

Totenfest
Baptism Sunday
November 20, 2022

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

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"Loss is not a *thing*. Loss is a viewpoint."

Jon Connelly

PRELUDE

I Don't Feel No Ways Tired
St. Arbucks Quartet

Rev. James Cleveland

INTROIT

The Countless Host in White Array
Chancel Choir

Edvard Grieg

The countless hosts in white array, that in God's presence ever stay,
All bearing palms, singing psalms, what are these; whence came they?
These are the ransomed souls that bore on earth great tribulation sore;
They overcame through Jesus' name, won life for evermore.
And now around the throne they sing, their echoing hallelujahs ring;
With harp and lyre, with angel choir, they glorify their King.

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Amen! Give God blessing and glory!

All: Give God wisdom and thanksgiving!

One: Give God honor and power and strength!

All: Forever and ever! Amen!

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

* HYMN

For All the Saints



1. For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, Who
2. Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might:_____
3. O may thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,_____
4. O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!_____
5. And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,_____



thee_____ by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
Thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;_____

Fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old, And
We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; Yet
Steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, And



name O_____ Je - sus, be for - ev - er_____ blest.
Thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one_____ true_____ light.
win with_____ them the vic - tor's crown of_____ gold.
all are_____ one in thee, for all_____ are_____ thine.
hearts are_____ brave a - gain, and arms are_____ strong.



Al - - le - lu - ia! Al - - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, thank you for creating a world so full
of color, difference, and beauty.
The wonder of it all saves us
from the mistaken belief
that life depends on us.
Keep us mindful of our
dramatic, essential,
dependence
on you.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

v. 1

1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir - it's sign;
2. Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came,
3. Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.

With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
Back to God we hum - bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Willow Grace Clancy

Pastor: Willow, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as a child of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Willow is now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Willow. Inspire her life. May she sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for her parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with this family as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.

Pastor: Willow, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

All: Amen

RESPONSE

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

vv. 2 & 3

See previous hymn

*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

SCRIPTURE

Mark Sancya

1 Corinthians 15, selections

Let me ask something profound yet troubling. If you believe the proclamation that Christ is raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. Not only that, but we would be guilty of telling a string of barefaced lies about God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ— sheer fabrication, if there's no resurrection. If we all get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But the truth is that Christ *has* been raised from the dead, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemetery. For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human. Just as everyone dies in Adam, all will be made alive in Christ.

But we have to wait: Christ first, then all with him at his return, the grand consummation when he hands the keys to his Kingdom over to God.

Our natural, earthly lives don't lead us by their very nature into the kingdom of God. Their 'nature' is to die, so how could they naturally wind up in the kingdom?

Look, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised beyond the reach of death, never to die again, *and we will be changed*.

And then, the saying that has been written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory.

"Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

* 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

Be Still My Soul

vv. 1 & 3



1. Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; _____
2. Be still, my soul: for God will un - der - take _____
3. Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here _____



_____ bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain; _____ Leave to your
_____ to guide in fu - ture days as in the past. _____ Your hope, your
_____ when we shall be with God whom we a - dore, _____ with dis - ap -



God to or - der and pro - vide; _____ in ev - ery change God
con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake; _____ all now mys - te - rious
- point - ment gone, no grief nor fear, _____ sor - row re - placed with



faith - ful will re - main. _____ Be still, my soul: your best e - ter - nal
shall be clear at last. _____ Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
joy for - ev - er - more. _____ Be still, my soul: when change and tears are



friend _____ through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
know _____ how Je - sus' pow - er ruled them long a - go.
past, _____ all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

SERMON

"Grief, Overwhelmed"

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

I Come to the Garden Alone

1. I come to the gar-den a-lone, while the dew is
2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the
3. I'd stay in the gar-den with him, though the night a -

still on the ros-es; And the voice I hear, fall-ing
birds hush their sing-ing; And the mel-o-dy that he
-round me be fall-ing; But he bids me go; through the

on my ear, the Son of God dis-clos-es.
gave to me with-in my heart is ring-ing.
voice of woe his voice to me is call-ing.

And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me

I am his own, And the joy we share as we

tar-ry there, none oth-er has ev-er known.

GIVING MOMENT

Bill Borden

OFFERTORY

Goin' Home

Antonin Dvořák

Jen Kew, Jana O'Brien, and Todd Coe; soloists
Chancel Choir

Goin' home, goin' home, I'm a goin' home
Quietlike, some still day, I'm jes' goin' home.
It's not far, jes' close by, through an open door
Work all done, care laid by, Gwine to fear no more
Mother's there, 'spectin' me, Father's waiting, too
Lots o' folk gathered there, all the friends I know. All the friends I know.
Nothin' lost, all's gain, no more fret nor pain
No more stumblin' on the way, no more longin' for the day
Gwine to roam no more
Mornin' star lights the way, restless dream all done
Shadows gone, break o' day, real life jes' begun.

