

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
December 24, 2021, 9 p.m.

No matter who you are,  
No matter where you are  
On life's journey,  
You are welcome here.

*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

"The prince of bliss came into the darkest hour in quiet and silent light."

Madeleine L'Engle

#### PRELUDE

*Sospiri* Op. 70

Edward Elgar

Monty Adams, flute and Phyllis Adams, harp  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

*Sure on This Shining Night*

Samuel Barber

Breanna Coe, mezzo-soprano; flute and harp

Sure on this shining night  
Of star made shadows round,  
Kindness must watch for me  
This side the ground.  
The late year lies down the north.  
All is healed, all is health.  
High mystery holds the earth.  
Hearts all whole.  
Sure on this shining night  
I weep for wonder, wand'ring far alone  
Of shadows on the stars.

#### THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

*Toccata* from Symphony V  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Charles Marie Widor

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —  
 3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, —

come ye, O come — ye to Beth - - le - hem;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven — a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee — be all glo - - ry given;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, — Christ, — the Lord!

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

\* WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The prophets have proclaimed it and the  
angels have announced it: Unto us a child is born. Unto us a savior is given.  
Glory to God in the highest!

**All: And on earth peace, goodwill.**

One: Go tell it on the mountain.

**All: Go tell it in the city.**

One: This is good news of great joy.

**All: Jesus Christ is born!**

CHOIR

*Soon and Very Soon*  
Chancel Choir  
Nathan Streeter, tenor

Andraé Crouch

Soon and very soon,  
We are goin' to see the King.  
Hallelujah,  
We're goin' to see the King.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN SCRIPTURE AND SONG

THE PROPHECY FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

*Isaiah 9, 60 and 40, selections*

CHOIR

*El nacimiento*  
from Navidad Nuestra  
Chancel Choir  
Kris Hansen, tenor

Ariel Ramirez

*Noche anunciada, noche de amor,  
Dios ha nacido, pétalo y flor,  
todo es silencio y serenidad,  
paz a los hombres, es Navidad.*

*En el pesebre mi redentor  
es mensajero de paz y amor,  
cuando sonrío se hace la luz  
y en sus bracitos crece una cruz.*

*Angeles cantan sobre el portal  
Dios ha nacido, es navidad*

*Esta es la noche, que prometió  
Dios a los hombres y ya llegó,  
es Noche Buena, no hay que dormir  
Dios ha nacido, Dios está aquí.*

Night foretold,  
Night of love,  
God is born, petals and flowers.  
All is silent and serene.  
Peace on earth at Christmas.

In the manger, the Redeemer from above brings news of peace and love.  
In Christ's smile a radiance glows.  
And his tiny arms form a cross

Angels are singing above the scene.  
God is born. It is Christmas.

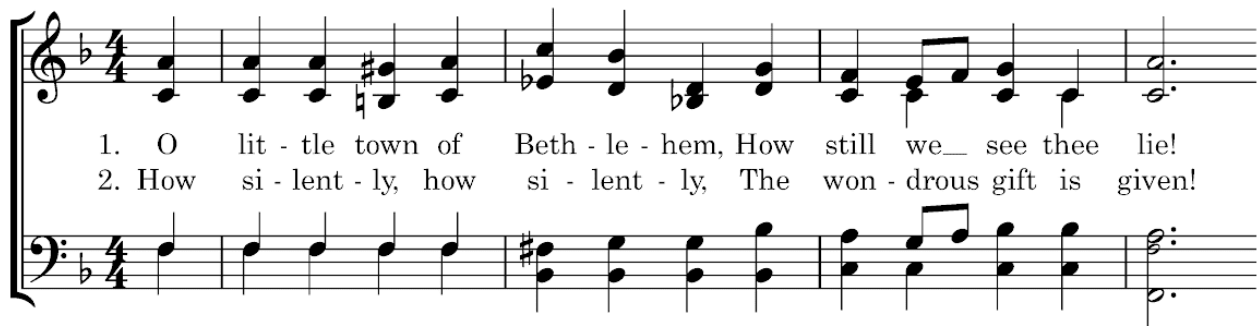
This is the night that God has promised,  
God's gift to all and we see it unfold.  
It's Christmas Eve; you don't need to sleep.  
God is born. God is with us.

