

How Sweet The Sound
November 13, 2022

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

There is no Sunday School this week.

Children are invited to stay in worship. The Nursery is open for children ages 0 to 4.

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 gospel song expresses theology. Not the theology of the academy or university ..., but a *theology of experience* - the theology of a God of sunshine and rain ... who has not forsaken the poor and oppressed. It is a *theology of imagination ... a theology of grace, ... amazing grace*"

William B. McCain
from the forward to *Songs of Zion*

PRELUDE

Rejoice!
St. Arbucks Quartet

Richard Smallwood

INTROIT

Amazing Grace
Mark Mosley, alto saxophone

Black American Hymn

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

* ANTHEM

Glory, Glory
Kris Hansen, soloist
Combined Choirs and St. Arbucks

African American Gospel
arr. Harriet Ziegenhals

Glory, glory, Hallelujah,
Since I laid my burden down.

I feel better, so much better,
Since I laid my burden down.

Glory, glory . . .

I'm going home to live with Jesus,
Since I laid my burden down.

Glory, glory . . .

WELCOME

Kurt R. Hansen

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Fear not if 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. God is your shield and portion,

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

Rejoice and Sing!

African American Spiritual

Arr. and additional text - Rollo Dilworth

Children's Choir

Breanna Coe, director; and Karen Johnson, pianist

Leslie Chamberlain, "sub-extraordinaire"

Rejoice and sing!

Lift your voices and let's join the celebration.

Let freedom ring in your hearts as a source of inspiration.

When the Spirit says, "Sing," I will sing.

When the Spirit says, "Sing," I will sing.

Celebrate! Celebrate! Celebrate and rejoice!

Celebrate! Celebrate! Celebrate and sing!

When the Spirit says "Sing," I will sing.

When the Spirit says "Sing," I will sing.

Rejoice and sing...

I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says, "Sing."

I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says, "Sing."

I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says, "Sing."

I'll sing and obey the Spirit of the Lord!

Rejoice and sing!

Lift your voices and let's join the celebration.

When the Spirit says "Sing," I will sing.

When the Spirit says "Sing," I will sing.

Rejoice!

CALL TO PRAYER

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest

v. 1

1. There is a place of qui - et rest, near to the heart of God;
2. There is a place of full re - lease, near to the heart of God;

The first system of music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass staff. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G, followed by a dotted quarter note A, and then a half note B. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

a place where sin can - not mo - lest, near to the heart of God.
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a quarter note C, followed by a dotted quarter note D, and then a half note E. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

O Je - sus, blest Re - deem - er, sent from the heart of God,

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a quarter note F, followed by a dotted quarter note G, and then a half note A. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

hold us who wait be - fore thee near to the heart of God.

The fourth system concludes the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a quarter note B, followed by a dotted quarter note C, and then a half note D. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kurt R. Hansen

**God of infinite love and mercy,
We come before you with hope and rejoicing.
We lift our voices in song and prayer ...
Songs that speaking of yearning to be close to you,
 Even though we too often push you away.
Prayers that speak the truth of our failings,
 Even though we have trouble owning up to them.
We ask for peace in our homes,
 in our city,
 in our country,
 And in our world.
We ask humbly to be made instruments of your peace.
We ask that our songs reach beyond ourselves to our neighbors in this
room and beyond.
We ask that our “Joyful Sound in the City” reach your ears and melt the
hearts of those who live in fear and violence.
Open our souls through singing today and crack open our hearts.
Open us so we can let our little lights shine to your GLORY.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest
See previous hymn