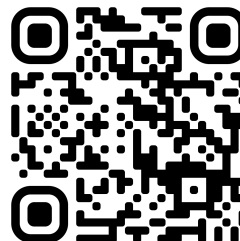
Dere's no break, ain't no end, jes' a livin' on
Wide awake with a smile, goin' on and on
Goin' home, goin' home, I'm jes' goin' home.
It's not far, jes' close by, through an open door
I'm a goin' home. I'm jes' goin' home.

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.



TOTENFEST TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

* HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

Stanza 1 Sung in German by the Chancel Choir
Stanzas 2 & 3 sung in English by the congregation

1. Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit Herz - en, Mund und Händ - en,
2. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voic - es,
3. All praise and thanks to God Our Mak - er now be giv - en,

der gro - sse Ding - e tut an uns und al - len End - en;
Who won - drous things has done, In whom this world re - joic - es,
To Christ, and Spir - it, too, our help in high - est heav - en,

der uns von Mut - ter - leib und Kind - es - bein - en an
 Who, from our par - ents' arms, Has blessed us on our way
 The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore,

un - zäh - lig viel zu gut bis hier - her hat ge - tan.
 With count - less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
 For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

POSTLUDE

Symphony No. 1—Finale
 Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Louis Vierne

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.

THE MEANING OF TOTENFEST

This is the last Sunday of the church year. The new church year begins next week with the First Sunday in Advent. Today, we remember those in our congregation who have died and we give thanks for their lives. We lift up in prayer the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones. From St. Pauls' German heritage, we call this day Totenfest, which means "a festival celebration for those who have died." The liturgical color for this Sunday is white, a symbol of resurrection.

THE TOTENFEST ROLL

*Members of St. Pauls who have died this church year, and friends
at whose services a St. Pauls pastor officiated:*

Gabriel Cabrera - Schram
December 15, 2021

Alex Grigaravicius
May 15, 2022

Robert Conner
August 17, 2022

Nina Whitsel
January 6, 2022

Bob Kuba
May 26, 2022

Tom Henry
August 27, 2022

Wes Salsbury
January 12, 2022

Maija Kroeger
June 1, 2022

Hazel Vespa
October 13, 2022

Karin Sax
May 9, 2022

Sharon Phillips
June 6, 2022

TOTENFEST MEMORIALS

Leroy and Henrietta (Scholten) Dykstra from Andrew and Lynn Davis

Lee Kenton Dykstra from Andrew and Lynn Davis

Edward Seeley Davis from Andrew and Lynn Davis

Thomas R. Henry from the Kompare and Henry families

Edward Zasadil from his spouse, Larry Simpson

Esther Simpson from her brother-in-law, Larry Simpson

Harry Robertson from Larry Simpson

Karl August Wirsum from the Wirsum family

Wanda Ellithorpe Fletcher from Sally Fletcher

Scott Reichard from Sally Fletcher

Tom Henry from Peg Wander

Sharon Phillips from Peg Wander

Virginia and Robert Borden from Allen Heinemann and Bill Borden

Virginia and Wilton Heinemann from Allen Heinemann and Bill Borden

Tom Henry from Larry and Char Damron

Charles and Marion Joachim from Maxine Joachim

Marilyn Kew from her daughter, Jen Kew

Wes Salisbury from his wife, Marcia Knudson

Karin Sax from her friend, Marcia Knudson

Jan Marshall from her friend, Gloria Joseph

Aline Ruch Frank from her sister, Pat Ruch

Marilyn Clark from her son, Doug Clark

Barbara and Theodore Weldon, Jr. from the Weldon family

TODAY'S MUSIC

Our Prelude is ***I Don't Feel No Ways Tired*** composed in 1980 by the Reverend James Cleveland (1931-1991). He was inspired by the exclamation of an elderly woman in his congregation. She'd had a hard life with pain, disappointment and mistreatment "just because of who she was." She found strength in her faith, redemption in Christ, and liberation in the Holy Spirit. Her words and fortitude inspired the Reverend Cleveland. He also carried on the tradition started by Thomas A. Dorsey fusing the spirit filled music of gospel with the energy and drive of jazz. Muzette Morgan, our longtime alto section leader and member of St. Pauls, introduced this song to us.

The Countless Hosts in White Array is a Norwegian folk melody from the 17th century. DEN STORE HVIDE FLOK, which is the tune name, is the first line of the Norwegian poetry by Hans Adolf Brorson (1694-1764), who composed the poetry in c. 1760. Helen A. Dickinson (1875-1957) provided the translation into English in 1907. This hymn arrangement was made by one of Norway's most famous composer Edvard Grieg (1843-1907). Among Grieg's many great works is the *Peer Gynt Suite* and his *Piano Concerto*.

