

First Sunday in Lent  
February 26, 2023

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

*Satan is called the master of a thousand arts, but what shall we call God's Word,  
which easily conquers and discomfits that master with all his wile and power?*

Martin Luther

PRELUDE

*Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. S. Bach

CHIMES

INTROIT

*Lenten Call to Worship*  
Chancel Choir

Plainchant

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day that our God has made!

**All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

One: It is good to give thanks to God.

**All: To sing praises to God Most High.**

One: To declare God's steadfast love in the morning,

**All: To sing with the organ, piano, bass, trumpet and drums!**

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

\* HYMN

*There Is Welcome for the Sinner*

1. There is\_\_ wel-come for the\_ sin - ner, love for\_\_ those who fail the good;  
2. For the love of God is\_\_ broad-er\_\_ than the\_\_ mea - sure of our minds;  
3. If our love were but more sim - ple, we should take Him at his word;  
4. God is\_\_ an - gry, dis - tant, fear - some, we pro - ject our sad ex - tremes;

There is\_\_ mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is\_\_ heal - ing in His blood.  
And the\_\_ heart of the E - ter - nal\_\_ is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
Anx - ious thoughts would rest so\_\_ eas - y\_\_ in the\_\_ kind-ness of the Lord.  
'Tis our\_\_ Moth - er: and Her kind-ness stretch-es\_\_ far be - yond our dreams.

Christ has grace e - nough for\_\_ mil-lions, and for man - y mil - lions more  
But we make Christ's love too\_\_ nar - row with false lim - its of our\_\_ own;  
Skit - tish souls! why do you scat - ter like a crowd of fright-ened sheep?  
Let us see the truth in\_\_ mir - rors, we are sin - ners in God's Word,

Christ's com - pas - sion spills out o - ver\_\_ all whom this cold world de - plores.  
And we\_\_ mag - ni - fy His strict-ness with a\_\_ zeal He will not own.  
Fool - ish minds! why do you try\_\_ and\_\_ earn a\_\_ love so free, so deep?  
change us,\_\_ turn us, make us\_\_ won - drous, stunned by\_\_ kind-ness, Christ our Lord.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of love and light, we confess that we are fascinated by our shadows,  
fooled into thinking that our sins are interesting.**

