

Communion
New Member Sunday
May 7, 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

"I sang your name before you were born. I'm singing your name now. You're clueless as an infant. When I tell you to shout for joy, you hear a bicycle, or a cat."

Joy Ladin

PRELUDE

Sonata No. 5, BWV 529—Largo
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. S. Bach

CHIMES

INTROIT

Alleluia
Chancel Choir

Henry Purcell

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Lord God, you are the love that knows no coldness!

All: You are the light in which there is no shadow!

One: You are the life that mocks death!

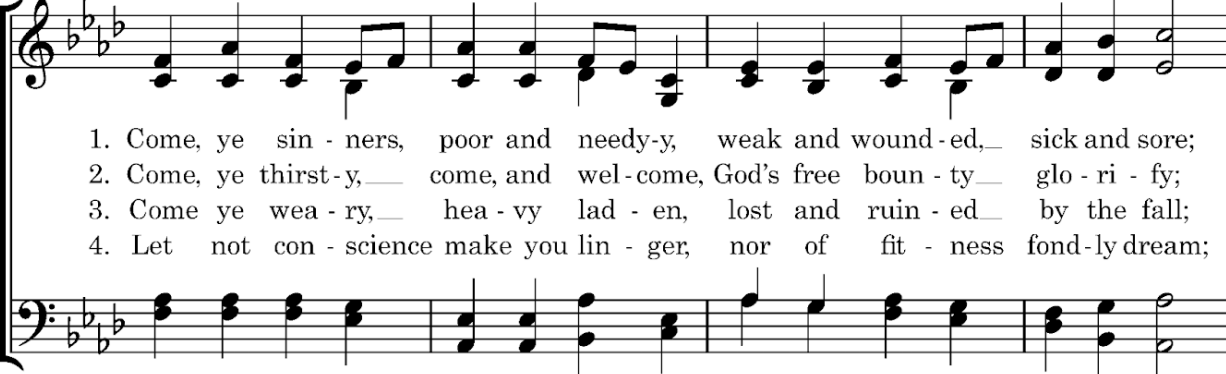
All: Do not let us become indifferent to Easter!

Risen One, be in our midst today!

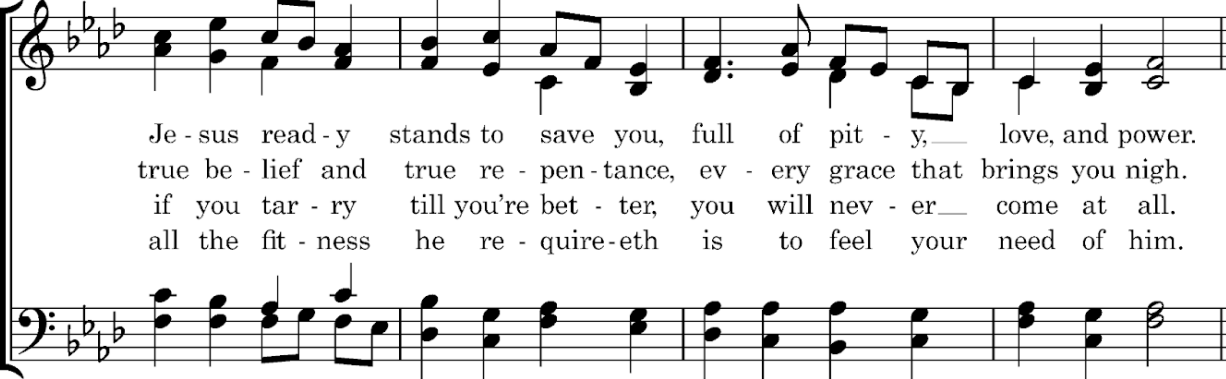
** Please stand if you are able to do so.*

