



April 23, 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.
The Nursery and Toddler Room are open for children ages 0-5, from 10 to 11 a.m.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.

Romans 1:19-20a

PRELUDE

Ringin' Them Bells
(Rockin' Jerusalem!)
St. Arbucks Quartet

Black American Spiritual

INTROIT

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Chancel Choir

J. Rosmond Johnson

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,

All: The world, And those who live in it;

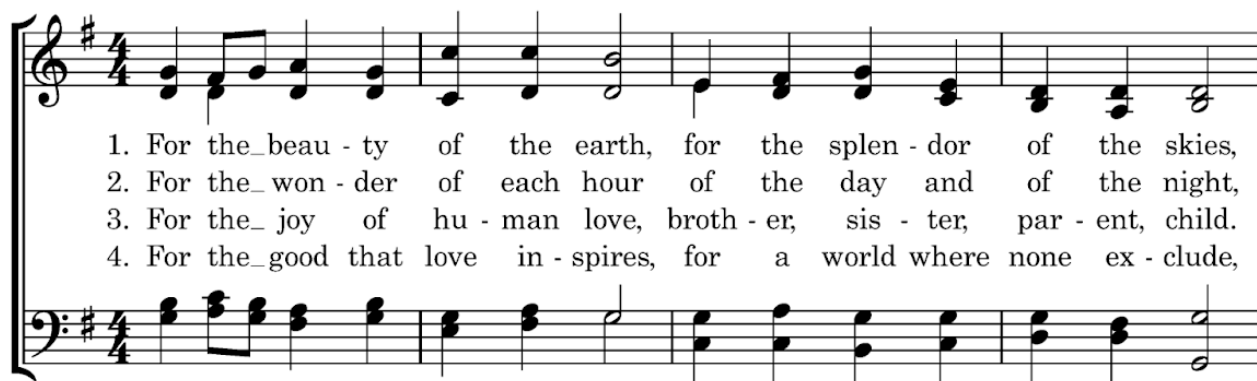
One: For God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

All: Creator God, we praise you today for your mighty works, in all of creation, and in each of our lives.

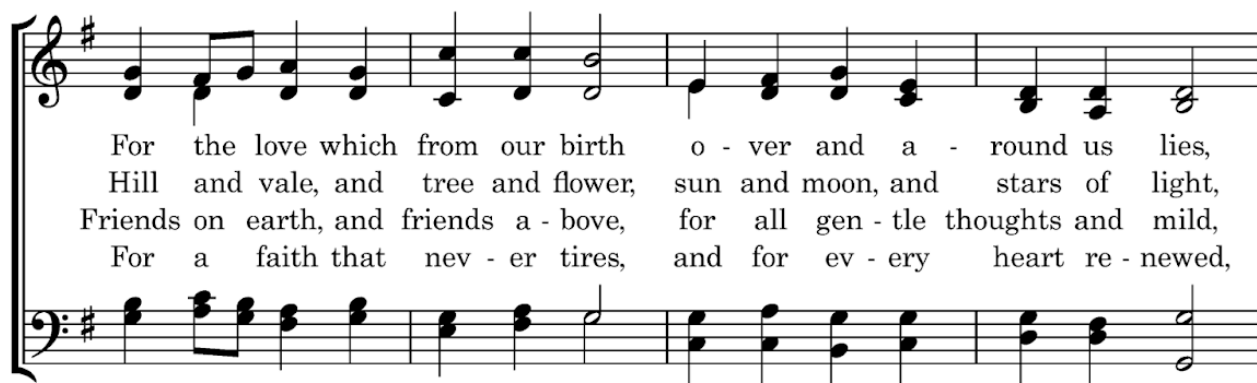
** Please stand if you are able to do so.*

* HYMN


For the Beauty of the Earth



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, for the splen - dor of the skies,
2. For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3. For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child.
4. For the good that love in - spires, for a world where none ex - clude,



