.
With my hands, I will lift you Lord.
For I don't want no rocks,
No rocks crying out in my place.

If I don't praise the Lord,
The rocks are going to cry out.

I don't want, don't want no rocks,
Rocks crying out in my place.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!
Hallelujah! Glory Hallelujah!
Praise the Lord!

CALL TO PRAYER

Sweet Hour of Prayer
Jeff Carlson, harmonium
Chancel Choir

William B. Bradbury

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kurt R. Hansen

**God of infinite love and understanding,
We know that we need to be masked now
for our own health and the health of our family of faith.
We also wear inner and outward masks that we long to tear off.
Unmask our fear of being all you created us to be.
We don't need that mask!
Unmask our lack of trust that you could possibly love us completely.
We don't need that mask!
Unmask our souls through singing today and crack open our hearts.
We don't need that mask!
Unmask us so we can let our little lights shine to your GLORY.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Sweet Hour of Prayer
Jeff Carlson, harmonium
Chancel Choir

William B. Bradbury

HYMN

How Can I Say Thanks

Kris Hansen, soloist

Please join on the refrain

Refrain

With your blood you have saved me; with your power you have raised me;
to God be the glo - ry for the things you have done.

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system is the refrain, which is marked 'Refrain'. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are 'With your blood you have saved me; with your power you have raised me;'. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment with the lyrics 'to God be the glo - ry for the things you have done.'.

SCRIPTURE

Kaili Emmerich

Psalms 147: 1, 7-10 & 12

Hallelujah!

It's a good thing to sing praise to our God; praise is beautiful; praise is fitting.

Sing to God a thanksgiving hymn, play music on your instruments to God, who

fills the sky with clouds, preparing rain for the earth, turning the mountains

green with grass, feeding both cattle and crows. He's not impressed with

horsepower; the size of our muscles mean little to him. Jerusalem, worship God!

Zion, praise your God! (*The Message*)

* HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,
2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by
morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed Thy
hand hath pro - vid - ed— Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

SERMON

“Dancing About Architecture”

Matt Fitzgerald

MEDITATION

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Charles Gabriel

Nancy Pifer, soprano, and Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

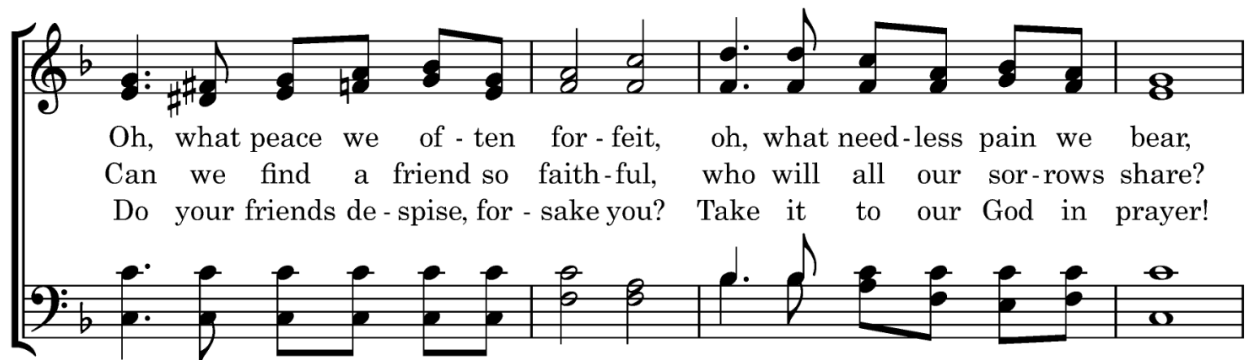
* HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