* HYMN

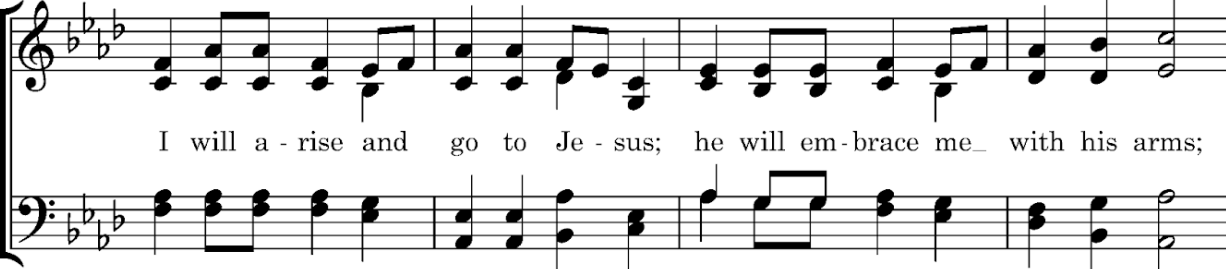
Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy



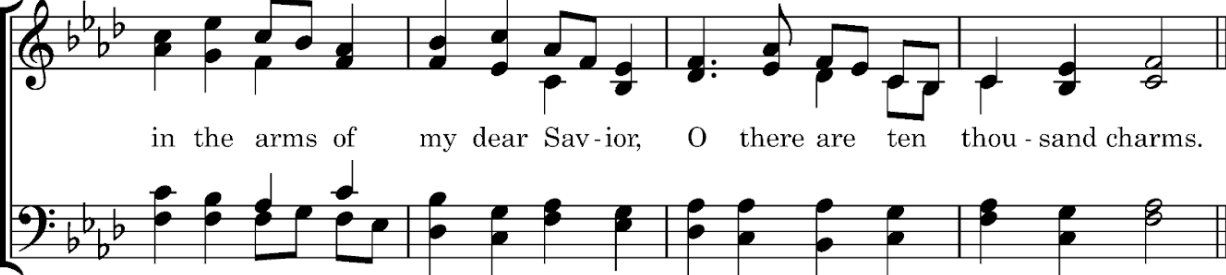
1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and needy-y, weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;
2. Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel-come, God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy;
3. Come ye wea - ry, hea - vy lad - en, lost and ruin - ed by the fall;
4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond-ly dream;



Je - sus read - y stands to save you, full of pit - y, love, and power.
true be - lief and true re - pen - tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.
if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er come at all.
all the fit - ness he re - quire-eth is to feel your need of him.



I will a - rise and go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me with his arms;



in the arms of my dear Sav-ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God when we are tempted
to follow the world's logic
and accuse the lonely, poor,
sick and confused among us,
stop us cold.
Replace our judgment
with your comfort,
your counsel, your help.
Let us act from your power
not our logic.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Please come forward for communion.
Take the bread and eat it. Then take the cup and drink.
Deposit the cups in the baskets on the way back to your seat.
The outer ring of cups contains grape juice. The inner rings contain wine.
A gluten-free bread option is wrapped and available on a separate tray.
Return to your seat by the side aisles.
All are welcome to take part in communion.*

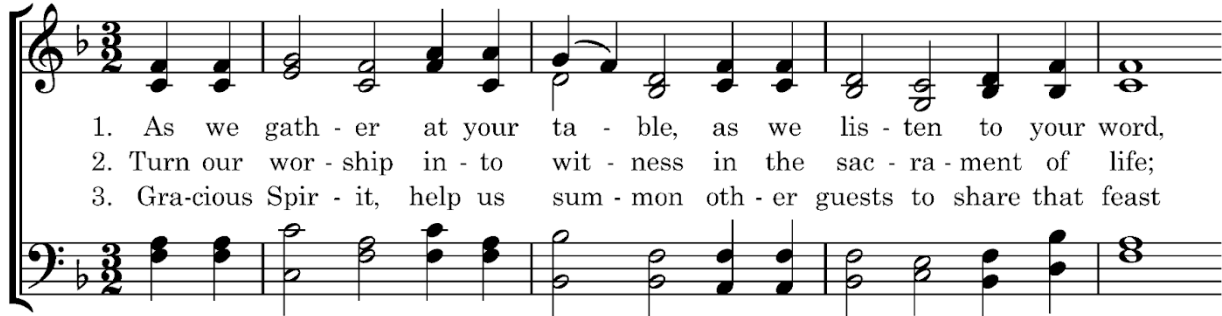
* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Thank you God, for turning strangers into friends
and making us a community at your table.
Together met, together fed, let our hearts cry out in praise.
Amen.**