For the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
Friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
For a faith that nev - er tires, and for ev - ery heart re - newed,



God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

**God of creation,
we have turned away from you,
neglecting the welfare of your creation,
trampling on the creatures and the plants you have made,
taking from the earth what we cannot give back.
We have not helped our neighbors in need,
kept peace within our families,
or tended the vine you have planted in our own lives.
Forgive us and lead us to a better way to live
and care for your world that you entrusted to us.
Restore us, O Lord, God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, so we shall be changed. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER


WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*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.*

RESPONSE

Incarnate God, Immortal Love

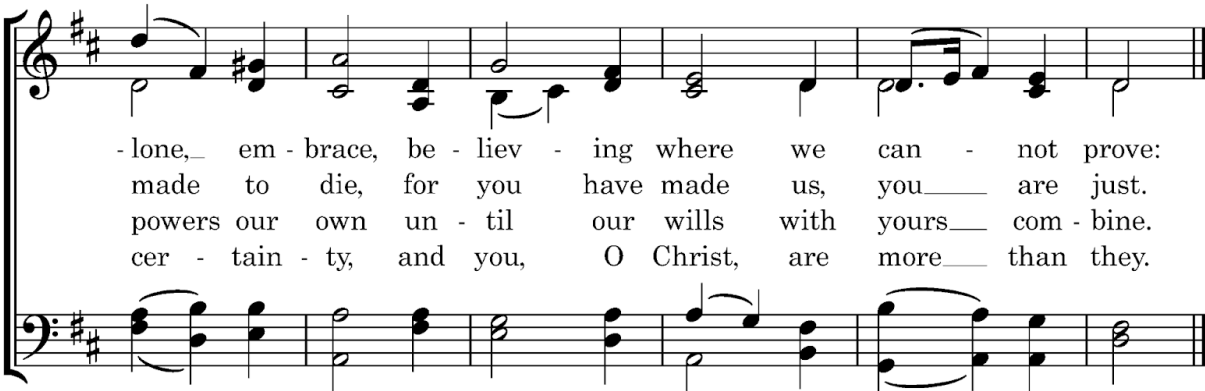
vv. 1 & 2



1. In - car - nate God, im - mor - tal Love, whom we, that
2. You will not leave us in the dust; you gave us
3. In you meet hu - man and di - vine, the high - est,
4. Our lit - tle sys - tems have their day; they have their



have not seen your face, by faith, and faith a -
life, we know not why. We trust we were not
ho - liest un - ion known. We false - ly call our
day and cease to be; They are but fleet - ing



- lone, em - brace, be - liev - ing where we can - not prove:
made to die, for you have made us, you are just.
powers our own un - til our wills with yours com - bine.
cer - tain - ty, and you, O Christ, are more than they.

Luke 24:14-35

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

*** 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**

Incarnate God, Immortal Love
See previous hymn

vv. 3 & 4

SERMON

"Recognizing Jesus"

Liz Nickerson

* HYMN

The Summons



1. Will you come and fol - low me, if I but call your name?
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind, if I but call your name?
3. Will you let the blind - ed see, if I but call your name?
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide, if I but call your name?
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you, and you in me?
and ad - mit to what I mean in you, and you in me?
through my sight and touch and sound in you, and you in me?
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.

MISSION MOMENT

Rebuilding Together

Gerald Wilk

OFFERTORY

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Black American Spiritual

Lee Lichamer, bass

arr. William Dawson

Chancel Choir

Every time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart,
I will pray;
Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,
Out of his mouth came fire and smoke;
Looked all around me, it looked fine,
Till I asked my Lord if all was mine.

Jordan river is chilly and cold,
It chills the body, but not the soul;
There ain't but one train upon this track,
It runs to heaven and right back.

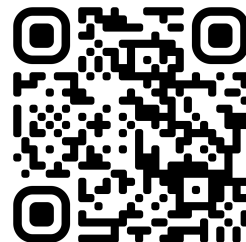
Every time I feel the spirit, . . .