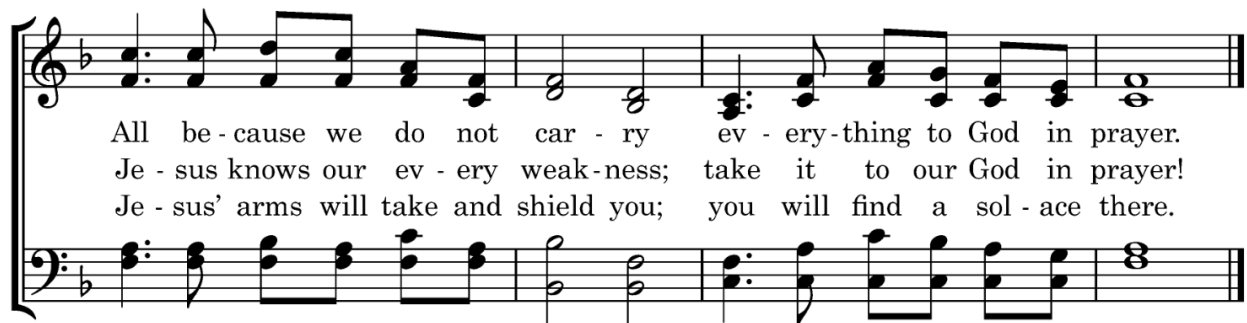
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, bur - dened with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to our God in prayer!
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, take it to our God in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to our God in prayer!



All be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to our God in prayer!
Je - sus' arms will take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

GIVING MOMENT

* OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace

1. A - maz - ing__ grace! How sweet the sound, that
2. Through man - y__ dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
3. When we've been__ there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a__ wretch like me!__ I once__ was lost, but
have al - ready - y come;__ 'Tis grace__ has brought me
shin - ing__ as the sun,__ We've no__ less days to

now__ am__ found, was blind but__ now I see.__
safe__ thus far, and grace will__ lead me home.__
sing__ God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.__

You can give to St. Pauls by:

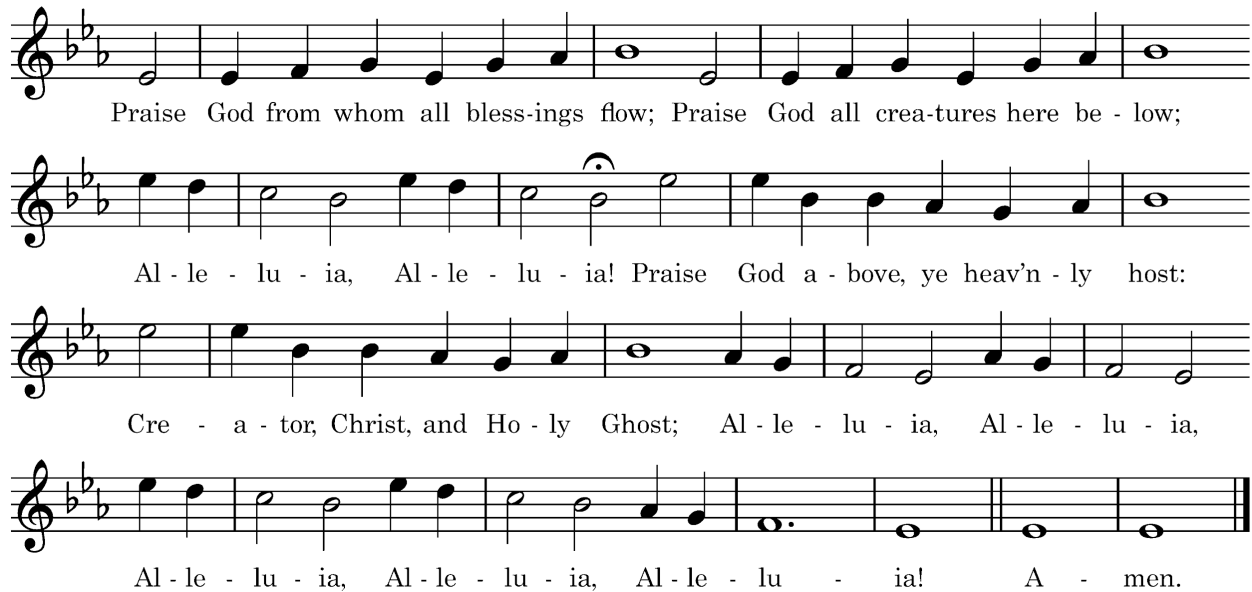
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle with your bank to giving@spucc.org.