## THE FULFILLMENT IN THE GOSPEL

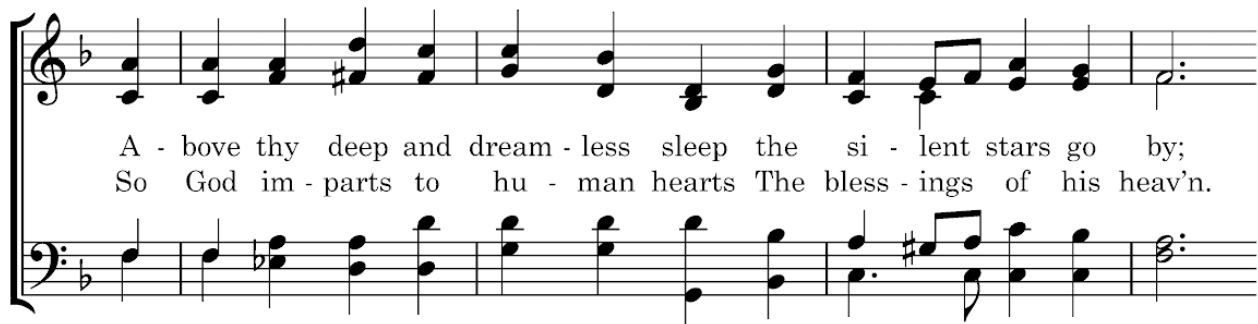
*Luke 2:1-7*

CONGREGATION

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*



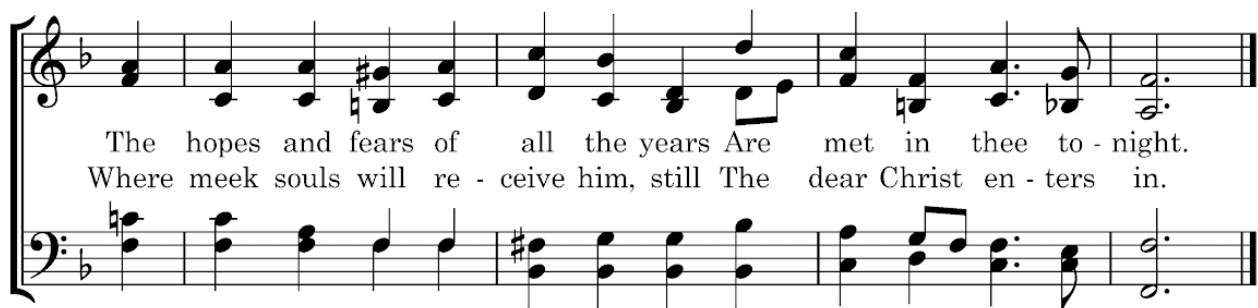
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
2. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, The won - drous gift is given!



A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heav'n.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light;  
No ear may hear him com - ing, But in this world of sin,



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
Where meek souls will re - ceive him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.

# THE ANGELIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Luke 2:8-14

\* CONGREGATION

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — “Glo - ry to the new - born King;

The first system of the musical score for the congregation part. It features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — “Glo - ry to the new - born King;

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”

The second system of the musical score. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, — Join the tri - umph of the skies;

The third system of the musical score. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, — Join the tri - umph of the skies;

With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!”

The fourth system of the musical score. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!”

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — “Glo - ry — to the new - born King!”

The fifth system of the musical score, which concludes the piece. The melody continues in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — “Glo - ry — to the new - born King!”

CHOIR

*Thy Little Ones, O Savior Dear*

Danish Carol

Chancel Choir

Johann A. Peter Schultz

Kurt R. Hansen, tenor

*Her komme Jesus, dine små,  
Til dig i Bethlehem at gå:  
Oplys enhver i sjoel og sind  
At finde vejen till dig ind!*

Thy little ones, O Savior dear  
To thee in Bethlehem draw near  
Enlighten us in soul and mind  
That we may find the way to Thee may find.