v. 2

SCRIPTURE

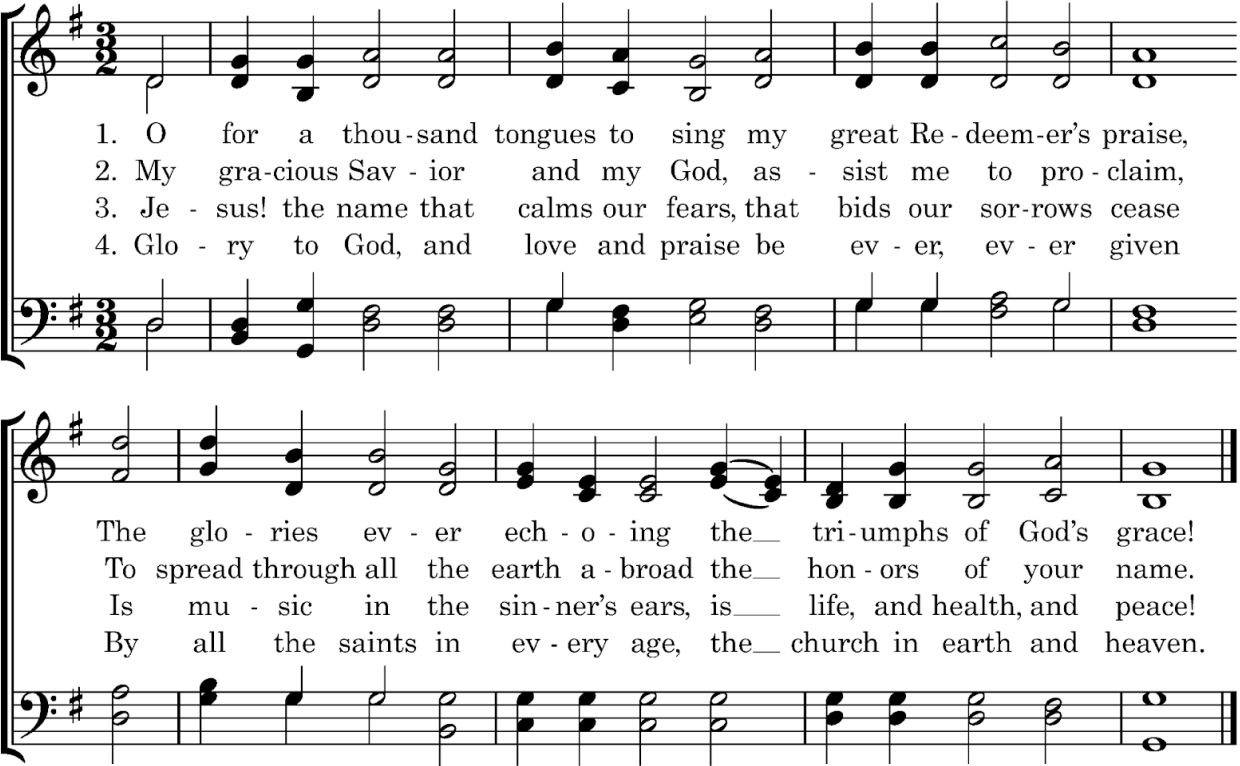
Clarissa Galaviz Lizarraga

Psalms 98: 1–8, The Message

Sing to God a brand-new song.
He's made a world of wonders!
He rolled up his sleeves,
He set things right.
God made history with salvation,
He showed the world what he could do.
He remembered to love us, a bonus
To his dear family, Israel—indefatigable love.
The whole earth comes to attention.
Look—God's work of salvation!
Shout your praises to God, everybody!
Let loose and sing! Strike up the band!
Round up an orchestra to play for God,
Add on a hundred-voice choir.
Feature trumpets and big trombones,
Fill the air with praises to King God.
Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause,
With everything living on earth joining in.
Let ocean breakers call out, "Encore!"
And mountains harmonize the finale—

* HYMN

O For a Thousand Tongues



1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2. My gra-cious Sav-ior and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3. Je-sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease
4. Glo-ry to God, and love and praise be ev-er, ev-er given

The glo-ries ev-er ech-o-ing the tri-umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
Is mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev-ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

ANTHEM

The Storm Is Passing Over

Charles Albert Tindley

Pauls People

arr. Barbara W. Baker

Kecia Waldschmidt, director

Have courage, my soul, and let us journey on,
Though the night is dark and I am far from home,
Thanks be to God, the morning light appears,
And the storm is passing over, Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
The storm is passing over,
Hallelujah!