You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:

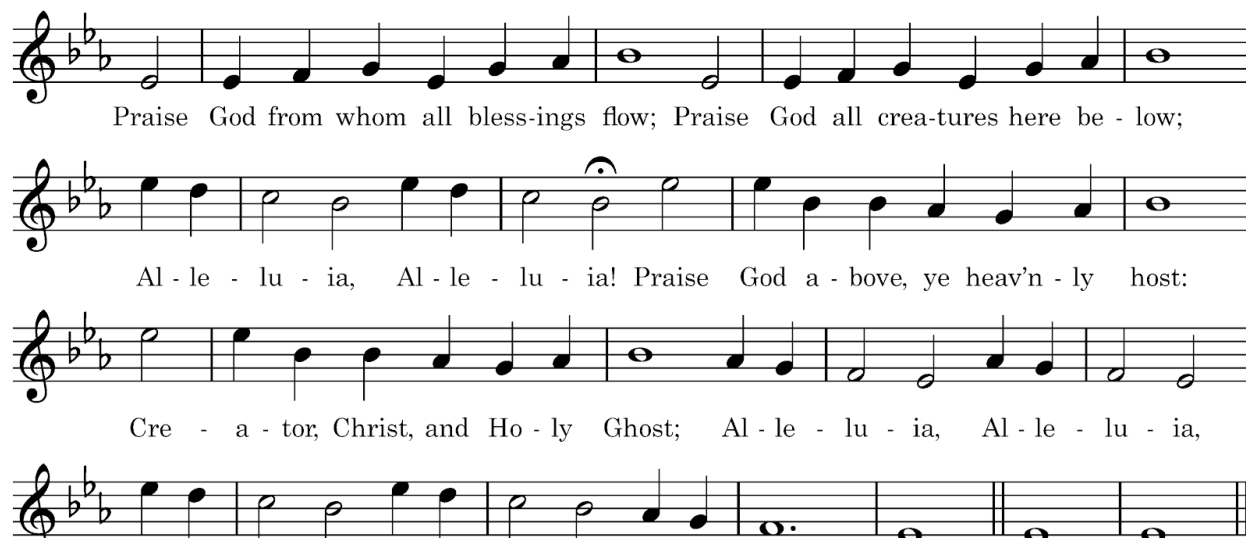
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle or PayPal to giving@spucc.org.



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;". The second staff continues: "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:". The third staff continues: "Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,". The fourth staff concludes: "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men." The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes) and rests, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:

Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Matt Fitzgerald

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

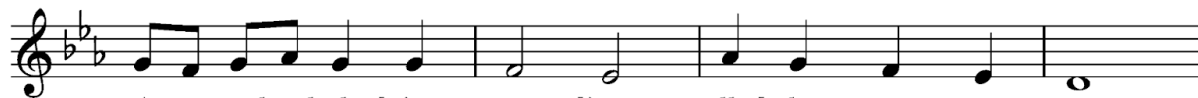
Yours Is the Glory



1. Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One!
2. See, it is Je - sus, Je - sus has ap - peared;
3. Am I still fright - ened? One whom I a - dore,



End - less is the vic - tory you o'er death have won.
do not doubt at all for noth - ing you will fear.
Je - sus lives a - gain, gives peace for - ev - er - more.



An - gels clothed in ra - diance rolled the stone a - way;
Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing;
Je - sus is my vic - tory, life and strength and Head;



con - quered is the grave in which your bod - y lay.
tell it with - out ceas - ing: Death has lost its sting.
Je - sus is my glo - ry, noth - ing shall I dread.