## THE SHEPHERD'S VISIT

*Luke 2:15-20*

CONGREGATION

*Away in a Manger*

A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, the lit - tle Lord  
Je - sus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked  
down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.

The musical score is written on three staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and suitable for congregational singing. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.



CHOIR

*Peace, Peace, Wonderful Peace*

Gustav Nordqvist

Chancel Choir

Text-Edvard Evers

Nancy Pifer, soprano

English-Norman Luboff

*Jul, Jul, strålande jul, glans över vita skogar,  
Himmelens kronor med gnistrande ljus,  
Glimande bågar i alla Guds hus,  
Psalm, som är sjungen från tid till tid,  
Eviga längtan till ljus och frid!  
Jul, Jul, strålande jul, glans över vita skogar!*

Peace, peace, wonderful peace, Peace to the world is given.

Hushed are the angels, so still is the night.

Then in the East shone a heavenly light.

Join in the chorus, His praises sing!

Glory to God, to the newly born King!

Peace, peace, wonderful peace, Peace to the world is given!

\* CONGREGATION

*The First Nowell*

1. The first Now - ell, the an - gel did say, Was to  
2. And by the light of that same star Three

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In  
wise men came from coun - try far; To

fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep, On a cold win - ter's  
seek for a king was their in - tent, And to fol - low the

night that was so deep. Now - ell, Now - ell, Now -  
star wher - ev - er it went.

- ell, Now - ell, Born is the king of Is - ra - el.

THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI

*Matthew 2:1-12*

CHOIR

*Carol of the Bells*

Chancel Choir

Hark! How the bells; sweet silver bells,  
All seem to say, "Throw cares away"  
Christmas is here, bringing good cheer  
To young and old, meek and the bold.  
Ding, dong, ding, dong, that is their song,  
With joyful ring, all caroling.

One seems to hear, words of good cheer,  
From everywhere, filling the air.  
O, how they pound, raising the sound,  
O'er hill and dale, telling their tale,  
Gaily they ring, while people sing song of good cheer,  
Christmas is here! Merry Christmas!

On, on they send, on without end,  
Their joyful tone, to every home.

SERMON

"concentrated joy"

Matt Fitzgerald

\* CONGREGATION

*Joy to the World*

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -  
 2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their  
 3. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

- ceive her king; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room,  
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And  
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -  
 And won - ders of his love, And

sing, And heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 - peat the sound - ing joy,  
 won - ders of his love,

## THE PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

*We are giving every dollar of this evening's offering away. All money collected will be given to help spread nonviolence. The Institute for Nonviolence Chicago responds to every shooting and homicide in Chicago's most distressed communities.*

*You can give to the Christmas Eve Offering online by:*

*Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,*

*At [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/christmas-eve](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/christmas-eve)*

*Or through Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org), with memo: Christmas Eve*



CHOIR

*Suantraí ár Slánaitheora*  
(Lullaby, go to sleep now.)

Sung in Gaelic

Maire O'Brien, soprano

Chancel Choir

*Seothó, seothuló.*

*Mo ghaol, mo ghrá 'gus m'éadáil thú!*

*Mo stóirin úr is m'fhéirin thú!*

*Mo mhacán áluinn scéimheach thú.*

*Chan fiú féin bheith id' dháil.*

*Cé gur leanbh díblí thú*

*Cinnt' is Rína Rithe thú,*

*An t-oighre dlítheach fíor is tú*

*Ar Ríocht Dé no ngrást.*

You are my son, my love and my treasure!

My newborn gift, my darling little one!

My handsome little son.

I am not worthy to be with you.

You are just a helpless child,

Yet you are the King of Kings,

The true and rightful heir

To the graces of the Kingdom of God.