SERMON

"Can't Talk, Singing"

Matt Fitzgerald

MEDITATION

Whispering Hope

Septimus Winner
aka Alice Hawthorn

Nancy Pifer, soprano; Nathan Streeter, tenor; and Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

Soft as the voice of an angel
Breathing a lesson unheard
Hope with a gentle persuasion
Whispers her comforting word
Wait 'til the darkness is over
Wait 'til the tempest is done
Hope for the sunshine tomorrow
After the darkness is gone.

Whispering hope.
Oh, how welcome Thy voice
Making my heart
In its sorrow rejoice
If in the dusk of the twilight
Dim be the region afar
Will not the deepening darkness
Brighten the glimmering star
Then when the night is upon us
Why should the heart sink away?
When the dark midnight is over
Watch for the breaking of day.
Whispering hope ...

* HYMN

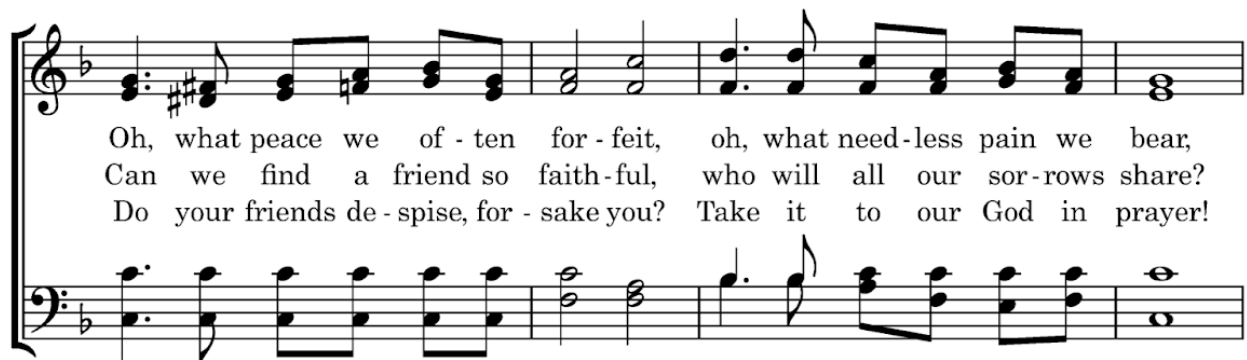
What a Friend We Have in Jesus



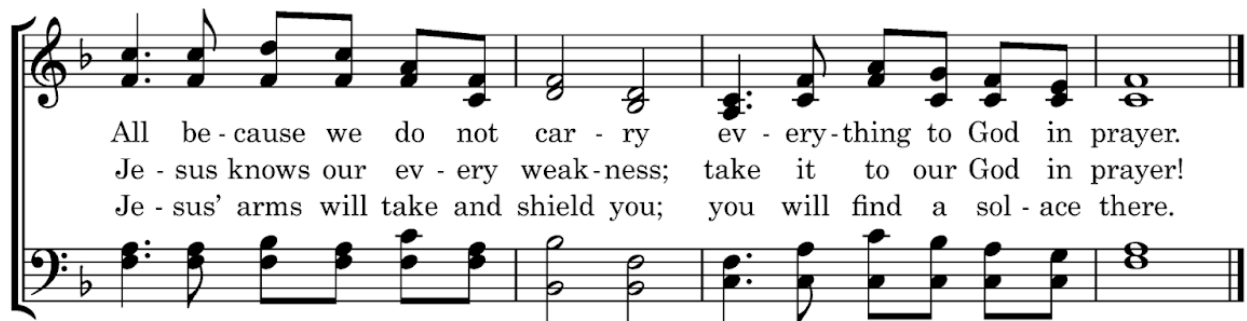
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, bur - dened with a load of care?



