

December 5, 2021
Second Sunday in Advent
Communion

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

“It is not enough to rail against the descending darkness. One can refuse to play the game. Learn the slow art of revolutionary patience.”

Breyten Breytenbach, quoted by Dorothee Soelle

PRELUDE *O Little Town of Bethlehem* arr. Carl Strommen
St. Arbucks Quartet

INTROIT *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*
Chancel Choir

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Candle of Peace

WELCOME Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come quickly, Lord, and shape our vision.

All: Let us see how little we need to live abundantly!

One: Come quickly, True Light, illuminate our fear.

All: Make us brave enough to be your people!

One: Come quickly, God, we are waiting, waiting, waiting.

All: Come quickly, Jesus, and reign! Amen.

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

* HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

1. Lift up your heads, O might - y gates; be - hold the
2. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
3. So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

glo - rious__ Rul - er waits! The Sov - ereign One is
tem - ple,__ set a - part From earth - ly use for
no - bler__ life be - gin; Your Ho - ly Spir - it

draw - ing__ near; the Sav - ior of__ the__ world is here.
heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
guide us__ on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

**O God, even as we wait,
you come toward us.
It is your will to reign
from a borrowed bed,
made of straw.
Such humility
(which is to say,
such *humanity*)
reveals how very far
we are from you.
Your monumental
gentleness reveals
our small ferocity.
Forgive us.
Draw us into new life,
in the manner
of Jesus Christ
born among us.
Amen.**

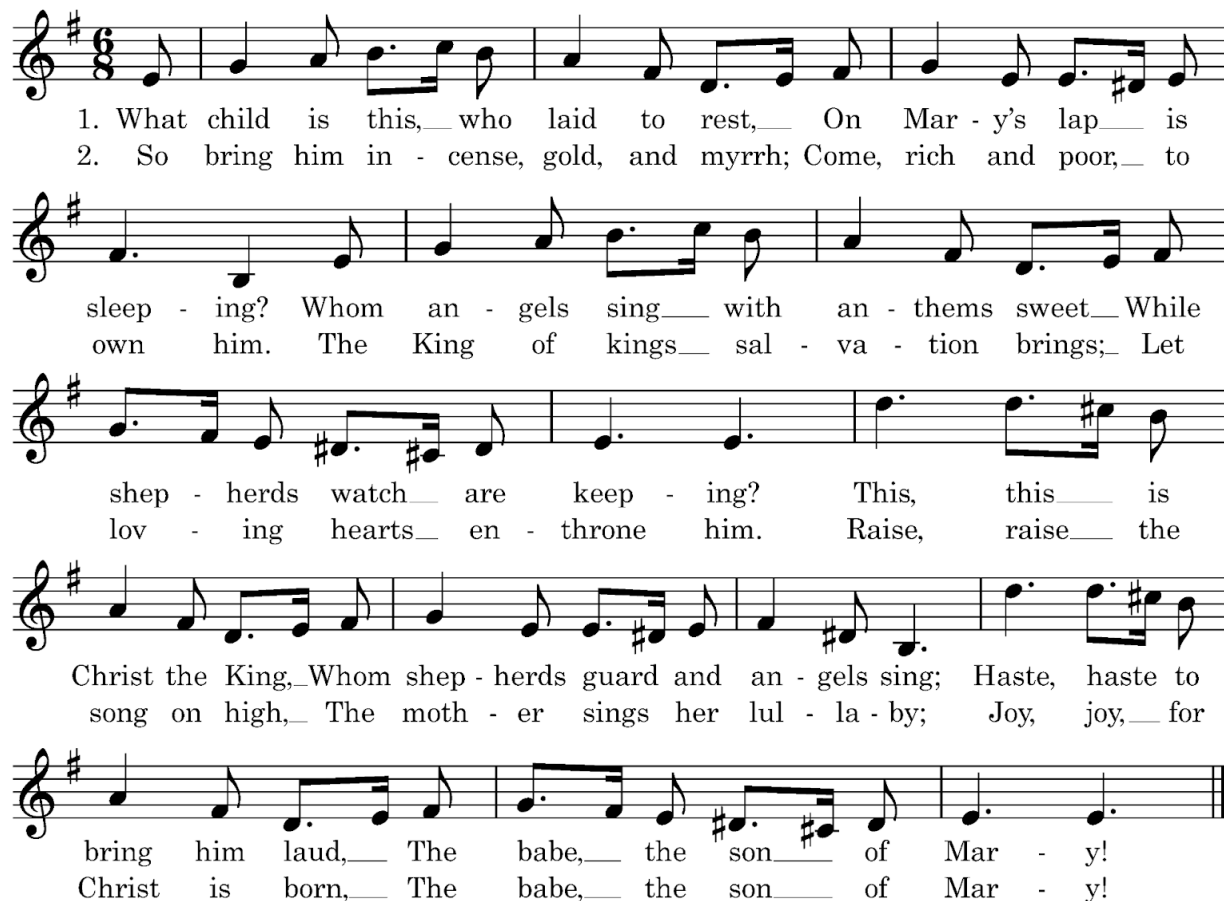
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* RESPONSE

