

Second Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Cantata  
December 4, 2022

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

***Please silence cell phones.***

*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.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"R - Rejoice (rə-**dʒɔɪs**) - to feel, [share], or show great happiness."

Cambridge Dictionary

"Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I say, REJOICE!"

Phillippians 4:4

PRELUDE

*Adagio - Allegro*  
from Petite Symphonie  
Ensemble from Windy City Winds  
Sarah Good Mosley, conducting

Charles Gounod

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Candle of Love

The Coe Family

INTROIT

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*  
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

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

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Comfort, comfort my people, for every valley shall be lifted up

**All: And on earth peace to all of good will. Gloria!**

One: Comfort, comfort my people, for God will make your road smooth.

**All: Prepare the way of the Lord. Gloria!**

\* HYMN

*Angels We Have Heard on High*



1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re - ply Echo - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad-some ti - dings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.



*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.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

**We know what Advent means, but not so sure what it means to us.**

**In the midst of daily stresses help us to tune in...**

**Prepare.**

**Prepare to welcome the new life we were meant to live.**

**Prepare to listen to the needs of others.**

**Prepare to let go of anger and resentment.**

**Prepare to forgive and accept forgiveness.**

**Prepare to believe that something new is possible.**

**Prepare to accept the gift we are about to receive.**

**Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

**Gloria**

Francis Poulenc

Chancel Choir

(1899 - 1963)

Ensemble from Windy City Winds

arr. Mark Mosley

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

***Gloria***

Gloria in excelsis Deo

*Glory to God in the highest*

Et in terra pax hominibus

*And on earth peace to all those*

bonae voluntatis

*of good will.*

***Laudamus te***

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.

*We praise thee. We bless thee.*

Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.

*We worship thee. We glorify thee.*

Gratias agimus tibi propter

*We give thanks to thee according*

magnam gloriam tuam.

*to thy great glory.*

SCRIPTURE

Hannah Basil Bryant

*Isaiah 40: 1-5 Revised Standard Version*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned,  
that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, Make straight in the desert  
a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain  
and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

\* A STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,  
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,  
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to care for creation,  
to seek justice and to resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

*(adapted from the United Church of Canada)*

RESPONSE

***Domine Deus***

Kecia Waldschmidt, soprano

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.

*Lord God, Heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.*

## SCRIPTURE

Nancy Voigts Godinez

*Luke 1: 39 - 55* Revised Standard Version

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.  
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;  
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
And his mercy is on those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,  
he has put down the mighty from their thrones,  
and exalted those of low degree;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent empty away.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
as he spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his posterity forever."

\* HYMN

*Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates*

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

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

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

GIVING MOMENT

Nathan Chamberlain

OFFERTORY

***Domine Fili, unigenite***

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe

*Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.*

***Domine Deus, Agnus Dei***

Jen Kew and Karin Magnuson, soloists

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,

Filius Patris

Qui tollis

peccata mundi,

Miserere nobis.

Qui tollis

peccata mundi,

Suscipe deprecationem nostram.

*Lord God, Lamb of God,*

*Son of the Father.*

*Thou who takest away*

*the sins of the world,*

*Have mercy upon us.*

*Thou who takest away*

*the sins of the world,*

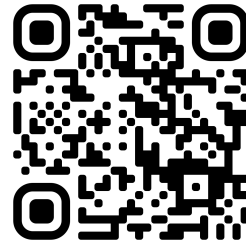
*Receive our prayer.*

*You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:*

*Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,*

*At [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),*

*Or through Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*



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.**



RESPONSE

***Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris***

Nancy Pifer, Jen Kew, Kecia Waldschmidt, and Nathan Streeter; soloists

Qui sedes ad  
dexteram Patris,  
Miserere nobis.  
Quoniam tu solus sanctus.  
Tu solus Dominus.  
Tu solus altissimus,  
Jesu Christe.  
Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria  
Dei Patris.  
Amen.