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

Ben Emmerich

* OFFERTORY

Hallelujah!

G.F. Handel

From *A Soulful Celebration of Messiah* arr. Mervyn Warren

Michael O. Jackson and Mark Kibble

Hallelujah, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom
Of our Lord and of his Christ;
And he shall reign forever and ever.
KING OF KINGS,
AND LORD OF LORDS.*
And he shall reign forever and ever.
Hallelujah!

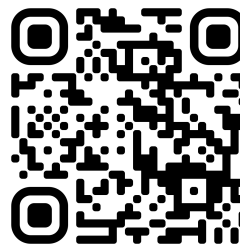
** Capitalized in the Biblical text.*

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

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Liz Nickerson

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

Combined Choir and Congregation

Please join on the refrain

Refrain - This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3 times)

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

Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine. (3 times)

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

All around the neighborhood. I'm gonna let it shine. (3 times)

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

Verse - On Monday he gave me the gift of love,

On Tuesday peace came from above,

On Wednesday he told me to have a little more faith,

On Thursday gave me a little more grace,

On Friday he told me to watch and pray,

On Saturday told me just what to say,

On Sunday he gave power divine,

Just to let my little light shine.

Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine. (3 times)

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

Verse - Some say the time's too late,

This old world's in a sorry state,

We've got another story;

We say the world is bound for glory.

There's a little whitedove, a-flying in the blue,

Gonna show what power of love can do.

Where there's a dark corner in this world,

I'm gonna let my little light shine.

Refrain . . .

If you would like someone to pray with you today, Stephen Ministers are present after the postlude at the right front of the Sanctuary.

Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks in the Social Hall.

TODAY'S MUSIC

Rejoice! - Richard Smallwood (b. 1948) is one of the top composers and performers of Gospel music. His group, The Richard Smallwood Singers, has toured the world. He is a graduate of Howard University, which also counts Vice President Kamala Harris and so many other luminaries as alumni. He was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 2006.

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

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing is a text written in 1739 by the famous Methodist hymnodist and theologian Charles Wesley (1707-1788). It is said that he wrote more than 6,500 hymns. The tune, AZMON, was composed in 1828 by C. G. Glaser (1781-1829) and was later adapted to the melody we know by Lowell Mason (1792-1872). Glaser was a German composer educated at St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, the home church of, and in the generation following the death of, Bach. Dr. Mason was considered as the "Father of American Church Music." He was born and educated in New York.

The Storm Is Passing Over is originally a hymn tune and text composed in 1905 by Charles Albert Tindley (1851-1933). Tindley's father was a slave in Maryland. His mother was freed. He was raised by his aunt after his mother's early death. He was largely a self-taught musician and composed more than 100 hymns, some with the input and help of his eight children. He was also a captivating preacher. He often used music as part of his sermons, and his church in Philadelphia, which grew to more than 10,000 in membership, was noted for its ethnic diversity. Barbara W. Baker is a noted educator in addition to her credits as a composer and choral conductor.

Glory, Glory! Hallelujah! is a truly exuberant African American spiritual. Longtime members of St. Pauls will recognize it as one of our touchstone songs sung over the years on “How Sweet the Sound,” our Gospel music Sunday. The arrangement we sing is by Harriet Ziegenhals (1925-2016). Ziegenhals was the Director of the Community Renewal Chorus in Chicago for many years and often collaborated with Sam Hill, beloved Music Director and remarkable gospel pianist at St. Pauls from 1971 until his death in 1991.

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. In order to be taken seriously, she used at least 20 pseudonyms, at least half of them male names. She became blind at six weeks of age. The tune ASSURANCE was composed in 1873 by Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839-1908). She was the daughter of a Methodist evangelist. At age 16, she married the founder of Metropolitan Life Insurance and composed more than 500 gospel songs in her lifetime.