**But they are so deadly ordinary: pride, envy, anger, sloth,  
greed, gluttony, lust.**

**Forgive us.**

**So capture our attention with our Beautiful Savior, that we might live as we  
truly are – your beloved children.**

**Amen.**

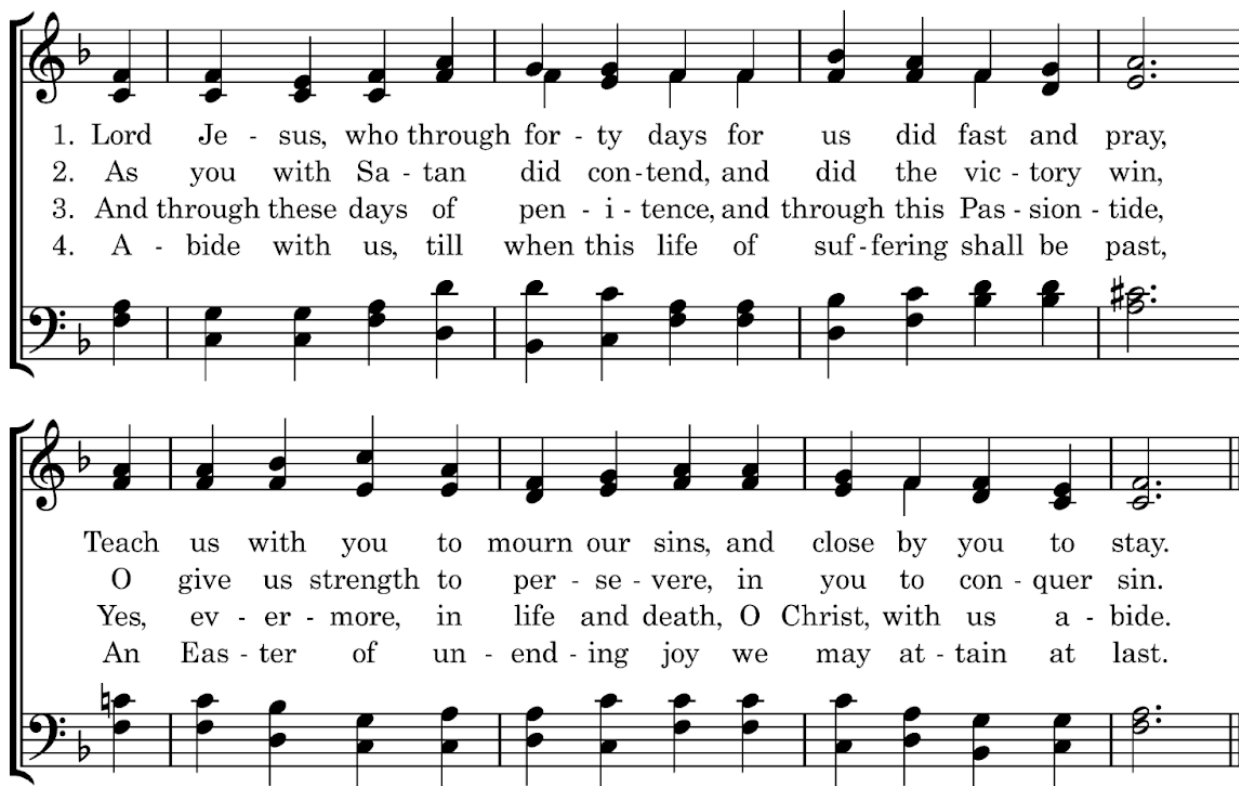
## MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

## RESPONSE

*Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days*

v. 1



1. Lord Je - sus, who through for - ty days for us did fast and pray,  
2. As you with Sa - tan did con - tend, and did the vic - tory win,  
3. And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas - sion - tide,  
4. A - bid with us, till when this life of suf - fer - ing shall be past,

Teach us with you to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.  
O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con - quer sin.  
Yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Christ, with us a - bid.  
An Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

*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

Allen Heinemann

*Matthew 4:1-11*

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",

and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him." '

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## \* 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

*Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days*  
See previous hymn

vv. 2-4

SERMON

"That's Tempting"

Jeff Carlson

\* RESPONSE

*A Mighty Fortress*



1. A might - y for - tress is\_\_\_ our God, A bul - wark nev - er  
2. Did we in our\_ own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be  
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un -  
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a -



fail - - ing; Our help - er he\_\_\_ a - mid\_\_\_ the flood Of  
los - - ing, Were not the right man on\_\_\_ our side, The  
- do\_\_\_\_\_ us, We will not fear,\_\_\_ for God\_ hath willed His  
- bid - - eth; The Spir - it and\_\_\_ the gifts\_ are ours Through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe Doth  
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ  
truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim, We  
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, This



seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, And  
Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sab - a - oth his name. From  
trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en - dure, For  
mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill; God's



armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - - qual.  
age to age the same, And he must win the bat - tle.  
lo, his doom is sure: One lit - tle word shall fell\_\_\_ him.  
truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - - er.

OFFERTORY

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* African American Spiritual  
Chancel Choir arr. Moses Hogan

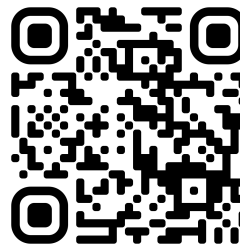
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

*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 or PayPal to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*



\* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;  
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:  
Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,  
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

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

*Lift High the Cross*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim; Let

The first system of the hymn is written in 4/4 time. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts on a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It starts with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

all a - dore\_\_\_\_\_ and praise\_\_\_\_\_ that sa - cred name.