Refrain



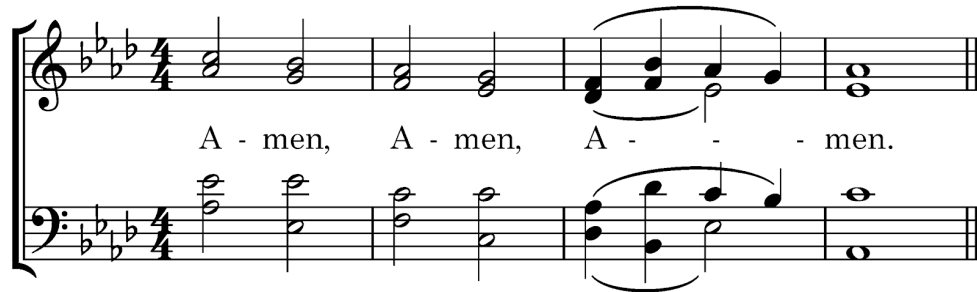
Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One!



End - less is the vic - tory you o'er death have won.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Arr. Gilbert Martin

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

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY

Join us at 10 a.m., Sunday, April 30, for a worship service celebrating the installation of Pastor Liz Nickerson as Associate Pastor of Saint Pauls UCC. We will welcome Rev. Terril Murf from the Illinois Conference of the UCC and Rev. Chuck Mize, Saint Pauls member and friend, to help lead worship. After this joyful service, there will be a celebratory coffee hour in the gym. Congratulations Pastor Liz!

TODAY'S MUSIC

Ringin' Them Bells (Rockin' Jerusalem!) is another wonderful example from the wealth of American Black Spirituals. There is also another spiritual, *The Church Is Gettin' Higher*, that uses the same melody and text as a refrain. This spiritual has been performed and recorded by numerous artists, including Mahalia Jackson, André Thomas and the St. Olaf Choir.

The Introit, ***Lift Every Voice and Sing***, is the joyous refrain of a longer hymn that is the unofficial anthem of black churches and the civil rights movement. J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954), the composer, and James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938), the poet, were brothers who crafted this wonderful hymn together. They also wrote Broadway musicals and edited song collections as a team.

The text for ***For the Beauty of the Earth*** was written by Folliott S. Pierpoint (1835-1917). In the spring of 1863, Pierpont sat on a hill above his home of Bath, England, and this text flowed from his gratitude for the wonders of nature. The tune DIX was composed by German composer Konrad Kocher (1786-1872). He was trained as a teacher and eventually founded the School for Sacred Song in Stuttgart.

The author of the text for ***Incarnate God, Immortal Love*** is the famous English poet Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892). He was raised to Poet Laureate in 1850 by King Edward VII. The tune ROCKINGHAM was composed and harmonized in 1790 by Edward Miller (1735-1807). He was born to a stone paver and became a flutist in G. F. Handel's orchestra. He published a great deal of music and even a detailed history of antiques from his birthplace of Doncaster.

The text for ***Will You Come and Follow Me*** was written by John Bell (b. 1949). He was born in Scotland, and after considering a career as a music teacher, went into ministry. He has enjoyed serving as a youth minister in impoverished areas of Scotland. THE SUMMONS is a folk melody, KELVINGROVE, which derives its name from a park in Glasgow, Scotland.

William L. Dawson (1888-1990) was the arranger of this upbeat spiritual, ***Every Time I Feel the Spirit***. For many years, he was the renowned choral director at the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. He was responsible, along with others of his generation like Hall Johnson, for making beautiful arrangements of spirituals that spread the performance and popularity of that music within and beyond the African American community. The Tuskegee Choir gained international stature under Dr. Dawson's leadership.

The music for ***Yours Is the Glory*** was composed in 1751 by George Friderick Handel (1685-1759). The hymn is actually a shortened form of a chorus from Handel's oratorio, *Judas Maccabeus*, which is obviously where the tune gets its name. The text happens to be one of Pastor Jeff's favorites, and in our Black Hymnal we have the first stanza in the original French, *A toi la gloire, O Ressuscité*. The original text was composed in 1904 by Swiss pastor Edmond L. Budry (1854-1932), who was inspired by Handel's music. The English translation was made by Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939), who was an English Baptist minister who also taught theology in a Pennsylvania seminary.