What Child Is This?

vs. 1



1. What child is this, who laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, rich and poor, to
sleep - ing? Whom an - gels sing with an - thems sweet While
own him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let
shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
lov - ing hearts en - throne him. Raise, raise the
Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing; Haste, haste to
song on high, The moth - er sings her lul - la - by; Joy, joy, for
bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

* A 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)

* HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep_ si - lence, And with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of___ Mar - y, As of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of___ heav - en Spreads its van - guard



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth he___ stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man_ ves - ture,
on the___ way, As the Light of light de - scend - eth



For with bless - ing in his___ hand, Christ our God to earth de -
In the bod - y and the___ blood. He will give to all the
From the realms of end - less_ day, That the powers of hell may



- scend - - eth, Our full hom - age to de - mand.
faith - - ful His own self for heav'n - ly___ food.
van - - ish As the dark - ness clears a - way.

SERMON

"Experiments in Gentleness"

Matt Fitzgerald

* RESPONSE

What Child Is This?
See previous response

vs. 2

OFFERTORY

O magnum mysterium
(sung in Latin)
Chancel Choir

Morton Lauridsen

O great mystery, and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the newborn
Lord lying in the manger!

Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

O Lord, I heard your prophecy and I was afraid;
I considered your works, and I trembled in the midst of the animals.

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

Musical notation for the Festival Doxology, featuring four staves of music with lyrics underneath:

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.

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

**Light of the world, You shine on us,
even as we wait for you to dawn.
Thank you for this meal,
which makes room in our hearts for you.
Amen.**

* HYMN

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet_ a king!
 3. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to eve - ry trou - bled breast!
 4. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life_ re - ceive;

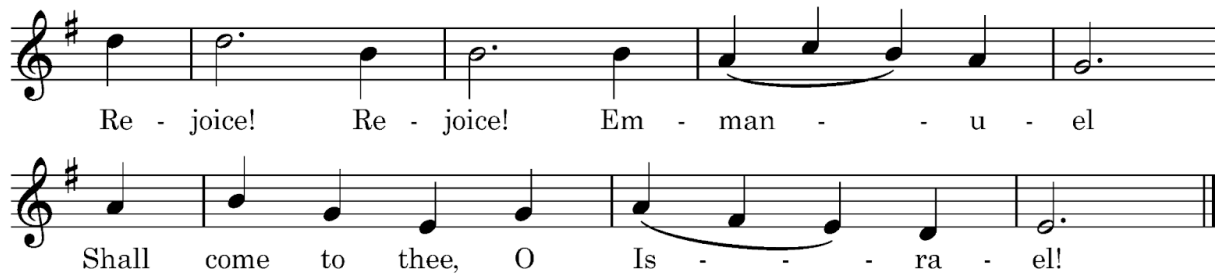
From our fears_ and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.
 Born to reign_ in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 Let us all_ in thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 Sud - den - ly_ re - turn and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.