The second system continues the melody. The treble staff has a half note D5, followed by quarter notes E5, F#5, and G5. The bass staff has a half note D2, followed by quarter notes E2, F#2, and G2. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

1. Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, the  
2. Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears  
3. O Christ, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your  
4. Set up your throne, that earth's de - spair may cease, be -  
5. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

The third system contains five verses of the hymn. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody starts on a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It starts with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ the Child of God.  
on the\_\_\_ brow the seal of Christ who died.  
death has\_\_\_ brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.  
- neath the\_\_\_ shad - ow of its heal - ing peace.  
to the\_\_\_ Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

The fourth system continues the melody. The treble staff has a half note D5, followed by quarter notes E5, F#5, and G5. The bass staff has a half note D2, followed by quarter notes E2, F#2, and G2. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.



\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Amen*

Kris Hansen

POSTLUDE

*Walk All Over God's Heaven*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Mahalia Jackson

***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,  
directly below the Sanctuary.***

### TODAY'S MUSIC

***Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ*** (I cry to you, Lord Jesus Christ) BWV 639 is a chorale prelude, an organ work based on a Lutheran hymn composed by J.S. Bach (1685-1750). He included this work in his Orgelbüchlein, as well as basing a cantata, BWV 172, on the same chorale and text. The melody, *cantus firmus*, of the hymn was composed by German Reform theologian, Johann Agriola (1494-1566).

Our Introit, a ***Lenten Call to Worship***, is based on a 12th century chant. It contains three short stanzas with the final one being a doxology, praise of the Holy Trinity. It closes with the original Latin, *Benedicamus Domino*, "We bless God," repeated twice.

***There Is Welcome for the Sinner*** is a text created by our own Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald. He has shared his love of poetry as another window into faith. HOLY MANNA is an unattributed melody from the great American series of shaped-note hymnals from the early 19th century including *The Sacred Harp*.

***Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days*** is a text written in 1873 by Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898). She was born in England and her father was an Anglican priest. She composed more than 150 hymns and devoted her life to the religious education of children. The tune, ST. FLAVIAN, is of unknown origin and dates from a hymnal published in the 16th century.

There is no better way, as a church with a strong German heritage, to celebrate the Reformation than with ***A Mighty Fortress***, the great Martin Luther hymn. It is arguably the greatest Martin Luther (1483-1546) hymn and encapsulates the theology of the Lutheran Church. EIN FESTE BURG, the name given this chorale, is taken from the first words of the hymn in the original German.

This arrangement of ***Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*** was composed in 1995 by Moses Hogan (1957-2003). In his all too brief life, Moses Hogan continued and amplified the great tradition of spiritual arrangement that included William Dawson. He recorded a number of compact disks and provided solo arrangements for singers like Kathleen Battle. He was commissioned by St. Pauls to write an anthem, *I Got A Home In-a That Rock*, in honor of Ron McCowan's 25 years of service to this congregation. Mr. Hogan invited Ron and our Chancel Choir to sing that anthem with his professional choir when they sang in Chicago.

***Lift High the Cross*** - George William Kichen (1827-1912) was the original author of the text, but there is a second "contributor" referred to as an "alterer," Michael R. Newbolt (1874-1956), who added to and improved the Kichen text. The tune, CRUCIFER, was composed in 1916 at the height of The Great War by Sydney H. Nicholson (1875-1947). He was Organist/Choirmaster at Westminster Abbey in the 1920s and had a deep influence on English hymnody.

***Walk All Over God's Heaven***, is much more of a new creation than an arrangement by Mahallia Jackson (1911-1972). She took inspiration from the old hymn *I Got a Robe, You Got a Robe*. Mahallia has a direct connection with St. Pauls. Brendan Henry grew up loving her music and her deep spiritual commitment that his daughter is named after her. Mahallia Jackson was born in Mississippi but her connection to Chicago was long and deep. She had a long commitment to the civil rights movement and was behind Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as he spoke at the Lincoln Monument. In the tapes of that event, you can hear her shouting at Dr. King, "Tell them about the dream, Martin!" Although she toured the world, she called Chicago her home and came home to Chicago during her final illness. Studs Terkel was among her biggest fans and champions. She is now memorialized, along with her equally famous colleague, Thomas A. Dorsey, in our music windows on the south aisle.