The tune ***Good Christian All Rejoice and Sing*** actually dates back to the 16th century and is attributed to Melchior Vulpius (c. 1570-1615). Though born in poverty, Vulpius rose to become Kantor in Weimar. Gilbert Martin (b. 1941) uses this ancient tune in the same way that Bach used chorales as the basis for decoration as chorale preludes. Martin has composed more than 300 works for organ, piano, choirs, and orchestra.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald

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: Steve Schwartzberg

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Ushers: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Doug Clark

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in honor of Betty Huber, who always celebrated Earth day.

BORN THIS WEEK IN APRIL

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.

April 23 Preston Schwab

April 24 Debra Kent, Mary Heffernan

April 25 Michael Nagy, Rick Bail, Caroline Heffernan, Isaac Broderick

April 26 Elysia Sheehan, Kecia Waldschmidt, Oscar Hull, Julien Braun

April 28 Charlie Johnson, Sullivan McGrath

April 29 Braden Van Zeyl

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

** Events marked with an asterisk are in a non-wheelchair accessible location.*

Contact the church office or group leader for more information.

TODAY - NEW MEMBER CLASS - 11 a.m., Sanctuary

Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for our Spring 2023 New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love you to be part of the conversation! We'll meet in the Sanctuary after worship. Lunch and child care will be provided.

TODAY - DRIEHAUS MUSEUM - 2 p.m., 40 E. Erie St., Chicago

Adults of all ages are invited to join St. Pauls Social and host Doug Clark for an afternoon at the Richard E. Driehaus Museum. We'll explore the various rooms, many of which are furnished from the Gilded Age, and view the photographs of a special exhibit. The museum is wheelchair accessible. Admission is \$20 (\$15 for 65 and over). Parking is \$15 at ROW Parking, 50 E. Ohio St. See the Driehaus Museum website for more information. Please RSVP to Doug at mgtbc@sbcglobal.net.

APR 26 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY- 12 p.m., Zoom

A new Bible Study begins on a book we've never studied before - Leviticus! It can be off-putting with its rituals and animal sacrifices, but it's also the book from which Jesus got "love your neighbor as yourself." Join us for an adventure as we look for treasure in unfamiliar terrain! RSVP to Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

APR 29 - REBUILDING TOGETHER DAY - 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Chicago West Side

Join us for "Rebuilding Together Day" to rebuild a family's home on Chicago's West Side. We need people of all skill levels. Working with union electricians and plumbers, we will transform a home in one day. Anyone 10 and older can participate. Contact Gerald Wilk for more information: gcjwilk@sbcglobal.net. Sign up to participate here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1697608.

MAY 6 - UCC CHICAGO METRO SPRING MEETING - 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Bryn Mawr Community Church (7000 S. Jeffery Blvd., Chicago, IL 60649)

Find out what's happening in our Chicagoland UCC churches and meet other UCCers over breakfast. The focus of this year's event is *Storytelling, Collective Healing, and Building Community*. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/5bsf8wwa>.

MAY 7 - THE BIG PAYBACK MOVIE AND DISCUSSION -11 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room
The Big Payback follows the fight in Evanston to pass a tax-funded reparations bill, and in Washington, DC, to pass H.R. 40, a bill to examine the merits of introducing reparations for slavery to African Americans. More than 150 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, the Black community still bears the burdens of state-sanctioned racial discrimination. It's time for common sense, locally driven reparations policies that begin to remedy the impact of centuries of racial discrimination against Black Americans. We invite you on this journey to breathe new life into the discussion about reparations and help communities across the U.S. reimagine what justice and equality can look like. Facilitator Kirk Chernansky will lead us on an exploration of the full components of reparations, why it matters for all of us, and what roles we can play. Optional lunch for \$10 when you register: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1708933.