Is - rael's strength and con - sol - la - tion, hope of all_ the earth thou art;
 By thy own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all_ our hearts a - lone;
 Take a - way our love of sin - ning; Al - pha and_ O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as_ thy hosts a - bove,

Dear de - sire_ of ev - ry na - tion, joy of ev - ry long - ing heart.
 By_ thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to_ thy glor - ious throne.
 End of faith, as its_ be - gin - ing, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 Pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in_ thy pre - cious love.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

César Franck

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 a Social Hour time of fellowship in the gym. At this time, we will not be serving coffee so everyone remains masked while indoors.

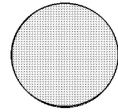
ADVENT WREATH

Each week during Advent we light another candle in our Advent wreath to anticipate the coming of Christ, the light of the world. These candles symbolize the gifts of hope, love, joy and peace that Christ's coming brings. This year, our candle lighters are Saint Pauls members who are working in health care during the pandemic. We are grateful to the nurses, physicians, and other medical professionals in our midst. Today the candle of Peace is lit by Nancy Curotto. Thank you!

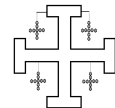
THE CHRISTMAS TREE IS A CHRISMON TREE - A Chrismon is a symbol of Christ. All the designs have been passed down through centuries of Christian tradition and are made of white and gold, to symbolize the purity and the majesty of Christ. Our chrismons have been made by members and friends of St. Pauls, and the tree itself was a gift to the church in 1997 from the Crowley and Opp-Ekdahl families. It takes 15,300 lights to illuminate the 17' tree.

See how many of the symbols you can find. Some of the symbols are:

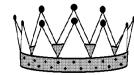
The CIRCLE, a symbol of eternity, of God.



The CROSS, in all its variations, a reminder of the saving work of Christ.



The CROWN, a symbol of the victory of Christ.



The FISH, an early Christian symbol.



The ORB, is Heaven and Earth.



The DESCENDING DOVE, represents the Holy Spirit at Christ's baptism.



The TRIANGLE, THREE INTERTWINED CIRCLES, symbols for one God in three persons, the Trinity.



The STARS are made of crosses, showing the connection between the birth and death of Jesus.



The BUTTERFLY, a symbol of the resurrection.



The DOGWOOD, branches form a cross.



The LILY OF THE VALLEY represents Christ's humility.

ALPHA and OMEGA, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet represent Jesus saying that He is the beginning and the end.



THANK YOU TO OUR TREE DECORATORS AND POINSETTIA ARRANGERS

Lorne Frank, Greg Basil, Fernando Diaz, Doug Clark, Doug Roewer, Cresencia Roewer,
Barb Kaiser, Marcia Opp, Beverly Petrunich, Jill Minetz, Gretchen Althen,
Ninon Freeman, Jan Bail, Juanita Barlow, Linda Loving

TODAY'S MUSIC

Music Director, Kurt R. Hansen, is wearing a new scapular commissioned from Josefien Stoppelenburg, who is equally talented as a professional artist and singer.

The arrangement of ***O Little Town of Bethlehem*** is by Carl. Strommen (b. 1939). He began his college career as a literature major but completed his Master of Music degree at the Eastman School of Music. He has received a number of awards for his compositions from American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns uses a text written in 1907 by John Brownlie (1857-1925). He was a Scottish Presbyterian clergy. He was also an educator and wrote a book about hymns and their history. The tune, MORNING SONG, is based on an English folk song, *Old King Cole*, and was first published in 1813.