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

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

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

**Scripture Reader:** Allen Heinemann

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Juanita Barlow

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**Livestream Team:** Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Jose Cruz, Brian Hafner

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are in memory of Nina Whitsel on her birthday, from her family The Hechts.

## **BORN THIS WEEK IN FEBRUARY & MARCH**

*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.*

Feb 25 Catherine Clarke, Martha Phillips, Tracy Taylor

Feb 26 Tom Klein

Feb 27 Geneine VanSomeran, Steve Panko, Ted Tetzlaff, Patrick Sensenbrenner,  
Mia Pensinger-Sok

Feb 28 Chris Roark, Cindy Razeghi, Molly Canfield

Mar 1 Kent Carter, Tommy Demery, Drew Brinkoetter

Mar 2 Fred Pearson, Sue Moulton, Chip Moehrke, Mahalia Henry

Mar 3 David Schmahl, Lothar Wiebe, Terrill Stumpf, Matthew Molvar, Roger Fannin

Mar 4 Martha Sanders, Sue Finkle

## LENT & EASTER AT ST. PAULS

- TUES,  
MAR 7, 14, 21      THE GOD OF TELEVISION: *LEANING TOWARD THE LIGHT* - 6:30 p.m.  
Soup, TV, conversation, please RSVP
- TUES, MAR 28      LENTEN TAIZÉ - 7 p.m.  
Service of meditation and prayer
- SUN, APRIL 2      PALM SUNDAY - 10 a.m.  
Palm branches, songs
- THU, APRIL 6      MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7 p.m.  
Dinner Church, please RSVP
- FRI, APRIL 7      GOOD FRIDAY - 7:30 p.m.  
Communion, Tenebrae with choir
- SUN, APRIL 9      EASTER SUNDAY - 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Communion, choir, brass

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*See our full event calendar online at [spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar).*

**TODAY - AED TRAINING** - 11:15 a.m., East End of the Social Hall

**Sponsored by the Connectors** (will repeat periodically based on interest)

Do you know what an AED is? Do you know where AEDs are located in our church? Most important, could you use one rapidly to possibly save a life? Come to the social hall following worship and learn.

Sudden cardiac arrest is a medical emergency that occurs when a sudden electrical malfunction causes the heart to stop beating. Immediate recognition and response using an AED to deliver a shock to the heart, if advised, greatly improves chances of survival. For each minute of delay, the odds of survival are reduced approximately 10%. SECONDS COUNT! LEARN NOW! Join us today!

**FEB 28 - JESUS AND THE DISINHERITED BOOK DISCUSSION** - 7 p.m., Zoom  
Famously known as the text that Martin Luther King Jr. sought inspiration from in the days leading up to the Montgomery bus boycott, Howard Thurman's *Jesus and the Disinherited* helped shape the civil rights movement and changed our nation's history forever. In this classic theological treatise, the acclaimed theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman (1900-1981) demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. Jesus is a partner in the pain of the oppressed and the example of His life offers a solution to ending the descent into moral nihilism. Hatred does not empower--it decays. Only through self-love and love of one another can God's justice prevail. Join Pastor Jeff for a discussion over Zoom. Register for the Zoom link here: [tinyurl.com/yckb53cb](https://tinyurl.com/yckb53cb).