MAY 12 - WINDY CITY WINDS CONCERT - 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary
You are invited to our Spring Concert, "Meet Me at the Fair." Admission is free, and the concert will also be livestreamed. The concert will include music by John Williams (*The Cowboys*), Berlioz (*Roman Carnival Overture*), Vaughan Williams, Persichetti, Weinberger, Sousa, and young African American composer Katahji Copley. WCW is a 60-piece community band conducted by St. Pauls members Mark and Sarah Mosley.

MAY 20 - BIRD WATCHING - 7 a.m., 200 W. Montrose Harbor Drive
Adults of all ages are invited to join St. Pauls Social and host David Baker for a morning of bird watching at Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary. The group will meet at 7 a.m. at the entrance. Metered parking is available by the entrance. To reach the Sanctuary, take the Montrose exit off Du Sable Lake Shore Drive and proceed east. Turn right at the "T" by the green bait shop. Dress in layers, wear sturdy shoes, and bring binoculars. Please RSVP, spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1715252

MAY 21 - Mass of Renewal by Joseph Thalken - During worship
This new work has been commissioned by St. Pauls and will receive its premiere performance as part of worship on Sunday, May 21 at 10 a.m. The Mass of Renewal completes our musical theme for 2022-2023, **The 3 Rs: Rejoice, Remember and Renew**. Our Chancel Choir will be joined by piano, percussion and 13 wind instruments. Please plan to join us in person or by streaming. Joseph Thalken will be in attendance for the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

Do you have a high school, college, or graduate school graduate? Please email their name and graduation date to Erin Fitzgerald at erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org. They will be recognized in worship on June 4 at the youth mission trip commissioning on Baccalaureat Sunday!

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Support St. Pauls youth fundraising efforts for their service and learning trip to Tucson in June with Be the Neighbor. They will volunteer and learn from ministries serving immigrants on the US-Mexico border. Your donation helps fund a portion of their air travel to Tucson, transportation there, other expenses for their week away as well as scholarships for some of the youth. Please help support our emerging congregational leaders, who have spent the last crucial years of their adolescence altered by covid-19. And thanks to all of you who have supported them already at Pancake Church! We raised \$5,500 last Sunday! You can donate here: spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/youth-mission-trip-donations.

MEN'S GROUP FORMING

A new St. Pauls Men's Group is being formed. If you'd like to join, please contact Jim Jansma: jjansma14@gmail.com. The group is going to meet each Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Lincoln Station, right around the corner on Lincoln Avenue. Make friends, find support and enrich your life with other St. Pauls members.

ENROLL 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.

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1617569

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

What steps has our state government taken to address reparations? The Illinois Department of Central Management Services has launched a website to inform the public about economic inequities due to the impacts of slavery. The African Descent-Citizens Reparations Commission (ADCRC) has been tasked with developing and recommending measures to ensure equity, equality and parity for African American descendants of slavery. Learn more about the commission here, illinois.gov/news/press-release.26114.html, then engage with their activities at adcrc.illinois.gov.

CREATION CORNER - provided by the Green Team

RESTORE OUTDOORS

- Install bird feeders.
- Install bird nesting boxes.
- Preserve the night sky. Illuminate outdoor spaces only where needed.
- Use a rain barrel. Conserving rainwater is a great way to make less impact on the earth while growing a greener garden. A rain barrel is a relatively easy DIY project.

St. Pauls Green Team Occasional Note: Earth Day 2023

Yesterday, April 22, 2023, was the 53rd national celebration of Earth Day. April is recognized as Earth month, and this is Earth Day Sunday!

