

January 9, 2022 The Baptism of Christ No matter who you are, No matter where you are On life's journey, You are welcome here.

## Children are asked to go to Sunday School before worship begins.

Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.

## Please silence cell phones.

PRELUDE Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie Op. 13 Maurice Duruflé
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

INTROIT Improvisation on Scripture from Luke 3 Kris Hansen

WELCOME Matt Fitzgerald

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (From 1st John)

One: What amazing love God gives to us – We are called children of God!

All: This is the message God gave from the beginning: "Love one another."

One: Let us love one another, because love comes from God.

All: Everyone who loves is a child of God and knows God,

For God is love.

One: This is how we know God loves us: God sent Christ into the world.

All: What amazing love God gives to us – We are called children of God!

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

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

Holy, Holy, Holy Led by Lee Lichamer



#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Blessed Trinity, Creator of earth, sea and sky, you have washed us in the waters of baptism, you have called us by name.

What a gift!

Yet we confess that we have a hard time living as your baptized people.

We return evil for evil.

We fail to love our neighbors.

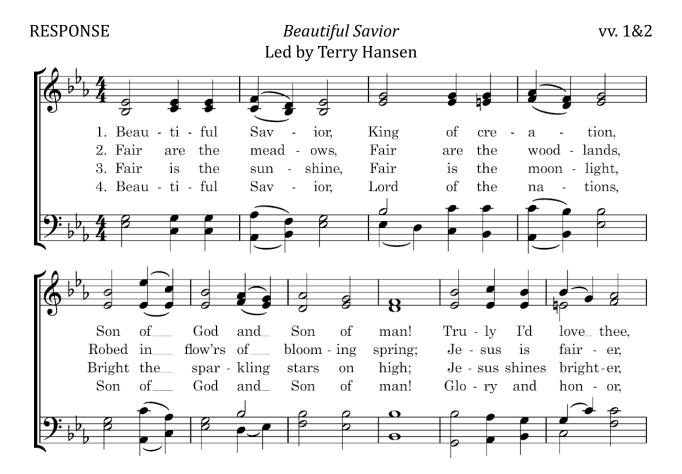
We wonder if our lives really show how Christians live.

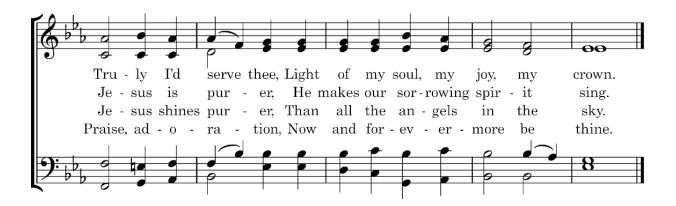
Forgive us, O God, and renew us.

Continue the good work that you began in the waters of baptism, that we might live as your children, new creations of your love. Amen.

#### MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

#### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**





SCRIPTURE Karen Lyons

## Luke 3, excerpts

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. So, with many other exhortations he proclaimed the gospel to the people."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

#### \* 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)

\* RESPONSE Beautiful Savior vv. 3 & 4

See previous hymn.

SERMON "What should we do?" Jeff Carlson

## You Walk Along the Shoreline Led by Todd Coe



OFFERTORY

Duetto in A Flat Major

Felix Mendelssohn

from <u>Lieder ohne Worte</u> Op. 38 No. 6 (Songs Without Words)

Jeffrey Wagner, piano

You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:

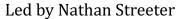
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

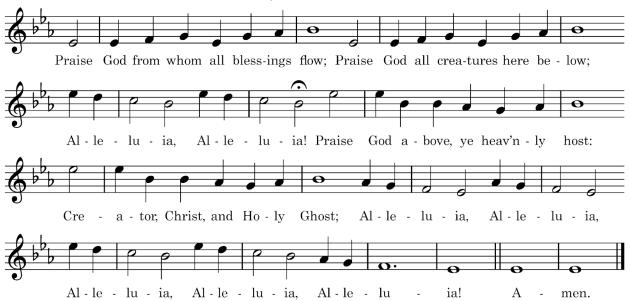
At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