**MAR 1 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY PHILIPPIANS** - 12 p.m., Zoom  
The Apostle Paul wrote this letter while chained in a foul Roman prison, yet it is surprisingly full of joy. Written to a church that was founded and led mostly by women, Philippians gives us a glimpse of how the early Christians were forming a counter-cultural community grounded in the compassion and justice of Jesus in the heart of the Roman Empire. Meets weekly. RSVP to Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**MAR 3 - WINDY CITY WINDS "AN EVENING WITH JIM STEPHENSON"** - 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Acclaimed composer James Stephenson will guest conduct Windy City Winds in four of his works. Bands and orchestras worldwide perform Stephenson's music, including the Chicago Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, and the U.S. Marine Band. The Lake Forest Symphony's recording of his *Symphony #3* was nominated for three Grammys. Learn more about Jim at [composerjim.com](http://composerjim.com). There will also be an audience raffle during the concert and a reception after so audience members can meet Jim. Admission is free and it will be live streamed at [spucc.org/streaming](http://spucc.org/streaming). Learn more about WCW and this concert at [windycitywinds.org](http://windycitywinds.org).

**MAR 5 - BUDGET REVIEW MEETING** - 11 a.m., East End of the Social Hall  
For those who want a more in-depth review of our budget before the Annual Meeting on March 12, St. Pauls Treasurer Sally Fletcher will present a preview of the 2023 budget on Sunday, March 5, following the 10 a.m. worship service.

**MAR 5 - 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.

**MAR 5 - ORGAN TOUR - After Worship, Sanctuary**

We are blessed with an exceptional organist, Kevin Dzierzawski, and an equally wonderful instrument. With more than 5,000 pipes, 98 ranks and four manuals and pedals, our Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ imbues worship with a sense of wonder. Join Kevin after worship for a behind-the-scenes look at how our organ works, including a visit to the pipes and the blower. Due to space constraints, the tour is limited to the first ten participants. Please register for the waitlist to be notified about future tours. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1625229](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1625229).

**MAR 5- SHARE THE TABLE OF JESUS - Narthex**

We're collecting food for the Common Pantry every communion Sunday - which is next week. Unexpired food and personal items most needed are listed below.

Modest-sized products are best for distribution (e.g., a few 24 oz. containers of cooking oil are preferable to a 64 oz. container). Leave items in the Narthex bin.

**Needed Items:** cereal (whole grain, less sugar varieties), nuts, brown rice, jelly/jam (low sugar), peanut butter (natural, no hydrogenated oils), cooking oil, pasta sauce (low sodium), soup (low sodium), easy prep meals (e.g., Hamburger Helper, low sodium or whole grain varieties if possible), ground coffee, toothpaste, deodorant, disposable razors, shampoo, conditioner, mouthwash.

**MAR 7, 21 - RETIREMENT GROUP - 10 a.m., Parlor**

The Retirement Group meets at 10 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Think retirement is all grandkids and travel? It's not all Hallmark. Please join us to discuss our transition paths, ways we found ourselves here, what's meaningful, what's next with or without planned health, funds or companionship. For more info contact Marcia Knudson at (773) 480-4189 or [marciaknudson@gmail.com](mailto:marciaknudson@gmail.com).

**MAR 7, 14, 21, 28 - THE GOD OF TELEVISION: *LEANING TOWARD THE LIGHT* -**

6:30 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room. Beginning March 7, join your pastors on Tuesday evenings for a bowl of soup, a 15-minute sitcom episode starring God, and a lively conversation. Our Lent TV "study" will conclude with a Taizé service on March 28. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1644309](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1644309).

**MAR 12 - ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary**

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of St. Pauls after worship on Sunday, March 12. We will vote on the 2023 budget, new members of the Church Council, and learn about the activities of 2022 and plans going into 2023. It is an important event in the life of St. Pauls. Members have voice and vote; Friends have voice. You can attend the meeting and vote in person or via Zoom Webinar.

Keep an eye on the meeting page for Zoom info and more details to come:

[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1559452](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1559452).

**MAR 19 - REMEMBER** - Duruflé *Requiem* in worship, 10 a.m.

Our Chancel Choir will be joined by a chamber orchestra and Kevin Dzierzawski on organ to share this deeply moving way to remember those we grieve, those we have lost most recently, and those that we lost during the pandemic and were unable to mourn. Please join us for this time of remembrance and reflection.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CHICAGO ELECTION WATCH 2023: It's Time to Vote!**

**The election is Tuesday** and if you are a Chicago resident and have not yet voted, please prayerfully consider your options and vote in the first round of the Chicago 2023 elections. It is possible (though unlikely) that we will have a new mayor, city clerk, city treasurer, and City Council by next Sunday! In any event, the number of candidates for these important offices will be winnowed down considerably.