Rejoice and Sing! is an African American spiritual arranged by Rollo Dilworth (b. 1970). Dr. Dilworth has a deep connection to Chicago and was also the director of our Children’s Choir. Dr. Dilworth earned his Doctorate of Musical Arts (DMA) in choral conducting and literature at Northwestern University while Kurt R. Hansen was on the Voice and Opera Faculty. He also was the Director of Choral Activities at North Park University and Breanna Coe sang in his choirs. He is now the Chair of the Music Education and Music Therapy Department at Temple University in Philadelphia. He is much sought after as a choral clinician and composer.

Both the text, ***There Is a Place of Quiet Rest***, and the tune, MCAFEE, was composed in 1901 by Cleland Boyd McAfee (1866-1944). He was an American theologian, Presbyterian minister, and hymn writer. This is his most famous gospel hymn. Its composition followed the death of two of his young nieces from diphtheria.

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.

Whispering Hope was composed by Septimus Winner (1827-1902), also known as Alice Hawthorn and four other characters. He was largely a self-taught musician and was well known as a poet, composer and violinist. He also owned a music store. His most well known song was the popular *Listen to the Mockingbird*, which he sold for \$5.00 and went on to sell more than 20 million copies.

The ***Hallelujah Chorus*** is arguably the most often performed and well known of the works of George Friderick Handel (1685-1759). This chorus closes Part Two of his *Messiah*. Although it is most often associated with Christmas performances, it actually announces the victory of Christ over death. Handel composed the entire *Messiah* in a two-week flurry of creativity in 1741. It is in homage to Handel's music that ***Handel's Messiah: A Soulful Celebration*** was created to look through the "window" of the great gospel tradition to reimagine Handel's music. The album with this "finale" was released in 1992 and won both a Grammy for Best Contemporary Soul Gospel Album and the Dove Award for Contemporary Album of the Year.

All Are Welcome is a recently composed hymn and one of our favorites from a past hymnfest. 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.

This Little Light of Mine has been a favorite of St. Pauls for more than 40 years. It has an uplifting and spiritually powerful message that celebrates the sharing of faith. This is also another example from the deep well of spirituals from the African American tradition. The arrangement that we sing was created by Dr. Sammie "Sam" Hill, who was Director of Music and Organist at St. Pauls from 1971-1991. Sam, and our current Director of Music, Kurt R. Hansen, both studied with the same teacher at Northwestern University, Grigg Fountain.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Liz Nickerson, Jeff Carlson

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: Clarissa Galaviz Lizarraga

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Doug Clark, Jen Luerksen, Jeff Matthews, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Camera Operators: Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Jose Cruz, Brian Hafner

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 13 Terry Brancaccio-Hansen, Tatum Hunter

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

See our full event calendar online at spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar.

NOV 13 - ST. PAUL FINANCE MEETING - 11:20 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room

Thirty-seven thousand nine hundred (37,900). No, this isn't the number of babies baptized in the 180-year history of St. Pauls. **It's the church electric bill for 2022!** Join the church's Finance Committee on Sunday, November 13, to learn how this number and many, many more help us make a joyful sound in the city. Bring your questions about the dollars and cents of the church's operations to this open discussion as you prayerfully consider your 2023 Giving Pledge.

NOV 13 - UCAN CHRISTMAS GIFT DRIVE - Social Hall

St. Pauls has asked for 100 wish lists of \$50 gift cards for our members to give to youth that UCAN serves. Head over to the table in the Social Hall, staffed by our Outreach and Benevolence committee, to claim a wish list by November 27. Any questions, please contact Carrie Bruggers at crbruggs@gmail.com.