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:

Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

A Dialogue on our Statement of Faith

Pastor: Let us affirm together our faith as we receive these new members into our church.

Congregation: We believe in God who has created and is creating.

President: God has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new. God works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: We trust God. God calls us to be the church.

Pastor: Will you promise to support this congregation with your time, talent, and resources, participating regularly in the worship of Saint Pauls United Church of Christ and contributing to our life and ministry in the city?

New Members: We do promise. With you, we will celebrate God's presence, love and serve others, care for creation, seek justice and resist evil.

Pastor: With your love, God will love. With your hands, God will touch the city. With your lives, God will bring justice and compassion to the world.

Congregation: We promise you our love, support and care.

All: Together we will 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!

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.**

* HYMN

All Are Welcome

Marty Haugen



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly__
 2. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vis - ions



live, a__ place where saints and chil - dren tell how hearts learn
 heard and loved and treas - ured, taught and claimed as__ words with -



to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
 -in the Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter; prayers of



faith and vault of grace: here the love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 faith and songs of grace, let this house pro - claim from floor to raf - ter:



All are wel-come, all are wel-come, all are wel-come in this place.__

* BENEDICTION

Kurt R. Hansen

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

This Little Light of Mine

Black American Spiritual

Kris Hansen, soloist

arr. Sam Hill

St. Arbucks Quartet

Chancel Choir and Congregation

Please join on the refrain

This little light of mine.

I'm going to let it shine. (3 times)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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 to stay in the Sanctuary for a special Congregational Meeting. Come hear good news about Advent and Christmas worship, our hiring plan for an associate pastor, revitalizing youth ministry, GIVE, our relationship with Lighthouse UCC, and our wreath sale.

TODAY'S MUSIC

Lord, Don't Move That Mountain lyrics and music were written by Doris Mae Akers (1923-1995), a famous African American gospel composer, arranger, and singer. This is another gospel song that Mahallia Jackson sang and this arrangement is by Brendan Henry.

When the Saints Go Marching In has both a text and tune unattributed, but it was first published in 1896. The most famous use of this rousing hymn is in New Orleans at the close of a burial service when the mourners and band leave the cemetery joyfully declaring the departed to be a saint and singing the hope that all of us “will be in that number, when the saints go marching in.”

The text for ***Blessed Assurance*** was penned by one of the most famous American hymnodists, Fanny Crosby (1820–1915). She wrote literally hundreds of hymn texts that were set to music by many composers. To be taken seriously, she used at least 20 pseudonyms, at least half of them male names. She became blind as an infant at 6 weeks of age. The tune ASSURANCE was composed in 1873 by Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839–1908). She was the daughter of a Methodist evangelist. She married at age 16 the founder of Metropolitan Life Insurance and composed more than 500 gospel songs in her lifetime.

The text for ***His Eye Is on the Sparrow*** was written in 1905 by Civilia D. Martin (1866-1948). She accompanied her baptist minister husband on his evangelical work; however, her frail health often kept her at home. One can speculate that she felt like the sparrow in her hymn. The composer, Charles Gabriel (1856-1932), was also the author of thousands of hymn texts and songs, including *I Love to Tell the Story*. He grew up on a farm in Iowa and later in life authored a book on gospel music.

Rollo Dilworth's (b. 1970) setting of the energetic spiritual ***No Rocks A-Cryin'*** dates from 2001 and the spiritual text is based on Psalm 47. We actually have a double connection to Dr. Dilworth. Our alto section leader sang with him when she was a student and premiered this anthem when he was Director of Choral Activities at North Park University. This past year, Dr. Dilworth was a guest lecturer for St. Pauls on Zoom. He shared with us some of the history of “Spirituals, Social Justice and Cultural Appropriation.” He received his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University, and he is now the Chair of Music Education and Therapy at Temple University. His many choral works are published by Hal Leonard.

The music for ***Sweet Hour of Prayer*** was composed in 1861 by William Bradbury (1816-1868), a prodigious composer of hymns with many authors including Fanny Crosby (1820-1915). William W. Walingford (1772-1850) composed the text in 1845. He was a blind English, self-taught preacher.