The tune for ***Lift Up Your Heads***, TRURO, was composed by Charles Burney (1726-1814). Burney was a music historian and composer. He apprenticed with a well known English Baroque composer, Thomas Arne (1710-1778). The words were written by the famous English hymnist and Methodist preacher, Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

The poetry for ***What Child Is This?*** was written by W. Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). He composed many hymn texts, but unlike most hymnodists, Dix was a businessman, not clergy. GREENSLEEVES is an English ballad of unknown origin from the 16th century.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence uses a French carol melody, PICARDY, from the 17th century that was harmonized in 1906 by the great 20th century English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). The words are a translation and paraphrase of a hymn from the Greek Liturgy of St. James.

O magnum mysterium was composed in 1994 by Morton Lauridsen (b. 1943). The text is taken from the liturgy for Christmas Day from the *Liber Usualis*, the pre-Vatican II compilation of the propers for all services during a year. Lauridsen is the Chair of the Composition Department at the University of Southern California. He has also been composer-in-residence for the Los Angeles Master Chorale. His music has been recorded by many other ensembles, including Chanticleer. His music is harmonically related to a neo-Romantic tradition and influenced by Palestrina, the Italian Renaissance master of liturgical music. Lauridsen makes great use of the suspension, a chord with notes that are close to each other and “pull” the structure to either resolution or greater tonal tension. His music seems to “glow” and suspends the listener in timelessness between mystery and simple awe.

The text for ***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*** was written by the great English hymn writer, Charles Wesley (1707–1788). He wrote more than 6,500 hymn texts. The composer of **HYFRYDOL**, Roland Hugh Prichard (1811–1887), was from Wales and was only 19 when he composed this piece.

César Franck (1822-1890) was the cornerstone composer of French Romantic organ composers. The greatest organist/composers, Vierne and Widor, followed in his footsteps. His ***Grand Choeur*** is another example of pieces that explore all the colors available in an organ the size of our Phoenix.

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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Mary Brown, Fred Pearson

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

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.

Last week's flowers on the altar were in memory of Janny Travers, loving wife and mother.

BORN THIS WEEK IN DECEMBER

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.

Dec 5 Chris McGuire, Jason Colosi-McCann, Joel Finkle

Dec 6 Cherilynn Panko, Shannon Castle

Dec 8 Greta Schmahl, Maria Schmahl

Dec 9 Jennifer Earl, Kitty Egan, Shanna Due, Vanessa Eldridge

Dec 10 Chris Dierks, Ginna Gentzen

Dec 11 Cindy Ball, Hugo Osorio, John Gallemore, Ed Hohlbein

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS

- SUN, DEC 5 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE
10 a.m. Worship & Communion, Sanctuary
- TUE, DEC 7, 21 TUESDAY EVENING ADVENT PRAYER
8 p.m. Join members, friends, and a pastor for a time of prayer
RSVP here for the Zoom link:
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1093556
- WED, DEC 8 LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS SHOW - 5 p.m., Sanctuary
- SAT, DEC 11 ST. PAULS AND LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY - 6-9 p.m., Parlor
Party with the two best churches in Chicago!
For vaccinated members and friends, childcare provided, RSVP:
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1103025
- SUN, DEC 12 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY
10 a.m. Worship, Readings & Carols, St. Pauls Brass, Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Advent Market, Gym
11:30 a.m. Alarming Advent Poems, Pastor Matt, Social Hall
- TUE, DEC 14 SUFJAN'S CHRISTMAS(ES)
7 p.m. Join Benny in contemplative enjoyment of these classic
Christmas song covers, Sanctuary
- SUN, DEC 19 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE
10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
- TUE, DEC 21 TUESDAY EVENING ADVENT PRAYER
8 p.m. See above!
- FRI, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
5 p.m. Family Service, Sanctuary
9 p.m. Candlelight Service, Sanctuary
Christmas story, carols, candles, and choir
- SUN, DEC 26 WORSHIP - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
- SUN, JAN 16 POLAR PEACE MARCH
10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. March to support UCAN's work for non-violence, and honor
the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 giftable 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 5:** 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., **December 10:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and **December 11:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 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.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to your generous giving, our Outreach and Benevolence (O&B) Committee approved grants totaling \$33,250 to the following recipients for 2021: A Just Harvest, Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches, Chicago Theological Seminary, Community Renewal Society, LPCS, The Night Ministry, Refugee One, The Resurrection Project, Three Angels Children's Relief Haiti, RIP Medical Debt Relief. If you're interested in being a part of O&B in 2022, please contact committee chair Jen Kew, JenniferLKew@gmail.com.