Fiontán Ó Clearbhail

THE CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

Jeff Carlson

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.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*The pastors will light the candles of those seated on the aisle. Worshipers will pass the light to each other down the row.*

CHOIR

*Stille Nacht*  
Chancel Choir

Franz Gruber

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!  
Alles schläft, einsam wacht  
Nur das traute, hoch heilige Paar  
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

\* CONGREGATION

*Silent Night*

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm, all is bright  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shep - herds quake at the sight,  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child, Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild  
Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;  
Ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, — Sleep in heav - en - ly peace. —  
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! — Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! —  
Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, — Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth. —

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Shine, Lovely Christmas Star*  
from A Gift Of Song

Monty Adams, flute; and Phyllis Adams, harp

Mary E. Caldwell  
arr. Phyllis Adams

## ***Tonight's offering will save lives.***

We are giving every dollar of this evening's offering away. All money collected will be given to help spread peace and nonviolence on the West and South Sides. The Institute for Nonviolence Chicago responds to every shooting and homicide in Chicago's most distressed communities. They provide immediate crisis intervention and ongoing support, workforce development and conflict mediation to prevent future acts of violence, and they do it with a spirit of love. Nonviolence Chicago helps to end the cycle of violence in our communities through the principles and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lives are saved everyday through this important work. Visit [www.nonviolencechicago.org](http://www.nonviolencechicago.org) to learn more.

Please give generously through the offering plate or online by:

*Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,*

*At [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/christmas-eve](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/christmas-eve)*

*Or through Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org), with memo: Christmas Eve*



*excerpt December 24, 1971*

When it's Christmas we're all of us magi.  
At the grocer's all slipping and pushing.  
Where a tin of halvah, coffee-flavored,  
is the cause of a human assault-wave  
by a crowd heavy-laden with parsels:  
each one his own king, his own camel.

Emptiness. But the mere thought of that  
brings forth lights as if out of nowhere.  
Herod reigns but the stronger he is,  
the more sure, the more certain the wonder.  
in the constancy of this relation  
is the basic mechanics of Christmas.

Joseph Brodsky

## TONIGHT'S MUSIC

***Sospiri***, Opus 70 was composed in 1914 by Edward Elgar (1837-1954). The original version is for string orchestra and harp. “Sospiri” is Italian for “sighs.” Elgar composed this just before the outbreak of World War I. Elgar is especially revered in England as a great composer of the Victorian period. His most well known work is *Pomp and Circumstance*, which is played at nearly every graduation ceremony worldwide.

***Sure on This Shining Night*** was composed in 1938 by Samuel Barber (1910-1981) to a poem by James Agee (1909-1955). The original version is for solo voice and piano. This transcription of the piano part was made by Phyllis and Monty Adams. Barber was one of the great American composers of the 20th century. His *Adagio for Strings* is his most well-known and often heard work. James Agee was also a novelist and film critic. He wound up on the wrong side of the 1950's blacklist.

The ***Toccata*** from *Symphony V in F Major, Op. 42, No 1* was composed in 1879 by Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937). This fiery work is beloved not only at St. Pauls, but also among organists and audiences around the world. The *Toccata* shows off the composing skill of Widor, the technical prowess of the organist, and the huge range of colors of larger instruments. Widor, along with Louis Vierne (1870-1937) were the great French Romantic symphonists for the organ. Vierne held the post of Organist at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris and Widor held the same position at St. Sulpice, also in Paris.

***O Come, All Ye Faithful***, known by the Latin tune ADESTE FIDELES, is definitely a carol that we sing on Christmas Eve, *but* how appropriate the words are after a separation from each other for more than a year, “*O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant...*”! The words and music are attributed to John Francis Wade (1711-1786), who wrote the text originally in Latin. He left England in 1745 due to the persecution of Catholics. The English text was added by Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880), an Anglican priest, in the mid-19th century.

***Soon and Very Soon*** was composed in 1976 by Andraé Crouch (1942-2015). Crouch was one of the bright lights of gospel music, with many awards and a long and prominent performing and composing career. This text and rollicking music joyfully anticipates both the birth of Jesus and the second coming.

***El nacimiento*** is from a Christmas cantata *Navidad Nuestra* composed in 1964 by Ariel Ramirez (1921-2010). Ramirez effectively made choral and instrumental arrangements of Christmas folksongs from his native Argentina. He is considered a chief exponent of Argentine folk music. His other most performed work is *Missa Criola*.