*Thou who sittest at the  
right hand of the Father,  
Have mercy upon us.  
For thou alone art holy.  
Thou alone art the Lord.  
Thou alone art the most high,  
Jesus Christ.  
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of  
God the Father.  
Amen.*

\* BENEDICTION

Kurt R. Hansen

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

***Amen***

POSTLUDE

*Grand Choeur*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

César Franck

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

***Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks in the Social Hall,  
located downstairs directly below the Sanctuary.***

ADVENT WREATH - Each week during Advent we light another candle in our Advent wreath to anticipate the coming of Christ, the light of the world. These candles symbolize the gifts of hope, love, joy and peace that Christ's coming brings. Today, we light the candle of Love.

## TODAY'S MUSIC

Charles Gounod (1818-1893), composed his ***Petite Symphonie in B Major for Winds*** in 1885. The work was commissioned by a wind ensemble in Paris, the *Société de musique pour instruments à vent*. Gounod is largely known for his 12 operas, the most famous of which are *Faust* (1859) and *Roméo et Juliette* (1867). He also composed a great number of songs and church music including his setting of *Ave Maria*, which is an “arrangement” of Bach’s *Prelude in C Major* with the vocal line being an obligato or descant above Bach’s prelude. Gounod was introduced to Bach’s music by Fanny Hensel, pianist and sister of Felix Mendelssohn. Bach’s music was just being rediscovered in the mid-19th century and influenced Gounod a great deal. ***The Petite Symphonie*** is a work in four movements for nine wind instruments. Today we hear the first movement, ***Adagio - Allegro***.

***Of the Father's Love Begotten*** is a chant melody from the 13th century. The tune, DIVINUM MISTERIUM, translates as “divine mystery,” which certainly describes how God chose to come to be with us. The author of the Latin was Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410), a Spanish poet, devout believer, and lawyer. The translations were made by John M. Neale (1818-1866), who was born into an English evangelical home but developed great sympathies with Catholicism, and Sir Henry Wiliam Baker (1821-1877), an Anglican priest who wrote a number of hymn texts, among them *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*.

***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. It is particularly appropriate for today’s service since the refrain, *Gloria in excelsis Deo*, is also the opening text of the Poulenc ***Gloria***.

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

***Gloria***, FP 177, was composed by Francis Poulenc (1899-1963) in 1959. He was the most famous composer of *Les Six*, a group of French composers that rejected both Germanic influences and also that of French Impressionism. Poulenc composed in many genres: solo piano, *melodie* (songs), opera, and many instrumental and orchestral pieces as well. ***Gloria*** along with his *Organ Concerto*, which has been presented in worship at St. Pauls in the past, are among his most famous pieces.

Poulenc spoke of composing his **Gloria** in the “style of Vivaldi,” who also composed a famous setting of *Gloria* in the 18th century. The musical character of **Gloria** spans a range of feelings from majestic, the opening brass theme; lushly mysterious, *Domine Deus*; and a recurring sense of playfulness, especially *Laudamus te*. Poulenc said that the feeling of the *Laudamus te* was inspired after he saw a group of Benedictine monks playing soccer in their robes.

It is important to note that the chamber orchestration of the Poulenc **Gloria** for this service has been lovingly prepared and arranged for winds, harp, timpani, and organ by Mark Mosley. A HUGE thanks to Mark!!!

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

What a perfect way to open our **Three R's** musical celebration and “giving” theme with **GloRia** marking the first **R, REJOICE**.

Future musical celebrations of our **Three R's** to mark in your calendars

### **Remember - Sunday, March 19, 2023**

10 a.m.

*Requiem* by Maurice Duruflé

With Chancel Choir, chamber orchestra, and Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Presented during worship in remembrance of those we lost during the pandemic.

Supported by a donation in memory of former Chancel Choir member, John Weldon.

### **Renew - Sunday, May 21, 2023**

10 a.m.

A new commissioned work for choir and instruments by Joseph Thalken, presented during worship to celebrate and look to the future.