#### \* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY





#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

#### 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.

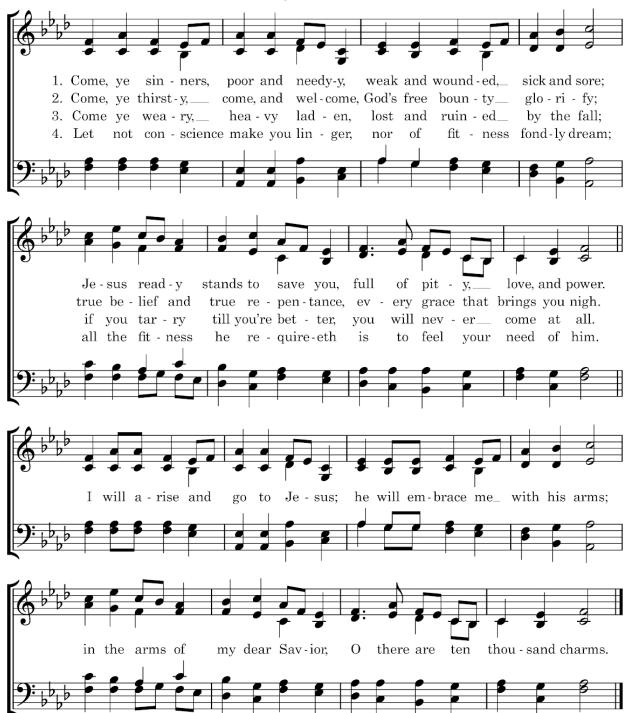
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Amen.

## Come Ye Sinners

## Led by Breanna Coe



## \* BENEDICTION

#### \* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

## Led by Nancy Pifer



POSTLUDE I'll Fly Away Albert E. Brumley
Alex Austin, bass; and Kris Hansen, trumpet

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.

#### **TODAY'S MUSIC**

**Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie** (Prelude on the Introit for the Epiphany) Op13 was composed in 1961 by Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986). Duruflé took the chant melody *Ecce advenit dominator Dominus* (Behold! The Lord is coming!), which is from the Mass for the Epiphany. Duruflé uses chant as an inspiration for many of his works, especially his setting of *Requiem*.

Holy, Holy, Holy - It is interesting to note that the text for this hymn draws from both Jewish and Catholic liturgy. The Jewish prayer for every Shabbat service is Kadosh, kadosh, kadosh and the Catholic prayer is Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus. Reginald Heber (1783-1826) penned this text in 1826 just before his death. He won poetry contests at Oxford in his student days. He became a member of the clergy and took over his father's parish. The tune, NICAEA, was named after the Council of Nicaea (325 CE) when the Church formulated the concept of the Trinity. It was composed by John Dykes (1823-1876) who created many famous English hymn tunes.

**Beautiful Savior** was originally a German hymn, *Schönster Herr Jesu*, first found and attributed in a 17th century hymnal. The English tune name is CRUSADER'S HYMN. The translation was provided by Joseph Augustus Seiss, (1823-1904), who was a Lutheran pastor in this country in the mid-1800's. *Beautiful Savior* also became the *alma mater* of St. Olaf College, and is sung at the close of every concert, as well as important events at St. Olaf and other colleges.

**Duetto** from <u>Lieder ohne Worte</u> Op. 38 No. 6 (Songs Without Words) was composed by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) from 1836 to 1837. The larger collection was composed over a long period, 1829 to 1845. They were composed in eight books of six pieces each over that 16-year period. His sister Fanny (1805-1847) and later Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) also composed a set of songs without words. The hallmark of the pieces is a Romantic sense of lyricism.

**You Walk Along Our Shoreline**, tune SALLEY GARDENS, uses a text written by Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993). She served the United Church of Canada, our Canadian UCC sister denomination, as a parish minister and prison chaplain. In her all-too-brief life, she composed numerous hymn texts. SALLEY GARDENS is a well known anonymous English ballad that has been arranged for other hymns and also classical solo songs by composers like Benjamin Britten (1913-1976).

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

Angels We Have Heard on High is originally an 18th century French noël (carol) freely translated by James Chadwick (1813-1882), an Irish Catholic priest. GLORIA is from the text of the joyfully cascading Latin refrain, which we sing as a Benediction response after Christmas and during Epiphany.