NOV 13 - FREE CHRISTMAS CARDS DURING COFFEE HOUR - 11 a.m., Social Hall

The Connectors will give out packets of 12 Christmas cards during coffee hour after church this Sunday at the Connectors greeting card table. The Connectors host a greeting card table several Sundays a month and provide free get well, sympathy, birthday, and thinking of you greeting cards for anyone to pick up and send. Postage for envelopes that are addressed (with the greeting cards) will be sent by the church to persons on the Prayer Page and Birthday Page, and others who may be uplifted by a card. Please come by and pick up some Christmas card packets.

NOV 14 - WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HAITI? - 7 p.m., Zoom

Three Angels Haiti (threeangelshaiti.org) is one of the charitable agencies St. Pauls supports. Haiti is the most impoverished country in the Western Hemisphere, the government is more fragile than ever, and gang violence is out of control. Three Angels is impacted by these issues in many ways. Please pray for them and join us November 14 for this Zoom mission event with Three Angels representatives. We will learn about what's going on and explore how we can help the children and community Three Angels serves. For the Zoom link, please sign up at tinyurl.com/2s3cbfn5. You can submit questions for Three Angels in advance by sending them to Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

NOV 16 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoom

The Book of Ruth. We'll explore this short book about a relationship between two women in three sessions. All are welcome! Get the Zoom link from Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org.

NOV 18 - WINDY CITY WINDS FALL CONCERT - 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Join Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band," for their fall concert "Our New Day." Admission is free! St. Pauls member Chris Bettler will be the featured soloist performing the *Tuba Concerto* by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Other music on the program includes *Colas Breugnon: Overture*, *Symphonic Dances* from *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Adoration* by Florence Price, and *Of Our New Day Begun* by Omar Thomas, based on the hymn *Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing*. Windy City Winds is conducted by St. Pauls members Mark and Sarah Mosley.

DEC 1 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL HOLIDAY COOKING CLASS - 6 p.m., St. Pauls Kitchen

Join St. Pauls Social and professional chef Molly McGrath for an in-person holiday cooking class. We will learn and practice a few holiday dishes. Menu is TBD - **RSVP by Wednesday, November 23** to be part of the selection committee! Cooking along is welcome but certainly not required! Cost is \$10/person.

Please RSVP to Molly at mollymcgrath906@gmail.com.

DEC 2- SANCTUARY CHRISMON TREE SETUP - 8 a.m., Sanctuary

We will be assembling and decorating our sanctuary Chrismon tree on Friday, December 2 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOTENFEST MEMORIALS

Totenfest will be held next Sunday, November 20. 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 memorial dedication to Claire at chiggins@spucc.org **by this Thursday, November 17.**

spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/totenfest

PECAN PIES FOR THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Pecan pie sales are back! Our pecan pie sales will now support the Youth Mission Trip. Pies are wonderful fresh but can be frozen (still wonderful)! Order and pay by credit card online **by Sunday, November 20.** \$20/pie, limit two pies per person. You can also order a pie to be donated to UCAN's residential home kitchen. Pickup: November 21, 2-6 p.m.; or November 22, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Questions/concerns, please contact Mary Brown, doddbrown@sbcglobal.net, or 847-989-5966.

Purchase your pies here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1498977

CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

You can decorate your home this year and the proceeds will support St. Pauls outreach and benevolence efforts. We have 24" or 36" wreaths available this year. Each wreath is made of fresh boughs pulled from the Christmas tree fields mounted on a metal ring for easy hanging. The 24" wreath is the typical "door sized" option. Order and pay ahead at the link below and pick up your wreath in our church courtyard after service on Sunday, December 4 from 11:30 a.m to 1 p.m.
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1514670

ACT NOW TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS!

"Bring Chicago Home," tinyurl.com/27dxr8a9, is a proposal to create a dedicated revenue stream to fight homelessness supported by our UCC Chicago Metropolitan Association. They ask that you call your alderman to request they "attend the hearing and special City Council meeting on "Bring Chicago Home" happening tomorrow at 9 a.m. Please call their office today until we get confirmation that they will attend. If we do not get 26 aldermen to show up at the meeting, then our effort to get on the February ballot will be over." Find your alderman's contact information here, tinyurl.com/2p8w3rcj.