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 services for his father's church at age 11. The opening lines of the refrain, *To God be the glory*, pays homage to Fanny Crosby by quoting her famous hymn text.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, tune FAITHFULNESS, dates from 1923 and was composed by William M. Runyan (1870 - 1957). He finished his ministry in Kansas and was particularly fond of the poet Thomas Chisholm (1866 - 1960), who wrote this text. Runyan set 25 of Chisholm's poems to music. Chisholm based this text on Lamentation 3:22 & 23: *Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed.*

Joseph Medcott Scriven (1819–1886) wrote the famous text for ***What a Friend We Have in Jesus*** in 1855. He was an Irish immigrant to Canada. His life was full of ill health and grief, which he worked out in Christian poetry. The tune, ERIE, is also known as CONVERSE and was composed in 1868 by John C. Converse (1832–1918) who grew up in Erie, PA, which explains both tune names. He was an attorney who also composed "church songs." He studied both law and music in Leipzig before returning to this country.

The text for ***Amazing Grace*** is by John Newton (1725–1807), who was a slave ship captain, but became an Anglican clergyman 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.

Our ***Festival Doxology*** is to the German hymn tune *Lasst uns erfreuen*, dates from 1623, and was first found in a hymnal published in Cologne, Germany.

All Are Welcome is a recently composed hymn and one of our favorites from a past hymnifest. The tune is TWO OAKS. It dates from 1994 and the words and music were both created by Marty Haugen (b. 1950), an American composer of numerous hymns and liturgical music. This hymn was shared with Kurt R. Hansen by a college friend, Alisa Kasmir, and it has quickly become an anthem of St. Pauls' Open And Affirming ministry.

NEW MEMBERS



Linda Loving – I grew up in Columbus, Ohio. My husband and I moved to Chicago 14 years ago after spending 32 years in Toronto, Canada. We have three children and eight grandchildren. I work with Top Box Foods, a non-profit that makes healthy food affordable to those who live in food deserts. I am also very active with Partners in Health. I am an avid hiker and spent last year during COVID on some amazing hiking trips in parks out West. We love the cultural life of Chicago. I live in Lincoln Park and I am looking forward to becoming active in St. Pauls after being introduced to the church by my wonderful neighbors Char and Larry Damron.



Bruce and Danae Marcus – We moved to the city from Glen Ellyn in October 2020. We were married in the First Congregational Church in Dundee where Bruce was a member. We belonged to the FCC of Glen Ellyn most of our married life and served on a couple of committees during that time. We have three children in their twenties: Meredith, Nathan and Ben. We enjoy sports, cooking and eating, playing games and travel in addition to spending time with family and friends.



Steven Reid – I grew up as a Methodist minister's son and was ordained in the United Methodist Church. I became a member of the UCC because I was unable to serve as an openly gay man in the Methodist Church. I was a therapist in the child welfare system for a number of years and served as pastor to four congregations and chaplain for Uhlich Children's Home (UCAN) and St. Pauls House. For the last 13 years, I was the Senior Vice President of Mission and Ministry for Lutheran Life Communities. My husband Dante and I have been together for 13 years. He works for the Chicago Public Schools at Ogden International High School. We have a 5-year-old havanese named Millie.

Reintroducing three members from last year's virtual New Member Service



Dan and Barb Hartnett – We have been attending St. Pauls for about three years since relocating to Roscoe Village from the west suburbs. We were previously members for more than 25 years at Union Church of Hinsdale (UCC). We have two adult children living in New York and Downers Grove. Dan has served on the board of Erie Neighborhood House in West Town for the past 10 years, and Barb volunteers in the early childhood

education program at Erie. St. Pauls' focus on social justice and outreach has been one of the contributing factors in our decision to join the church.