Evolution of Earth Day Celebrations

Founded in 1970 by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson, the first Earth Day gave more than 20 million concerned Americans (about 10% of the population) a voice in their home communities -- and put environmentalism on the national agenda. After this massive show of support, the U.S. Congress adopted (with President Richard M. Nixon's support) the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and ultimately created a new federal agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). U.S. and worldwide efforts to tackle environmental degradation and climate change have grown exponentially since the early 1970s – with actions taken by individuals, industry, the government at all levels, and strong religious and spiritual support.

2023 UN “Code Red for Humanity”

Despite these worthwhile efforts, and noting some hard-fought substantial gains, efforts to “save the planet” have not been sufficiently successful. On March 20, 2023, the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report which synthesized eight years of research about the planet’s rising temperature. This Synthesis Report was described as a “final warning,” a “clarion call” and a “how-to guide to defuse the climate time-bomb.” The IPCC Report starkly provides that “there is a rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all.” The Report cites that without more ambitious targets and stronger actions by governments to lower greenhouse gas emissions, the world as we know it will fail. Not completely negative, the Report notes a number of strategies as promising, including solar energy, wind energy, ways to reduce food waste, and better managed crop and grasslands. The Chair of the IPCC, Hoesung Lee, states: “This synthesis report underscores the urgency of taking more ambitious action and shows that if we act now, we can still secure a livable sustainable future for all.”

So, where are we? What are we to do?

Earth Day has evolved to not only increase awareness of environmental issues, but also to be a time for churches and communities to gather together to clean up litter, plant flowers or trees, or simply reflect on the beauty of nature. Celebrate Earth Day by appreciating and respecting nature, become knowledgeable about local and global environmental and climate issues, become involved in appropriate advocacy to “save the world,” support work that really matters, and turn to God in prayer. Consider joining the St. Pauls Green Team or its events as you feel called.

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 2023 dates at 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 Hall. 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 Saint Pauls members and friends. 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 – Follow this link for additional information: 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 2023/24 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.

LPCS VOLUNTEERING

Lincoln Park Community Services has a new volunteer opportunity on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., or 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. You will prepare lunches for their street outreach program and welcome folks coming for drop-in services such as taking a shower or doing their laundry. This is a perfect opportunity for retirees or folks with free time during the day. LPCS provides the food. To learn more about this program, contact volunteer coordinator Lynne Brennan at lynnebrenan@yahoo.com or (630) 542-7012. Learn more here: tinyurl.com/4sfbcmpx.

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 a.m.-12 p.m. *Please note, this is not a drop-off event.* Adult supervision is required.

POP TAB PROGRAM: RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITY

Help support families and children through our Pop Tab program by collecting and donating the aluminum tabs you pull to open soda, soup, and other cans. This is one of the most popular ways to get kids involved in learning to help others and donating to charity. Simply find a clean container, add your own decorations or download the printable pop tab container wrap (rmhccni.org/get-involved/pop-tabs) and start collecting! Bring your pop tab donations to the Narthex and add them to our collection bin. Little things like pop tabs can make a big difference!

RETIREMENT GROUP – The Retirement Group meets at 10 a.m. on the third Tuesday of the month in the Parlor*. 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.

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.

ST. PAULS SOCIAL – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. 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

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 cindyzinn11@gmail.com.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS – If you're in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you're feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson (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

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.

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 & 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 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 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.

- Micki Fayhee's mother, Linda, in hospice care.
- Juanita Barlow's sister following a stroke.
- Mary Frances Winking's stepfather, Melvin, recovering from a stroke.
- Colleen, the wife of a friend of Brian Hafner's, who has suffered multiple strokes.
- Pat Kirby's friend, Mike, for a surgery and recovery complicated by a chronic health condition.
- Cheryl Kuba's friend, Nancy, in a second journey through cancer.
- For Kim Brunssen, dear friend of Kurt Hansen, moving into hospice care.
- For Terry S., incarcerated since the age of 17, recently released after 38 years in prison.
- For Gabe, Ranulfo and Macho, all struggling with addiction.
- For Bo, recovering from a stroke.
- 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!

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
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 the Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2316 N. 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.