The poetry for ***O Little Town of Bethlehem*** has a wonderful story. Phillips Brooks (1835-1893), an American, took a trip to Israel in 1865 at the close of the Civil War. The Reverend Brooks spent Christmas in Bethlehem in 1866 and, as a result of that visit, this poem poured forth in 1868. ST. LOUIS, which is the tune most Americans know, was also composed in 1868 by Louis Redner (1831-1908), a Sunday School superintendent in Philadelphia. It was composed the night before it was sung at his church, and it is the only one for which he is remembered.

***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** is easily among the most well known Christmas carols. The text was written by famous Methodist clergy Charles Wesley (1749-1788) in 1739 and was altered to its present version in the same year by George Whitefield (1714-1770). The tune, MENDELSSOHN, takes its name from its famous German composer, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847), who was much beloved in England. The melody is borrowed from a larger work, *Festgesang, Op. 68*, composed in 1840.

***Thy Little Ones, O Savior Dear*** was first published in 1927 in English and was composed by Johann Abraham Peter Schultz (1747-1800). He was born in Lüneberg, Germany, a baker's son. He rose to conduct opera in Berlin in addition to composing. The text was written by Hans Adolf Brorson (1694-1864). He was the son of a priest, was ordained himself, wrote many original hymn texts in Danish, and, in addition, translated many German chorales. He is considered one of the greatest Danish hymn writers.

The original text for ***Away in a Manger*** was written by Martin Luther (1483-1546) for his own children. The English text for the first stanza that is so familiar is unattributed. The tune, MUELLER, was composed by American James R. Murray (1841-1905). He was a friend of another great 19th century American hymnodist, William Bradbury. He also fought in the Civil War.

***Wonderful Peace*** is one of Sweden's best known Christmas carols. It certainly expresses the longing we have to embrace the gift of peace given to us by the birth of Christ. Gustav Nordqvist (1886-1949) published his carol in 1921. In addition to composing, he was a church musician and academic. The text by Edvard Evers (1853-1919) is his best known work. He became a parish priest in Sweden after earning his degree in theology. Norman Luboff (1917-1987) was a well-known choral director and founder of the Norman Luboff Choir. He was born in Chicago and studied with Leo Sowerby at the Chicago Conservatory. His choir toured and he had a successful radio, TV and film career in Hollywood.

The author of the text for ***The First Nowell*** (or Noel) is anonymous and dates from 1833. The tune, THE FIRST NOEL, is a traditional English carol. Nowell is a more common spelling of the word. Noël is the French word that many of us see more often and means Christmas.

The composer, Mykola Leontovich (1877-1921), was a Ukrainian composer, conductor, ethnomusicologist, and teacher. Although he composed many works, ***The Carol of the Bells*** is his most performed work outside his homeland. He was assassinated by a Soviet agent in 1921. Peter J. Wilhousky (1902-1978) translated and made this arrangement in 1936. He was also of Ukrainian descent and also wrote a famous arrangement of *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. During his career, he was asked to prepare choruses for Arturo Toscanini and was also was a well known educator.

The text for ***Joy to the World*** was composed in 1719 by the famous British poet and theologian, Issac Watts (1674-1748). Watts' great contribution was setting the entire Book of Psalms poetically. This is a paraphrase of both Psalms 98 & 96. One of his most beloved texts is *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*. ANTIOCH was composed by George Friderick Handel (1685-1759), who also composed *Messiah*, and was adapted as a hymn by Lowell Mason (1792-1872). For his contributions, Mason is often referred to as the father of American church music.

***Suantraí ár Slánaitheora*** was composed in 1979 by Fiontán Ó Clearbhaill (1922-1981). He began his career as a railway clerk for 27 years before pursuing a degree in music and happily finishing his professional life teaching in a secondary school in Ireland. He also conducted brass bands and composed.

The story of ***Silent Night*** is so sweet. On Christmas Eve in 1818, Franz Gruber (1787-1863), an Austrian church organist and choir master, faced a disaster. The organ became unplayable that day. He composed, played guitar and sang *Stille Nacht* for Christmas Eve services that night. The text was written by Joseph Mohr (1792-1848) in 1815. It has become one of the dearest of all carols in any language.