The author of the text of ***For All the Saints*** was William Walsham How (1823-1897). He penned the poetry we love so much in 1864. He was an Oxford graduate and served many parishes in England throughout his life. Just to prove that there can be a sense of humor even in hymn tune names, SINE NOMINE, means "no name" in Latin. The stirring music was written in 1906 by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). He is one of the greatest English composers of the post-Victorian era. He composed music for nearly all genres of performance.

The text for ***Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*** was written in 1981 by a UCC pastor and teacher of theology, Ronald Cole-Turner (b. 1948). The tune, STUTTGART, was composed in 1715 by Christian Friederich Witt (1660-1716). Witt completed a huge hymnal, *Psalmodia Sacra*, the year before his death. Of the 774 hymns (!!!), he composed nearly 100. He was Kapellmeister of the Gotha court in Stuttgart at the same time that Bach was in Leipzig, just 300 miles north. As an interesting side note, Nathan Laube, world renowned organist and friend of St. Pauls, was until recently on the organ faculty at the Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart. He returned to Eastman School of Music this fall.

Be Still My Soul uses a tune called FINLANDIA, because the melody was composed by Jean Sibelius (1865-1957) as part of his famous tone poem by the same name that honored his homeland. The original German text is by Katharina von Schlegel

(1697–17??) and was translated into English by Scottish Jane Borthwick (1813–1897) who translated and composed many hymn texts.

The tune, KREMSER, is an unattributed Dutch folksong and dates from the 16th century. We also know a more traditional Thanksgiving text in English, *We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing*. The text of this version, ***We Praise You , O God, Our Redeemer, Creator***, was written by Julia C. Cory (1882-1963) in 1902. Because her father was a Sunday school superintendent and an amateur hymn writer, Julia began composing hymn texts at a very early age.

Goin' Home is an anthem based on a beautiful theme in the *Symphony No. 9 in E minor, "From the New World"* by Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904). Dvořák was a Czech composer, who spent a very important part of his career in the United States. He was deeply affected by folk music of his Bohemian heritage, so it is not a surprise that during his time in our country he was also moved by the African American spirituals he heard. The famous African American composer Harry Thacker Burleigh worked with Dvořák, so for many years it was assumed that the tune we associate with *Goin' Home* was a spiritual Dvořák had heard. The problem is there is no record of a spiritual with that title or melody. It is a tribute to Dvořák that he created a melody that was an homage to a musical genre that was foreign to him, but also tugged at the roots of his love for Bohemian folk music. The words were added in 1922 by one of his American students, William Arms Fisher, who expressed the hope and belief of life beyond death just "*close by, through an open door.*"

Now Thank We All Our God is a translation by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) of the original German by Martin Rinkart (1586-1649) written in 1636. Winkworth, although born in England, spent many years in Dresden, which is why she was so adept at translating German chorales. She was also a tireless fighter for women's rights. Rinkart became a scholar at St. Thomas School in Leipzig where Bach would later be Kapellmeister. The tune, NUN DANKET, takes its name from the first words of the German text. It is most often attributed to Johann Crüger (1558-1662), who in reality was the publisher of the psalter where this hymn tune appeared for the first time.

The ***Final*** from *Symphony No. 1 in D minor, Op 14* was composed by Louis Vierne (1870-1937) in 1888 to 1889. Along with Charles-Marie Widor, Vierne was one of the great Romantic symphonists for organ. He was born blind. He composed six symphonies for the organ. He was also the organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris from 1900 until his death. In fact, Vierne collapsed and died at the console at Notre Dame at the close of a recital there. Maurice Duruflé was at his side as an assistant that day. The *Final* shows Vierne's brilliance as both a composer and his own talent as a performer.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald, 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: Mark Sancya