### **JOIN OUR ORCHESTRA**

For the first time since 2020, the St. Pauls Intergenerational Orchestra will again perform in worship on Sunday, March 12 with an all-Brahms program. Orchestra members include pre-teens, teenagers and adults of all ages and abilities! Rehearsals are immediately after worship for about an hour in the Oscar Mayer Room **today and 3/5**. If you are interested, please contact our conductor Mark Mosley at (773) 732-0625 or [mwmosley@gmail.com](mailto:mwmosley@gmail.com). Please join us as together we "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!"

### **ST. PAULS SOFTBALL**

Join St. Pauls Young Adults and friends for our 10th season of Sunday 16" softball in Oz Park - just a short walk from St. Pauls! Games are Sunday afternoons from April 16 to June 25, starting between 1 and 3 pm. For more information, contact Todd Coe at [toddsingstenor@gmail.com](mailto:toddsingstenor@gmail.com). **Signup deadline is March 19.**

### **EXPAND OUR OPENNESS UPDATE**

The Church Council is pleased to announce the formation of the Building Accessibility Task Force with the purpose of solidifying the extraordinary progress of the Expanding our Openness and Accessibility work over the last several years. COVID disrupted this project and with the time that has passed, it has become necessary to review the overall timeline and building needs. Two informational sessions will be held with this task force on Sundays, **March 26 and April 16** in the Sanctuary. Please plan to join if you have questions about the next steps as we prayerfully discern Phase II of this critical project to ensure that SPUCC remains a welcoming church to all who worship and lean into God's call for each of us in our beloved space.

### **EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS**

Celebrate or remember a loved one by ordering a flowering plant for the Easter Festival Altar. Flowers may be picked up after the 11 a.m. Easter Sunday service. Remaining flowers will be donated to our senior members and neighbors. Registrations must be completed **by April 3** for inclusion in the Easter Bulletin. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1648145](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1648145), or, fill out and return the paper form at the end of the bulletin.

### **LUTHER IN A YEAR**

Join Pastor Matt to go back in time more than 500 years for "Luther in a Year." We will read Martin Luther's most important works, and the work of his best modern critics. At the year's end, you will understand the beliefs Saint Paul's stands upon, you will be changed by thrilling ideas and great conversation, Christ's importance will be underlined, you will know one of history's most outrageous characters, and your faith will be strengthened. You might also be surprised by what a filthy vocabulary Martin Luther had. We will meet on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. via Zoom, **beginning April 12**. Reading list will be shared upon registration. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1656138](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1656138).

### **TURKEY AND SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL**

The news continues to unfold about the devastating earthquake on the border of Turkey and Syria and the UCC is issuing an appeal to help recovery efforts. All donations will be deposited into the International Emergency Fund designated for "Turkey and Syria Earthquake Response." Your generous financial support will be used by UCC partners in the areas of greatest need for relief and long-term recovery. You can mail a check payable to the United Church of Christ, P.O. Box 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194. Please be sure to note "Turkey and Syria" on your check in the memo section. Or, you can give online by texting UCCDISASTER to 41444.

### **ENROLL TODAY FOR ST. PAULS COMPASSION CAMP FOR KIDS!**

**Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs.** Kids will explore what all living things need to live – shelter, food, water, air, and community. Using Psalm 104 as our guide, kids will learn compassion for each other and the earth. We will have group activities, play games, sing songs, and spend quality time outside.

Days: Monday-Thursday in two 2-week sessions:

**Session 1:** July 10-13 & July 17-20 **Session 2:** July 24-27 & July 31-August 3

Preschoolers age 2-4: 9 a.m. -12 p.m.