REFUGEEONE WINTER COAT DRIVE

RefugeeOne just completed their Winter Coat Drive. They gave away more than 300 coats to their clients! However, they are completely out of coats for folks who arrive in the near future. They are looking to collect 20-30 more coats to have in stock for new arrivals. They need heavy winter coats for adults only (men's or women's) that are new or gently used. They do not need children's or lighter weight coats. If you can contribute to this, please drop them off in the office **by Sunday, November 20**.

2023 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/1517246
Sign up for reading here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508612

RETIREMENT GROUP FORMING

A new group is forming for people who have retired recently, or are contemplating retirement. Retirement is a process that brings new challenges and questions. If you'd like to share these with others, please call Marcia Knudson (773) 480-4189 and together we will make plans for meeting.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Why White People Are Funny. November is Native American Heritage Month. It is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people in both the past and present. For an eye-opening perspective, see the collaboration between filmmaker Mark Sandiford and Inuit writer and satirist Zebedee Nungak, *Qallunaat!: Why White People Are Funny*, 2006, nfb.ca/film/qallunaat_why_white_people_are_funny

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

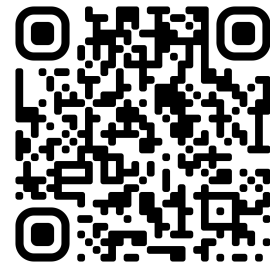
REDUCE HOLIDAY WASTE

Move over traditional wrapping paper that will be trashed. There are plenty of creative ways to wrap gifts that go beyond the store bought roll of shiny paper. Whether you're looking to cut down on waste or make the wrapping part of the gift itself, here are some alternatives.

- Doilies, newspapers, paper bags, wallpaper, maps, photos, stamped paper, cereal boxes, butcher paper, toilet and paper rolls, sheet music.
- Blankets, pillow cases, burlap, scarves, beach towels, old shirts, old fabric.
- Jars, cans (decorate lids with cut-out from old cards), baskets or crates.

2023 PLEDGE & GIVING INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge for 2023! Your generous support of St. Pauls is greatly needed and much appreciated. If you have yet to pledge your time, talents or treasures for 2023, you can fill out a paper pledge form and put it in the offering tray or return it to the office. Or, you can pledge online at spucc.org/pledge or by scanning this QR code.



Making a pledge shares with us your intention to donate your time, talents and financial support. This information helps us plan and budget for the upcoming year.

Important Note: If your pledged financial support for 2023 is changing from this year and you would like to evenly distribute donations towards your pledge throughout the year, you need to adjust your recurring donation amount through whichever giving method you use. Pledge forms do not authorize St. Pauls to create or update recurring donations made through our giving portal.

Email bookkeeper@spucc.org with questions or for help.

2023 GIVING CAMPAIGN - IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

If you have an IRA and are required, or will be required, to take a minimum annual distribution (RMD) from your account, you may be interested to know that there are tax advantages to taking your distribution as a direct contribution to a charitable organization such as Saint Pauls United Church of Christ.

If the distribution is made directly from your IRA to St. Pauls UCC, then you enjoy two tax benefits: 1) the distribution does not count as taxable income and 2) the distribution does count towards satisfying your RMD if over age 72. The gift, called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), must go directly from your IRA to the organization, and your total gifts cannot exceed \$100,000 per year. You can make QCDs after you reach age 70 ½, which is earlier than the current RMD age of 72. You cannot make QCDs from your 401(k); it has to be rolled into an IRA first.