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

The apartment team is meeting on December 7 at 6 p.m. to get to know each other and begin planning our work. We still have room on that team. If you're interested in joining us, please email Mark Pellegrino, jjmarkp@yahoo.com. As always, thank you for your tremendous support as we prepare for our refugee family!

2022 ALTAR FLOWER & SCRIPTURE READER SIGN-UPS

Sign-ups for next year's 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

You can save energy, a significant amount of water, and time by using a dishwasher. Hand-washing uses much more water than a dishwasher. Heating the water for those extra gallons is an unnecessary energy waste and cost. Run your dishwasher only when full. In a year, a dishwasher may save about 5,000 gallons of heated water. When purchasing dishwashers, as well as other appliances, purchase the most energy efficient models possible. New, fully energy efficient appliances have the lowest environmental impact. Also remember to take shorter showers, don't leave water running while brushing your teeth, etc.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Don't miss our Advent & Christmas Calendar!

DEC 8 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 16 12 p.m., Zoom

St. Paul's famous words about love were written to a 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. Meets weekly on Zoom. RSVP: jcarlson@spucc.org.

DEC 9 - INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE ON HOMELESSNESS - 6:30-8 p.m., Zoom

How can YOU make a difference in the problem of homelessness? Join an interfaith roundtable on homelessness in Chicago to learn about the Bring Home Chicago Coalition's ballot initiative to generate revenue for housing solutions. Chicago Metropolitan Association UCC Associate Minister Rev. Dr. Terrill Murff is a featured speaker. Register today at bit.ly/BCHbringinghome.

DEC 9 - LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION BLACK QUEER EQUITY INDEX UPDATE EVENT - 6 p.m., Zoom

Since last spring, Lighthouse Foundation has worked meticulously to establish indicators of equity for Black Queer folks in the workplace. The Black Queer Equity Index (BQEI) surveys the top LGBTQ+ serving organizations in Chicago to ensure that Black LGBTQ+ employees and board members are treated justly. During this event, you will hear an update on the BQEI, including their evaluation findings thus far, and plans for the project's future. For more info and to RSVP: bit.ly/BQEIEvent

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.

DEC 16 - 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. To join in or for more information, please email Benny at bvanderburgh@spucc.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

ALTAR FLOWERS – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way 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

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.

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.

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.

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 here:

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.

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.

- Marty, sister of Jan Bail, who is now in hospice care.
- Cameron and his family, family friends of Juanita Barlow, managing his brain damage after an accident.
- Rejoicing the birth of Ruth Lydia Bryant to parents Hannah and Caleb Bryant.
- Ken Travers and family at the loss of his younger brother, Leroy.
- Mikey Olawski, nephew of Terry Hansen, with undiagnosed medical issues.
- Dean, friend of Nathan Streeter, at the loss of his 18-month-old son, and his mother and grandmother in the last six months.
- Sister-in-law of Nathan Streeter, with complications from a breakthru of Covid.
- Jana O'Brien, recovering from surgery.
- Loved ones of Ann, mother-in-law of Erin Fitzgerald, at her passing.
- Bob Kuba as he is challenged by some significant health issues.
- Peter Doerr's mother, Annette, recovering from injuries from a car accident.
- 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.
- Friends and family of Steve Stack at his death. For service details, see stevestack.org.
- Wes Salsbury and Marcia Knudson as Wes continues to develop strength after a months-long hospitalization and rehab stay occasioned by a fall.
- Bruce and Betty Voice are now living with her son Raymond. Cards are welcome at 2763 Peach Orchard Road, Anderson, MO 64831.
- 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.
- 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.

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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.