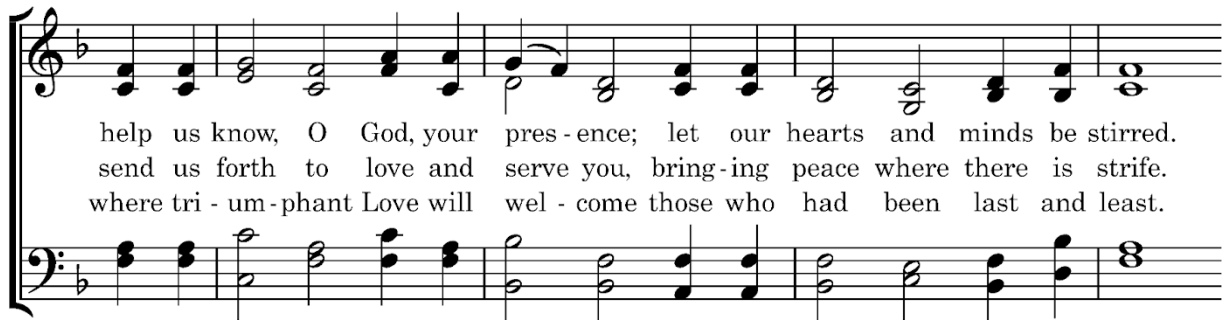
*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

* HYMN

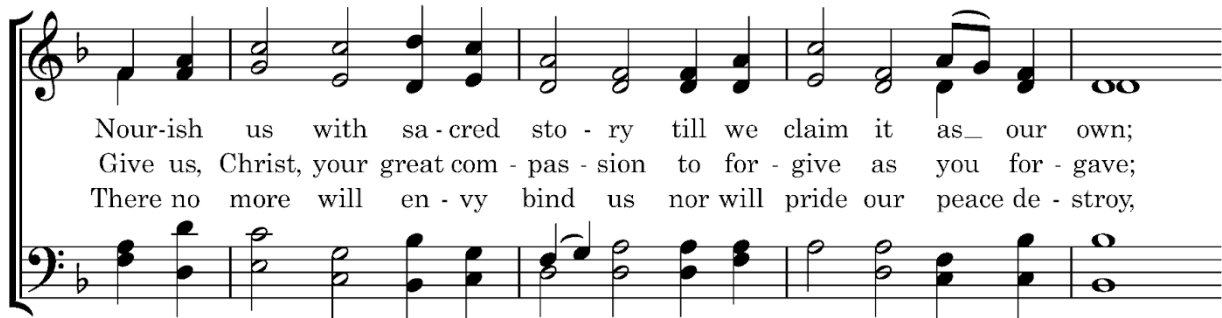
As We Gather at Your Table



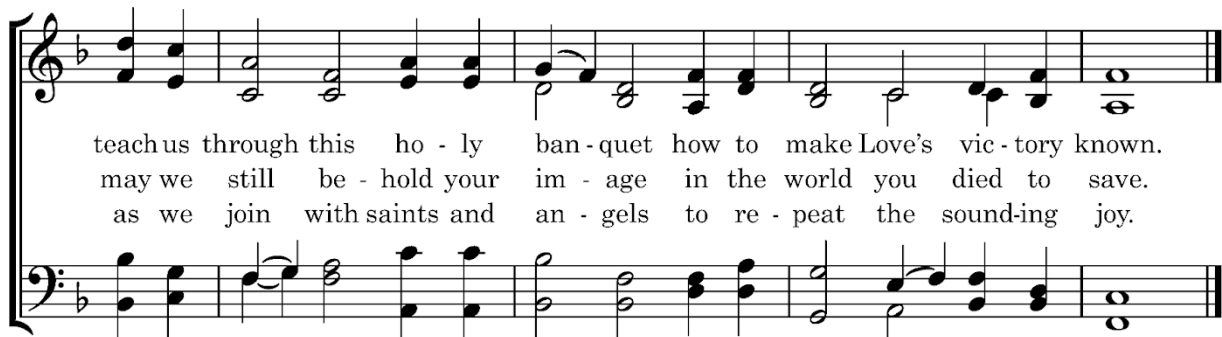
1. As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2. Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3. Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as_ our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

SCRIPTURE

Pat Ruch

1 Peter 2:2-10

You've had a taste of God. Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Now, like newborn infants at the breast, drink deep of God's pure kindness. Grow up mature and whole in God. If indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Welcome to the Living Stone, the source of life. The workmen took one look and threw it out; God set it in the place of honor. Present yourselves as living stones for the construction of a sanctuary vibrant with life, to be a holy priesthood, offering Christ-approved lives up to God.