With the 2017 changes in the tax law, some have lost the ability to itemize their deductions, including charitable contributions, and are now taking the higher standard deduction. Making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a great way to still get a tax benefit for charitable giving. If you have questions about QCDs, consult your tax or financial advisor. Members of the Finance Committee are able to provide more information as well. Reach out to Committee chair Sally Fletcher at Treasurer@SPUCC.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

ACTIVISM & ADVOCACY MINISTRY – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls Activism & Advocacy Ministry 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.

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. There are still many dates available this year! Sign up for 2022 dates at spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968.

THE BOOK NOOK – Find your next good read or drop off books to share on the north side of the Social Hal. Donations are welcome – just add them to the shelf for “New Arrivals” or leave them on the floor next to the bookcase. We appreciate all genres, including books for kids. Questions or comments, contact Linda Nitzsche at lindanitz@yahoo.com.

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

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.

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS – You may follow this link for additional information on this form developed by the Connectors:
spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271.

GREEN TEAM – As people of faith, members of St. Pauls are called to “Care for Creation.” To that end, the Green Team is seeking new members, particularly young adults and youth, as we become a Creation Justice church, recognized by the UCC. We would love to have you! If you are interested, please contact either of the new interim Green Team co-chairs, Ninon Freeman at nlanda05@yahoo.com or Rick Peterson at rnpeterson2017@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 the 2022/23 school year. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. If you would like to schedule a tour or have additional questions, contact Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

PICKLEBALL – Have you tried the growing sport of Pickleball yet? We hold pick-up games in the St. Pauls gym every week. Sign up at the ChurchCenter link below and show up at one of the allotted times! We have spare paddles and balls. All skill levels are invited. If you have questions, call or text Steve Garrett at (312) 208-0636.
Game Times: Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30 p.m; Fridays: 2-3 p.m.
spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball

POLO STAY & PLAY – This is a friendly group for parents and caregivers with babies and small children (ages 0-4) and expectant parents, to meet together and enjoy playtime with your children. Our group will meet in the nursery downstairs by the Social Hall on Fridays from 10-11:30 a.m. *Please note, this is not a drop-off event.* Adult supervision is required.

ST. PAULS SOCIAL – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at stpaulssocial@spucc.org.
Subscribe to the distribution list below, or look out for future events in the bulletin calendar: spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social

SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS – 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

SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster) meets monthly to discern how we as a congregation can answer the call to live our faith in an age of injustice. We invite you to join us in identifying the educational opportunities, resources, and actions to take on our journey toward racial justice. To participate or share your ideas, contact Cindy Ball at cindyball11@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), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION – Please register your kids for the 2022-23 Sunday School year at the link below. Sunday School is open to children 2-years-old to high school. Our Nursery is open for children under age 2. Email questions to Children's Program Coordinator Danielle Mayfield at danielle.mayfield@spucc.org. Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1306755

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.

YOUTH CHOIRS – If your child has any interest in music, please join us! Kecia Waldschmidt is leading Paul's People for 4th-8th graders. Breanna Coe and Karen Johnson are leading the Children's Choir for kids K-3rd grade. Rehearsals are at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. We can't wait to hear our youth choirs singing again!

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 Wednesday.

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.

- Tom and Lisa at the death of Tom's father, Charles Raterman.
- Three Angels Haiti – for the children, staff, community and all of Haiti, for big changes in the Haitian government, for the gangs to be overcome, and for the Haitian people to look to God daily.
- Doug Clark, at the death of his mom, Marilyn.
- Family and friends of Pat Ruch's sister, Aline Ruch Frank, at her death.
- Al Cerkon on his continuing health journey.
- Kompare family, displaced from their home after a fire in their building.
- Deon Fayhee and family on the death of his grandfather, Raymond.
- Michael Toomin, as he recovers from a back injury and is undergoing physical therapy.
- Sergio, grandson of Ivy Sanz, who doctors are concerned might have leukemia.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources

Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. 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 179 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
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

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

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

Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
at Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2300 block of North Lincoln Ave.
Parking validation is available in the Narthex.



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.