Elementary school age 5-12: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**\*Register by March 15 to lock in Early Bird Pricing\***

[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1617569](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1617569)



## **LIGHTHOUSE NEWS**

This month our siblings at Lighthouse Church of Chicago are presenting a sermon series: "Black Presence in the Bible." They meet in the Chapel at 11:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you've never joined Lighthouse for worship before, this would be a great time to do so! Lighthouse Church also streams online every week via Facebook Live.

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

**Engage in the UCC Daily Lenten Antiracism Practice.** Lent is the season when many people take on a new spiritual discipline. UCC's "Join the Movement Towards Racial Justice" ([jointhemovementucc.org](http://jointhemovementucc.org)) invites people to take up the spiritual practice of courageous conversations([tinyurl.com/mw7a6xju](http://tinyurl.com/mw7a6xju)). Each day during Lent (which started February 22), Join the Movement offers discussion points that encourage antiracist conversations. These will typically include a reflection question, a prayer and a reference to a time when Jesus engaged in courageous conversations. St. Pauls members and friends are encouraged to take part through the UCC's social media channels.

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

### **RE-EDUCATE: BOOKS FOR KIDS**

Recommended by Interfaith Power and Light:

*Play Lightly on the Earth–Nature Activities for Children* (Ages 3-9) by Jacqueline Horsfall

*Journey for the Planet: A Kid's Five Week Adventure to Create an Earth Friendly Life,* (Ages 7-9) by David Gershon

*Ecology Crafts for Kids: 50 Great Ways to Make Friends with Planet Earth* (Elementary and Middle School) by Bobbe Needham

Additional titles:

*Magic School Bus: Climate Change* (Ages 6-9) by Joanna Cole

*What a Waste: Trash, Recycling, and Protecting Our Planet* (Ages 4-8) by Jess French

## **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](http://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** – Follow this link for additional information: [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 2023/24 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 a.m.-12:00 p.m. *Please note, this is not a drop-off event.* Adult supervision is required.

**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).

**ST. PAULS SOCIAL** – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerksen 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](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social)

**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)

**THURSDAY BASKETBALL** – Join us for a weekly pickup game! All skill levels are welcome. Email Pastor Matt to get on the updates list, [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org).

**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 & FAMILY NEWSLETTER**

Make sure you stay in the know with youth events! A weekly email is sent to parents to share activities, including Sunday School lessons and other useful news. Please contact Erin Fitzgerald at [erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org) to be added to the list.

**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.*

- Comfort, strength & peace to those dealing with death of loved ones.
- Family and friends of Dolores Pifer at her death.
- Pat Ruch, Ashley and Heather Cerkar, and friends of Al Cerkar at his death.
- Family and friends of Sonja Rae at her death.
- Family and friends of Darlene Braun at her death. An informal service to remember and give thanks for her life will be held after worship today.
- Friends of the Van Zeyls, Sarah, Timmy, and their daughter Grace, as their older daughter Hannah recovers from open heart surgery.
- Winnie Kearn's mother, Patti, for healing of a wound.
- For the safety of Steve Schwartzberg's friend, Anthony.
- David, a 28-year-old recovering from an emergency operation.
- Gary and Petrine Ashley for improved strength.
- 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.

## EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS ORDER FORM

Celebrate or remember a loved one by ordering a flowering plant for the Easter Festival Altar. Flowers may be picked up after the 11 a.m. Easter Sunday service. Remaining flowers will be donated to our senior members and neighbors. Please enclose \$30 or more per plant with this order form, or order and pay online here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1648145](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1648145).

**Please print legibly.**

**In Celebration of** *(print name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**In Memory of** *(print name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**From** *(your name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tear out this form and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to:  
St. Pauls UCC  
Attn: Easter Flowers  
2335 N. Orchard St., Chicago, IL 60614

Completed orders must arrive **by April 3** to appear in the Easter Bulletin.

ABOUT ST. PAULS  
*Making a Joyful Sound in the City!*

St. 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.