***Shine Lovely Christmas Star*** from the operetta *A Gift Of Song* was composed in 1961 by Mary E. Caldwell (1909-2003). Caldwell was an acclaimed American composer, who received her education at UC Berkeley, Munich Conservatory, and Juilliard. She was also a church organist for more than 50 years. *A Gift Of Song* was her second musical drama, a "youth opera," and it is based on the story of Franz Gruber's creation of *Silent Night*. Her many choral works have been widely performed, including by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

## **TONIGHT'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Clergy:** Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson, Benny VanDerburgh

**Music Director:** Kurt R. Hansen

**Organist:** Kevin Dzierzawski

**Lay Liturgical Administrator:** Kevin O'Brien

**Acolyte Coordinator:** Rebecca Sandoval

**Acolytes:** Olivia Weglarz, Nate Weglarz, Hannah Fitzgerald, Chloe Combs, Samantha Fayhee

**Stephen Minister:** Annie Johnson

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Mary Brown, Doug Clark, Ninon Freeman, Larry Simpson

**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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team**

Each year in the U.S., 25-30 million real Christmas trees are sold. For every tree harvested, one to three seedlings are planted. The Christmas trees currently growing on 350,000 acres of green space are taking in carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen, helping to clean our air and slow climate change. Artificial trees last many years, but once unusable, they go into landfills where they never biodegrade! So please use and recycle a real tree. There are 4,000+ local tree recycling programs in the U.S. Here is a guide to this year's tree recycling opportunities in Chicago:

[www.recyclebycity.com/chicago/brief/christmas-tree-recycling](http://www.recyclebycity.com/chicago/brief/christmas-tree-recycling)

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

## **REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE**

As the year draws towards its end, I'd like to take a moment to thank the RefugeeOne team here at St. Pauls for their outpouring of support for our soon-to-arrive family. More than 80 folks have signed on to help in some way. Their dedication and support exemplify one of St. Pauls' mantras: "No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." On behalf of the team, have happy, safe and blessed holidays! If you have any questions, please contact Mark Pellegrino, [jjmarkp@yahoo.com](mailto:jjmarkp@yahoo.com).

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**JAN 16 - POLAR PEACE MARCH** - Following 10 a.m. Worship

After the service, join our friends and neighbors as we honor the message of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and show the city how all of our streets are connected. Help UCAN achieve its mission of violence prevention and treatment for traumatized youth in our communities. Register at: [polarpeacemarch.org](http://polarpeacemarch.org).

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way to celebrate 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](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968)

**CHURCH CENTER** – [spucc.churchcenter.com](http://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](mailto:CEPsupper@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com).

**EMAIL SIGN-UP** – Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected? You can go to [spucc.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:toby@rogers-home.com) for information about meetings.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.littlelightslp.org). Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at [littlelights@spucc.org](mailto:littlelights@spucc.org).

**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](mailto:JenniferLKew@gmail.com), or Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto: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](mailto:jenluerksen@yahoo.com). Subscribe to the distribution list at [eepurl.com/gQ4Eg1](http://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 here:  
[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008)

**SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster)** invites you to join the journey toward racial justice through educational opportunities, resources, and actions as we seek to live our faith in an age of injustice. For more information contact Cindy Ball at [cindyzinn11@gmail.com](mailto:cindyzinn11@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)), Marti Pechnyo ([mpechnyo@gmail.com](mailto:mpechnyo@gmail.com)), or Barb Kaiser ([bkaiser2213@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:youngadults@spucc.org).

### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's bulletin or Friday email to [chiggins@spucc.org](mailto: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!

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](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)  
Pastoral Associate Benny VanDerburgh, [bvanderburgh@spucc.org](mailto:bvanderburgh@spucc.org)  
Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry, [emeritushenry@gmail.com](mailto:emeritushenry@gmail.com)

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership  
Please visit [spucc.org/contact](http://spucc.org/contact)

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