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 20 Penelope Patton

Nov 22 Mitch Holzrichter

Nov 23 Jim Miller, Kyle Mack, Tom Hanson, Cale Roschen

Nov 24 Jake Lippert, Shari Charlton, Hannah Mutch, Pierce Prangle

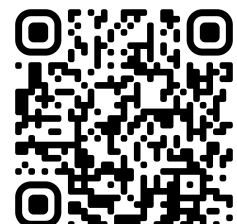
Nov 25 Daniel Lias, Randall Kooistra

Nov 26 Carrie Bettler

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS

- SUN, NOV 27 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE*
10 a.m. - Worship, Communion with brass
- SUN, DEC 4 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE*
10 a.m. - Worship, Christmas Cantata, Poulenc Gloria with orchestra
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. - Christmas Wreath Sale Pickup, Courtyard
Order and pay ahead online by December 2:
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1514670
- WED, DEC 7 LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS SHOW
5 p.m. - Concert & Art Show, Sanctuary
- SAT, DEC 10 COOKIES WITH SANTA
10 a.m. - Cookies, crafts and pictures with Santa, Gym
- SUN, DEC 11 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY*
10 a.m. - Worship, Readings & Carols
11:30 a.m. - Advent Market, Gym
- WEDS, DEC 14 ADVENT TAIZÉ SERVICE
6 p.m. - Service of sung prayer and meditation, Chapel
- FRI, DEC 16 ST. PAULS AND LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY
TBD - Party with the two best churches in Chicago!, Parlor
- SUN, DEC 18 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE*
10 a.m. - Worship
- WEDS, DEC 21 WINTER SOLSTICE SERVICE
7 p.m. - Service, Labyrinth walk, Gym
- SAT, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
5 p.m. - Family Service, Sanctuary
9 p.m. - Candlelight Service, Sanctuary
Christmas story, carols, candles, and choir
- SUN, DEC 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
10 a.m. - Worship

*Scan here for more
information about
Advent events*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

TODAY - BATTLE OF LINCOLN PARK DISCUSSION #2 11:15, Oscar Mayer Room

Two weeks ago, we met the author of the *Battle of Lincoln Park*. Today we'll have an informal discussion to share our take-aways from the book and hear more about what St. Pauls was up to during this period. What - if any - do you think are the implications of this history for us today? St. Pauls' Anti-Racism Cluster (SPARC) invites you to come and share your thoughts.

NOV 20 & 27 - 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 23 - NO WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

NOV 29 - RETIREMENT GROUP - 10 a.m., Parlor

People who are recently retired or considering it are invited to gather and share the new challenges and questions. Contact Marcia Knudson with questions, marciaknudson@gmail.com

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.

DEC 10 - COOKIES WITH SANTA - 10 a.m., Gym

Join us at St. Pauls for our annual Cookies with Santa event. It will be a great time full of music, cookie decorating, crafts, hot chocolate, and pictures with Santa! This free event will also feature music and carol singing led by the brass section of the Windy City Winds. We look forward to seeing you and getting in the holiday spirit together! Please register to help us get a headcount for crafts and cookies. Thank you!
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1502649

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED

The Advent Market is on Sunday, December 11, and will help fund our outreach and benevolence for UCAN. We need new or gently used 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 3:** 9 a.m.-12p.m.; **December 4:** 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; **December 9:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m; and **December 10:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m.. Questions, please text or email Carrie Bruggers at (773) 294-4446 or crbruggs@gmail.com

LAST DAY TO ORDER 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 today.** \$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

2023 YOUTH MISSION TRIP - BE THE NEIGHBOR IN TUCSON!

Youth who this year are in 8-12 grades are invited to a Tucson Immigration and Welcome Week, June 10-17. We'll spend the week in education, collaboration, cultural exchange, and hands-on service. We'll learn from immigrants, asylum-seekers, faith leaders, and activists about immigration in our borderlands. We'll learn to put our faith into service through desert walks, humanitarian aid, preparing and serving meals, building projects, learning about the immigration process, activism and advocacy. The hope is that this trip will help us apply what we learn in new ways with immigrants when we return home. Cost is \$500, plus we'll do fundraising for the extra expenses and airfare. You can find out more about the trip and sign up here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508128

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 **by December 2** 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

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

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

What It Means to Be a Human Being. As we continue to explore the contributions of Native Americans to our understanding of who we are, listen to indigenous poet, author, and activist John Trudell discuss "What it Means to Be a Human Being." March 15, 2001, The Women's Building, San Francisco, radio TUC (Time of Useful Consciousness)

Pt. 1: radio4all.net/files/tuc@tucradio.org/44-2-JohnTrudellONE_2014.mp3

Pt. 2: radio4all.net/files/tuc@tucradio.org/44-2-JohnTrudellTWO_2014.mp3

Transcript: ratical.org/many_worlds/JohnTrudell/HumanBeing.html#s2

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

REDUCE HOLIDAY WASTE

Give homemade, alternative Christmas gifts made by you and your family. Food gifts are the best because everyone eats. These gifts packaged in reusable glass jars are great. Homemade food gifts look impressive and taste delicious.

Examples: Nutella, granola, coffee liqueur, Moroccan spiced nuts, chocolate bark with nuts, smoky taco seasoning, lemon rosemary shortbread, dry soup mix, extracts, chai spiced almond butter, pumpkin spice ball tea (recipes online).

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/1508612

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.

- Family and friends of Larry Simpson's sister-in-law, Esther Simpson, at her death.
- Annie, Jeff, and Charlie Johnson after the death of Annie's father.
- Doug Coe, recovering from an illness.
- 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.
- Al Cerkan on his continuing health journey.
- Kompare family, displaced from their home after a fire in their building.
- 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.