For it stands in scripture:

Look! I'm setting a stone in Zion,
a cornerstone in the place of honor.
Whoever trusts in this stone as a foundation
will never have cause to regret it.
but to those who refuse to trust him,
"The stone the workmen threw out
is now the chief cornerstone...
a stone that makes them stumble,
a boulder blocking the way."

They trip and fall because they refuse to obey, just as predicted.

But you are the ones chosen by God, a royal priesthood, God's own people. Speak out for him, tell others that he called you out of the darkness and into his marvelous light—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted, once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Friends, this world is not your home. I urge you, as aliens and exiles, not to get cozy in it.

* RESPONSE

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

v. 1



1. My_ shep - herd will sup - ply my_ need; Je - ho - vah
2. When I walk through the shades of_ death Thy pres - ence
3. The sure pro - vi - sions of my_ God At - tend me

is his name: In_ pas - tures fresh he makes me_ feed, Be -
is my stay; One word of_ thy sup - port - ing_ breath Drives
all my days; O_ may thy_ house be my a - bode, And

-side the liv - ing stream. He brings my_ wan - dering spir - it_
all my fears a - way. Thy hand, in_ sight of all my_
all my work be praise. There would I_ find a set - tled

back, When I for - sake his ways; And_ leads me,_
foes, Doth still my_ ta - ble spread; My_ cup with
rest, While oth - ers_ go and come; No_ more a_

for his mer - cy's_ sake, In_ paths of truth and grace.
bless - ings o - ver - flows, Thine oil a - noints my head.
stran - ger, nor a_ guest, But_ like a child at home.

SERMON

"Babies R Us"

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
See previous hymn

vv. 2-3

OFFERTORY

Total Praise
Chancel Choir
St. Arbucks Quartet

Richard Smallwood
arr. Carol Cymbala

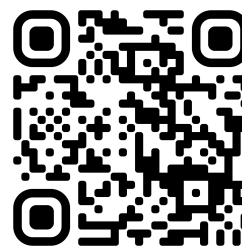
Lord, I will lift my eyes to the hills,
Knowing that my help is coming from you.
Your peace, You give me
In time of the storm.
You are the source of my strength.
You are the strength of my life.
I lift my hands in total praise to you.
Amen.

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

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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

A Dialogue on Our Statement of Faith

Pastor: Let us affirm together our faith as we receive these new members into our church.

Congregation: We believe in God who has created and is creating.

President: God has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new. God works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: We trust God. God calls us to be the church.

Pastor: Will you promise to support this congregation with your time, talent and resources, participating regularly in the worship of Saint Pauls United Church of Christ and contributing to our life and ministry in the city?

New Members: We do promise. With you, we will celebrate God's presence, love and serve others, care for creation, seek justice and resist evil.

Pastor: With your love, God will love. With your hands, God will touch the city. With your lives, God will bring justice and compassion to the world.

Congregation: We promise you our love, support and care.

All: Together we will 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!

PRAYERS 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

Forward Through the Ages



1. For - ward through the a - ges, in un - bro - ken line,
2. Wide grows God's do - min - ion, reign of love and peace;
3. Not a - lone we con - quer, not a - lone we fall;



move the faith - ful spir - its at the call di - vine;
for it we must la - bor, till all striv - ings cease.
in each loss or tri - umph, lose or tri - umph all.



Gifts in dif - fering mea - sure, hearts of one ac - cord,
Proph - ets have pro - claimed - it, teach - ers tes - ti - fied,
Bound by God's far pur - pose in one liv - ing whole,



man - i - fold in ser - vice, one the sure re - ward.
po - ets sung its glo - ry, mar - tyrs for it died.
move we on to - geth - er to the shin - ing goal.