# **Chancel Choir**

Kurt R. Hansen, Music Director

Kevin Dziersawski, Organist

Karina Kontorovitch, Rehearsal pianist

## **Sopranos**

Katie Alrutz  
Shannon Banjavcic  
Christie DeForest Ward  
Clarissa Galaviz Lizarraga  
Gay Kelly  
Jennifer Kew <sup>+</sup>  
Karin Magnuson <sup>+</sup>  
Nancy Pifer <sup>\*+</sup>  
Ashley Shaluga  
Grace Stauskas  
Meg Tazelaar  
Kecia Waldschmidt<sup>+</sup>  
Pam Woll

## **Altos**

Cindy Ball  
Amy Barton  
Lois Basil  
Carrie Bettler  
Terry Brancaccio Hansen  
Carrie Bruggers - Librarian  
Breanna Coe <sup>\*</sup>  
Micki Fayhee  
Karen Johnson  
Winnie Kearns  
Jana O'Brien  
Amy Petersen Beck  
Pat Ruch  
Pam Woll

## **Tenors**

Todd Coe  
Andy Davis  
Doug Heyboer  
Rick Peterson  
Nathan Streeter <sup>\*+</sup>

## **Basses**

Chris Bettler  
Bill Borden  
Jim Brandt  
Jeff Carlson  
Allen Heineman  
Graham Hicks  
Mark Huddle  
Julian Jarzebowski  
Lee Lichamer <sup>\*</sup>  
Mark Mosley  
Mark Swanson  
Doug Walters

<sup>\*</sup> Section leader

<sup>+</sup> Poulenc soloist

# Instrumental Ensemble

## Piccolo

Kelly Parker &

## Flute

Stephanie Jensen #

## Oboe

Mark Mosley # & %

Julie Schneider #&

## English Horn

Julie Schneider &

## Clarinets

Michael Ippolito # &

Kevin Moran # & %

## Bass Clarinet

Brian Chang # &

## Bassoon

Franny LeFevre # &

## Trumpets

Tom Madeja ^

Laya Reddy &

## French Horns

Natale Douglas Grana # %

Tom Clancy # & %

## Trombone

Lorne Frank & %

## Tuba

Josh Wirt

## Timpani

Sarah Good Mosley # & %

## Harp

Phyllis Adams

## Organ

Kevin Dzierzawski

% St. Pauls member

& Windy City Winds member

^ former Windy City Winds member

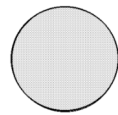
# Performing the Gounod *Petite Symphonie*

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

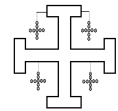
Thank you to our tree and poinsettia decorators: Lorne Frank, Greg Basil, Fernando Diaz, Marcia Opp, Doug Clark, Barb Kaiser, Jill Minetz, Kelly Martin, Deborah Bayly, Barb Arsenault, Mary Brown, Ninon Freeman, Jan Bail, Larry Damron, Thomas Clancy, Nancy Kintzel

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

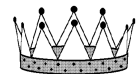
The CIRCLE, a symbol of eternity, of God.



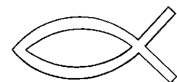
The CROSS, in all its variations, a reminder of the saving work of Christ.



The CROWN, a symbol of the victory of Christ.



The FISH, an early Christian symbol.



The ORB, is Heaven and Earth.



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



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



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



The BUTTERFLY, a symbol of the resurrection.



The DOGWOOD, branches form a cross.



The LILY OF THE VALLEY represents Christ's humility.

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



## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Clergy:** Jeff Carlson, Matt Fitzgerald, Liz Nickerson

**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 Readers:** Hannah Basil Bryant, Nancy Voigts Godinez

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

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Fred Pearson

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

## **BORN THIS WEEK IN DECEMBER**

*We give thanks for your life at St. Pauls. A perfect way to celebrate is by giving one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund, which supports A Just Harvest.*

Dec 4 Katherine Schuller, Laura Van Zeyl, Linhard Stepf, Mark Smith

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

Dec 6 Cherilynn Panko, Shannon Castle

Dec 8 Greta Schmahl, Maria Schmahl

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

Dec 10 Chris Dierks, Ginna Gentzen

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS

- TODAY 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
- 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 WORSHIP  
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](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar).