*I'll Fly Away* is the refrain of the hymn *Some Glad Morning*. The tune name is the same as the beginning text of the refrain. Both the text and tune were composed by Alfred E. Brumley (1905-1977). His music was deeply influenced by growing up in the Ozarks and he wrote this hymn while working in a cotton field. He wrote more than 800 gospel songs and taught at a number of singing schools in Missouri and Arkansas.

#### **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

Music Director: Kurt Hansen Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota,

drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Scripture Reader: Karen Lyons

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Fred Pearson

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

Camera Operators: Brian Hafner, Bob Ball

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

### **BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY**

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.

- Jan 9 Gisele Jozwiak, Grayson Colosi-McCann
- Jan 10 Adrienne Lundquist, Bethany Grachan, Matt Crowley
- Jan 11 Julianne Prangley
- Jan 12 Lauren Fangman, Petrine Ashley, Susie Rodriguez, Charlie Coe, Harper Skowron
- Jan 13 Ginger Hecht, Molly McGrath, Phil Canfield, Sune Millard, Max Waldschmidt
- Jan 14 Katie Huber
- Jan 15 Larry Simpson, Adrian Broderick, Jonah Schloerb, Julia Frisch

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### POLAR PEACE MARCH POSTPONED TO PALM SUNDAY

Due to COVID concerns, along with hope for greater impact on our community, this year's Polar Peace March will be on April 10, Palm Sunday. We'll wave our palms for peace around our neighborhood and show the city how all of our streets are connected. You can help UCAN achieve its mission of violence prevention and treatment for traumatized youth in our communities and supporting their peace-making work by registering and donating at: <a href="mailto:polarpeacemarch.org">polarpeacemarch.org</a>.

#### REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

The mentoring/core team took their training on January 5, so we're eligible to receive a family. RefugeeOne has indicated we'll be one of the first teams to get a family in the new year. Therefore, it'll be all-hands-on-deck very soon! As always, if you have any questions, please contact Mark Pellegrino, jjmarkp@yahoo.com.

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

Wet your finger and touch it to your forehead. With a prayer of thanksgiving, remember your baptism. Through the waters of baptism, we are reminded of God's renewing grace and gift of water that literally keeps us alive. It is a sacred trust to keep water safe, clean, and available to all. Mark your calendar now for March 22, 2022, and observe World Water Day (worldwaterday.org). Visit watercalculator.org to assess your water use and make appropriate changes at home, work, and elsewhere. Browse ocean conservation organizations to learn more and determine positive changes you can make.

#### JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Watch this space in the weeks ahead for ways that SPARC, as well as the UCC nationally, invite you to Join the Movement for racial justice. You will find information to understand the issues, resources to explore more deeply, and both individual and collective opportunities for education and activism. We are called to live our faith in an age of injustice and commanded to love our neighbors as ourselves. Let us boldly love people of all races for a more just world!

#### YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2022

We are planning a youth mission trip with Appalachia Service Project June 17-24 for youth going into ninth grade and up. ASP teams do home repair, making homes warmer, safer and dryer. It's a great experience, and St. Pauls youth and adults have served with ASP for many years. If a youth in your family is interested, please contact Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## JAN 12 - BIBLE STUDY: THE GOSPEL OF LUKE - 12 p.m., Zoom

We're starting a new study for a new year. Luke introduces us to Jesus, who brings justice and truth to the world. This Gospel contains some of the most cherished stories, such as the Prodigal Son, Zacchaeus and the Good Samaritan. Meets once a week for about a half hour. All are welcome! RSVP to Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

### **JAN 15 - VACCINE CLINIC -** 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Gym

Check your email for registration information. This event is for the entire community.