Ashley Pensinger-Sok – I feel really grateful to have found St. Pauls Church. I grew up in Woodstock, Illinois, but I left the Midwest when I went to college in Maine. I lived on the East Coast and the West Coast and, more recently, I lived abroad in France and in Cambodia for 11 years before returning to the U.S. and moving to Chicago about two years ago. I live with my husband, David, and our kids Mia (11) and Leo (8). I am a violinist and violin teacher. I practice yoga, and I like to hike, swim and cook. I look forward to getting to know more people in the church and getting to know Chicago.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson, Benny VanDerburgh

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Scripture Reader: Kaili Emmrich

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Doug Clark

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Streaming Service Team: Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Jose Cruz, Brian Hafner, Chuck Kent

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

BORN THIS WEEK IN NOVEMBER

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.

Nov 14 Amy Jaji, Jenna Beeson, Pauline Taylor

Nov 15 Tom Murray, Ann Christophersen, Jon Ekdahl

Nov 16 Brent Mix

Nov 17 Matt Leimann, Sarah Fenstermacher

Nov 18 Maria Kooistra

Nov 19 Laura Hochuli

Nov 20 Penelope Patton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOTENFEST will be held next Sunday, November 21. During worship, we will give thanks for the lives of the members and friends of our congregation who died during the past year. Totenfest is a German word meaning “Festival of the Dead.” You can make a memorial gift for Totenfest honoring a loved one online at the link below, or by any of our other giving methods. Please email your bulletin dedication to Claire at chiggins@spucc.org **by November 17**. spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/totenfest

SANCTUARY CHRISMON TREE SETUP

We will be assembling and decorating our sanctuary Chrismon tree on Friday, December 3 starting at 8 a.m. We know from years past that it takes roughly six hours to fully assemble the tree, so your participation is both welcome and appreciated! Please contact Lorne Frank at lornefrank@lornefrank.com if you plan to join in the holiday fun.

ALL ABOARD THE UCAN GIFT TRAIN!

UCAN’s annual gift drive is back and making all the station stops. Help us stay on track to deliver gifts to young people in need this holiday season. Sign up in the Narthex today to purchase a \$50 gift card for a UCAN participant. Gift cards are due at church by Sunday, December 5. For a virtual option, visit ucanchicago.org/gift-train. Reach out to Rebecca Sandoval with any questions, rebecca.sandoval@ucanchicago.org.

PECAN PIE SALES ARE HERE!

Our pecan pie sales will now support the Polar Peace March. Pies are wonderful fresh and can be frozen (still wonderful)! Order and pay by credit card online (link below), or on Sunday after worship in the Narthex on November 14 and 21 by cash or check. \$22/pie, limit two pies per person. Pickup November 23 from 1-5 p.m. or November 24 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Questions/concerns, please contact Mary Brown at (847) 989-5966 or doddbrown@sbcglobal.net.

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1061957

ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED

The Advent Market on Sunday, December 12 will help fund the cost of the Polar Peace March. We need new or gently used regiffable items such as jewelry, candles, frames, handmade items, Christmas decorations, toys, etc. (Please, no clothing unless it is holiday specific.) The drop-off dates are December 4, 5, 10, and 11 (times TBD). Questions, please text or email Kristin Lane Mack at (773) 322-7727 or klanemack@gmail.com or Carrie Bruggers at (773) 294-4446, crbruggs@gmail.com.

2022 ALTAR FLOWER & SCRIPTURE READER SIGN-UPS

Sign-ups for next year's weekly altar flowers and scripture readers are now available!

Sign up for flowers here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968

Sign up for reading here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008

CREATION CORNER - Make Your Voice Heard

Mayor Lightfoot and the Chicago City Council passed a budget for 2022 which includes historic investments in climate mitigation, resiliency, and environmental justice. Important community-driven initiatives to be implemented include:

- Planting 75,000 new trees across the city over the next five years
- Building 20 new Spaces to Grow green schoolyards
- Neighborhood park improvements
- Community-driven investments in the Little Calumet River Initiative
- Turning vacant lots into opportunities
- Jump-starting a community wealth building pilot

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

We don't have an arrival date for our family yet, but we are in great shape to welcome them to Chicago. We do have openings on a couple of teams supporting this effort. We need several more people on the apartment team (i.e., moving the furniture from St. Pauls to the new apartment) and one or two more folks on the mentoring team. If you're interested, please email Mark Pellegrino, jjmarkp@yahoo.com. Thank you for your tremendous support in the preparations for our refugee family!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NOV 14 - CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 11 a.m., Sanctuary

We will hold a special meeting of the congregation immediately after worship. Rather than vote on business, this meeting will update us as Saint Pauls rides out the pandemic. Come hear good news about Advent and Christmas worship, our hiring plan for an associate pastor, revitalizing youth ministry, GIVE, our relationship with Lighthouse UCC, and our wreath and tree sale.