### **TODAY - ST. PAULS HANDWORK MEET-UP - After Worship, Social Hall**

If you enjoy handwork, you're invited to continue our time with each other by sitting together in communion and community on the first Sunday of the month at a drop-in handwork group. We will gather in a corner of the Social Hall for one hour after the worship service. Bring along a sandwich if you wish. New to handwork? We have expert knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, and sewers to help you get started with a project.

### **DEC 7 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - JESUS' FAMILY TREE- 12 p.m., Zoom**

While on the surface, a genealogy might look boring, if you want to dig into Matthew's version, RSVP to Pastor jeff: [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

### **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 provided by 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](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1502649)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GIVING!**

Many thanks for your generosity to the UCAN Christmas gift drive. St. Pauls members are donating 100 gift cards to the youth they serve! Thank you to Katie Alrutz, Carrie Bruggers and the Outreach and Benevolence Committee for organizing this gift drive. Gift cards are due at the church today. You can place them in the offering plate or drop them off with Danielle in the church office.

### **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 remaining **drop-off dates are 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](mailto:crbruggs@gmail.com).

### **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](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508128)

### **A MUSICAL GIFT FOR YOU!**

Our own St. Arbucks Quartet recorded an album this past February, *Mid-Winter Gifts*, featuring music they have played during our worship services. It is available FREE to you and everyone online. Here is a link to the album on Spotify: [open.spotify.com/album/5FEG6gRZPMTNBvaBINborm](https://open.spotify.com/album/5FEG6gRZPMTNBvaBINborm).

And here is a link to the same album on Apple Music: [music.apple.com/us/album/mid-winter-gifts-ep/1611741689](https://music.apple.com/us/album/mid-winter-gifts-ep/1611741689).

It is exactly the same music on both sites, simply choose your preferred platform. Please feel free to share these links with your friends. You do not need a Spotify or Apple Music account to listen.

### **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](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246)

Sign up for reading here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508612](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508612)

### **JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC**

**Learning, Dreaming, Practicing Until We Get Free.** This advent season, [Jointhemovementucc.org](https://jointhemovementucc.org) asks us how might we awaken to the vision of abolition as the incarnation of God's love and justice in our midst, inviting us to embody its wisdom in all parts of our lives? See the art, breathe the wisdom and sign up for the calendar at [jointhemovementucc.org/abolition-advent-calendar](https://jointhemovementucc.org/abolition-advent-calendar).

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

### **REDUCE HOLIDAY WASTE**

Select your tree carefully.

- Live trees that you can replant are best.
- Trees harvested from an organic tree farm will likely be replaced by two trees.
- Plastic trees need to be used for at least 10 years to keep their environmental impact below that of live trees.
- Use LED lights.

Dispose of your tree carefully.

- If you can't replant, keep your tree out of a landfill.
- Discover possibilities in your area for composting or chipping.
- Do not burn a tree as that releases carbon dioxide.

### **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](https://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.

## **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](mailto:JenniferLKew@gmail.com), or Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto: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 2023 dates at [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246).

**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](mailto:lindanitz@yahoo.com).

**CHURCH CENTER** – [spucc.churchcenter.com](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:nlanda05@yahoo.com) or Rick Peterson at [rnpeterson2017@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](https://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](mailto: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](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)), Marti Pechnyo ([mpechnyo@gmail.com](mailto:mpechnyo@gmail.com)), or Barb Kaiser ([bkaiser2213@gmail.com](mailto:bkaiser2213@gmail.com)).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 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](mailto:danielle.mayfield@spucc.org). Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1306755](https://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.*

- Gary Ashley, for improved strength.
- Susie Rodriguez at the death of her mother, Ruth.
- 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.
- Al Cerkon 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.
- 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](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org)

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

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

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.