For - ward through the a - ges, in un - bro - ken line,



Move the faith - ful spir - its at the call di - vine.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Amen from Total Praise

Smallwood

POSTLUDE

Keep Holdin' On
St. Arbucks Quartet

Danniebelle Hall

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 WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Scripture Reader: Pat Ruch

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Communion Servers: Jack Lyons, Mark Sancya

Head Ushers: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Tim Reed

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Greeters: Madelyn Jansma, Jim Jansma

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.

BORN THIS WEEK IN MAY

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.

May 7 Carri Johnson, Myers Emmrich, Owen Waldschmidt

May 8 Doug Clark, Francois Millard, Joel Grachan, Lucy Bertsch

May 9 Adam McElhinney, David Verduin, Jill Wachholz, Lydia Murray, John Balevic

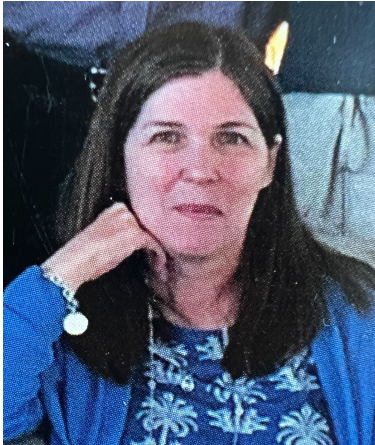
May 10 James Grunst, Steve Singles

May 11 Marcus Ball

May 12 Doug Dobmeyer, Kelly Erdman, Alec Riportella

May 13 Sarah Richmond, Om Bienvenu

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



My name is **Nancy Barnett**. I was raised in Waukesha, Wisconsin. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and joined the U.S. Army. I spent 10 years working in research and then became an educator. I taught elementary teachers how to teach math and teach our future leaders. I have two amazing adult boys. They are the light of my life. My husband, Garry, is my soulmate and rock. Finally, my sister, Karen Johnson, is my guardian angel. God bless, and I am so excited to become a member of SPUCC.



We are **Marcel and Katherine Baumann**! We love our Lincoln Park Community and are thrilled to be a part of St. Pauls Church. Liam (3) and Layla (2) attend Little Lights Pre-K program. It is their favorite place to be! We love the great outdoors, any music concert and riding our bikes all around the city. Marcel and I have our roots in Germany and Seattle, but having joined St. Pauls UCC gives Chicago an even greater sense of home for us!



Hello! Our names are **Nick and Kate DeMonte**. We both grew up in the Chicago suburbs and met and began our life together here in the city. We have two little girls, Nola (4) and Izzy (2). Nola is currently in Little Lights and Izzy will be next year. We are excited to finally become members of this community as we were actually married at St. Pauls eight years ago this June! We are a family always on the move, whether at a Cubs game or Chicago street festival, we love exploring our amazing city.



My name is **Caroline Hedberg**. While I am originally from Minnesota, I lived and worked in Seoul, South Korea, Washington, DC, and Boston before finding my way to Chicago. I now live in Lakeview with my husband Christopher, our cat Amelia, and an unruly assortment of house plants. When we aren't at work or visiting family, we love to explore the city, try out new recipes, play board games with friends, and look for new birds at North Pond. Since I moved to Chicago just before the pandemic started, I feel less involved in my community than I would like to be. I really look forward to joining the St. Pauls community and getting to know everyone. Thanks for the warm welcome!



My name is **Pat Ruch** (rhymes with Book). Surprise, surprise! After nearly two decades here I'm relinquishing my "friend" affiliation for membership at St. Pauls. I grew up in Glyndon, a small Baltimore County village, followed by periods up and down the Northeast Corridor before settling in Chicago in 1988. Not defined by a particular industry or occupation, I'm currently in transition; or, am I retired? Trying to discern that too. Raised in the Catholic church, schooled in Jesuit traditions and formerly a Saturday Mass cantor and ecumenical church musician, I appreciate the gifts of many traditions. I love to sing, walk in nature and build community.



Our names are **Mallory and Evan Schmitt**. We grew up in northern Wisconsin and southern Indiana, but currently live in West Town. We have an 11-month-old son, Augustus, rescue kitty Wolfie, and an English Cocker spaniel, Ralph.