NOV 14 - HOW DOES RACIAL EQUITY HELP US ALL PROSPER? - 5 p.m., Zoom

Pilgrim UCC, Oak Park, invites you to a Zoom viewing and discussion of an interview with Heather McGhee, economic and social policy expert, and author of *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*. In her book, McGhee discusses the "zero-sum paradigm," the common but false idea that any gains for Black Americans must mean losses for white Americans. Ultimately, she

argues for racial unity, which will yield a “Solidarity Dividend,” a resulting enrichment for all Americans. Register in advance for this meeting at:
[us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApdu2prTMiH9UeHNQACQ1VvpDo2zyt0VDZ](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/tZApdu2prTMiH9UeHNQACQ1VvpDo2zyt0VDZ)

NOV 16-20 - UCC ILLINOIS CONFERENCE ANNUAL CELEBRATION

St. Pauls members are welcome to attend the 2021 Illinois Conference Annual Celebration. This year’s Annual Celebration will be a little different. The completely virtual format, held from November 16 – 20, will offer inspiring worship services and learning opportunities as well as sessions for conducting the business of our Conference. You can find more information the schedule of events here:

<http://ilucc.org/annual-celebration>

NOV 17 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 14 - When you should - and should not - speak in tongues. - 12 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.

NOV 17 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL PLANNING MEETING, 7 p.m., Zoom

Would you like to be part of a fun group that plans social gatherings to connect St. Pauls adults? Then join the St. Pauls Social team. We’re meeting this Wednesday at 7 p.m. for an hour over Zoom. Email Pastor Jeff for the link, jcarlson@spucc.org.

NOV 18 - READING WITH ST. AUGUSTINE - 5 p.m., Cloud Room

We will gather bi-weekly on Thursday evenings in witness to Augustine of Hippo's *Confessions*, one of the first Christian autobiographies. Participation requires little to no outside reading. We will 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.

NOV 18 - SPARC MEETING (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster) 8 p.m., Zoom.

Would you like to help St. Pauls live our faith in an age of injustice in the coming year? Join our SPARC meeting as we discuss and make plans. For inquiries or to register, please contact Cindy Ball at cindyinn11@gmail.com.

NOV 19 - WINDY CITY WINDS FALL CONCERT - 7:30 p.m., Gym

Join us for Windy City Winds' "An American Salute," conducted by the band's co-founders Mark Mosley and Sarah Good Mosley. Admission is free. Our season will open with a celebration of American heroes past and present. The evening of symphonic band music will feature selections from the documentary *Victory at Sea* and showcase the sensational 10-year-old violin soloist Sylvia Pine. Also on the program: *American Salute* by Morton Gould, *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* (*The Navy Hymn*) by Claude T. Smith, and *American Hymnsong Suite* by Dwayne S. Milburn, and much more.

DEC 13 - COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO, PART 2, DISCUSSION - 7 p.m.

The Long, Classic Novels Reading Group will discuss part two of Alexandre Dumas' page-turner adventure novel. Fast readers have time to catch up! RSVP: Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org. Feel free to email Jeff with your nominees for next year's reading list.

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/1078968

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 Luerksen at jenluerksen@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 for remaining 2021 dates: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988. Or sign up for 2022 dates: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008

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.

- Mary Frances Winking's parents facing health and quality of life obstacles.
- Michelle Rodriguez, on the death of her aunt.
- Adé, a young Chicago artist and bicyclist who was struck by a car and is in a coma in critical condition. Prayers are needed for him, his family and ICU caregivers.
- Rejoice with Erika and Andrew Keegan at the birth of their son, Garrett Covey Keegan.
- Friends and family of Steve Stack at his death. For service details, see stevestack.org.
- 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 178 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.