# **JAN 17 - MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, FAITH IN ACTION ASSEMBLY -** 10 a.m. or 7 p.m., On-line

Community Renewal Society responds to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s call to put our faith in action by hosting an annual assembly on the holiday commemorating his life and work. This year's assembly will be held virtually and will be streamed at 10 a.m. CT and again at 7 p.m. CT. You can find out more and register here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/46s8teke">https://tinyurl.com/46s8teke</a>

**FEB 4 - VIRTUAL SUPER BOWL SCAVENGER HUNT -** 7-8:30 p.m., Zoom Fabulous prizes, fun and fellowship! Three reasons to join the St. Pauls Social Super Bowl Scavenger hunt, hosted by CPS (Carrie, Peg and Sally). RSVP to <a href="mailto:crbruggs@gmail.com">crbruggs@gmail.com</a> and Zoom details will be sent in response.

#### **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 <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968</a>

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

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)** – We are seeking **CEP Laundry volunteers on Saturday mornings**. One volunteer is needed each week to greet street-based guests and launder their clothes on site at St. Pauls from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you have any interest in **cooking in-person** meals for homeless neighbors in the coming months, please contact Jennifer Kew at <a href="mailto:CEPsupper@gmail.com">CEPsupper@gmail.com</a>.

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

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

**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: <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271">spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271</a>.

**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 <a href="toby@rogers-home.com">toby@rogers-home.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:jan.fraccaro@gmail.com">jan.fraccaro@gmail.com</a>.

**LITTLE LIGHTS** is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year-olds. We are now accepting applications for 2022. Check out <a href="https://www.littlelightslp.org">www.littlelightslp.org</a>. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at <a href="https://littlelights@spucc.org">littlelights@spucc.org</a>.

**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, <a href="mailto:JenniferLKew@gmail.com">JenniferLKew@gmail.com</a>, or Pastor Jeff, <a href="mailto:jearlson@spucc.org">jearlson@spucc.org</a>.

**SAINT PAULS SOCIAL** – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at <a href="mailto:jenluerssen@yahoo.com">jenluerssen@yahoo.com</a>. Subscribe to the distribution list at <a href="mailto:jenluerssen@yahoo.com">jenluerssen@yahoo.com</a>. Subscribe to 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: <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008</a>

**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.

**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 (<a href="mailto:icarlson@spucc.org">icarlson@spucc.org</a>), Marti Pechnyo (<a href="mailto:mpechnyo@gmail.com">mpechnyo@gmail.com</a>), or Barb Kaiser (<a href="mailto:bkaiser2213@gmail.com">bkaiser2213@gmail.com</a>).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – Please register your children for Sunday School. This is a one-time registration for the year so we can prepare the correct staffing and activities, <a href="mailto:spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/985445">spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/985445</a>.

**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 <u>icarlson@spucc.org</u> 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 <a href="mailto:youngadults@spucc.org">youngadults@spucc.org</a>.

#### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's bulletin or Friday email to <a href="mailto:chiggins@spucc.org">chiggins@spucc.org</a> 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.

- Ginger Hecht and family at the death of her mother, Nina Whitsel.
- Jan Bail at the death of her sister, Marty.
- Lorri Gunn Wirsum, diagnosed with COVID and at home managing symptoms.
- Encouragement for Al Cerkan as he enters home recovery for a serious spinal cord injury.
- An 18-year-old friend of Lisa Doerr in critical condition from a burst aneurysm.
- Chris, Rem and Sabrina Cabrera-Schram at the death of son and brother, Gabriel.
- Pastor Jamie Frazier, whose mother, Irene, has died.
- Joe JaQuay, being treated for an infection in his leg.
- 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 breakthrough of Covid.
- Bob and Cheryl Kuba as they are challenged by some significant health issues.
- Mary Frances Winking's parents facing health and quality of life obstacles.
- Michelle Rodriguez, on the death of her aunt.
- Wes Salsbury and Marcia Knudson as Wes continues to develop strength after a months-long hospitalization and rehab stay occasioned by a fall.
- 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, <a href="mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org">mfitzgerald@spucc.org</a>
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, <a href="mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org">jcarlson@spucc.org</a>
Pastoral Associate Benny VanDerburgh, <a href="mailto:bvanderburgh@spucc.org">bvanderburgh@spucc.org</a>
Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry, <a href="mailto:emeritushenry@gmail.com">emeritushenry@gmail.com</a>

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership Please visit <a href="https://www.spucc.org/contact">www.spucc.org/contact</a>

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



## 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.