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.

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. 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.

MAY 10 - 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.

MAY 7 - 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.

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 13 - LIGHTHOUSE: SOUL FOOD BRUNCH - 12-2 p.m., Wilson Abbey

Join Lighthouse Foundation for the #BQEI Soul Food Brunch, with live music performances from Voices of Light, a panel discussion with Black LGBTQ+ workers, and a keynote presentation by our executive director on the Black Queer Equity Index. If you're interested in learning more about how Lighthouse Foundation is pursuing equity for Black LGBTQ+ workers, all while enjoying incredible food and fun, attend this event! Admission is free, but there is also an optional suggested donation of \$35-\$100. Register here: bit.ly/BQEIBrunch.

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 20 - REFUGEEONE SUMMER FUN DRIVE - 10 a.m.-1 p.m., RefugeeOne

RefugeeOne is holding their annual Summer Fun Drive on Saturday, May 20. Their goal is to collect new items for the 150 children in their summer program. The list includes swimsuits, beach towels, and bike helmets. You can drop off items at the RefugeeOne headquarters, 6008 N. California, on May 20 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Or, drop them off in the St. Pauls office before May 20. For more information, refugeeone.org/donatestuff.html.

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.

MAY 23 - LUNCH GROUP: FOOD FOR THE SOUL - 11:30 a.m. -2 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room

Adults of all ages are invited to join St. Pauls Social with hosts Jenny Benefield and Jan Fraccaro. Make new friends and connect with old ones with lunch (please bring your own), fellowship, fun, and faith. Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson will share a "Food for the Soul" reflection time after we eat. RSVP is appreciated here but coming at the last minute is fine, as well as needing to leave early!
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1746758

JUNE 4 - NEW MEMBER CLASS - 11 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room

Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for our next 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 Oscar Mayer Room after worship, and child care will be provided as needed (please let us know in your registration). The new member joining date will be June 18.

Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1754260.

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!

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

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 supported them already at Pancake Church when we raised \$5,500! You can donate here:

spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/youth-mission-trip-donations.

POP TAB PROGRAM: RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITY

Help support the Ronald McDonald Charities by saving aluminum tabs from all kinds of cans: soda, canned foods, pet food, etc. Each year, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois collects approximately 40 million tabs. That cashes out to about \$10,000 for the families they serve. Find a 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. This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce young children to helping others and recycling. Little things like pop tabs can make a big difference!

CREATION CORNER - provided by the Green Team

RESTORE OUTDOORS

Reduce the grass in your yard. Instead, consider planting a rain garden, pollinator garden, ground cover, or wildflower meadow.

Don't mow in May. "No Mow May" began with the awareness that the loss of nearly 97% of wildflower meadows has resulted in great losses of pollinators. Reverse the trend. Allow four weeks between cuts; cut at 3–5 inches, leave a patch to grow long, or mow just the front yard if community ordinances or neighbors are a factor. Switch to a reel or push mower. Switching to a non-gas-powered mower not only saves you money, but also means less toxic gasses going into the air. Plus, it's great exercise!

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

How can we repair relationships defined by historical harms? What will it take to mend the tears in the fabric of our society caused by colonization, slavery and xenophobia? Ta-Nahisi Coates states, "And so we must imagine a new country. Reparations—by which I mean the full acceptance of our collective biography and its consequences—is the price we must pay to see ourselves squarely...What I'm talking about is a national reckoning that would lead to spiritual renewal." Learn more about what faith leaders in and beyond the UCC say at tinyurl.com/2s39v8w3.

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 St. 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 LPCS-provided lunches for their street outreach program and welcome folks coming for drop-in services. To learn more about this program, contact volunteer coordinator Lynne Brenan at lynnebrenan@yahoo.com or (630) 542-7012. Learn more here: tinyurl.com/4sfbcmpx.

MEN'S GROUP – A 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.

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.

RETIREMENT GROUP – The Retirement Group meets at 10 a.m. on the third Tuesday of the month in the Parlor*. 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 Luerksen at jenluerksen@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 cindyball11@gmail.com.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS – If you're in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you're feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson (jcarlson@spucc.org), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

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

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!

TODAY'S MUSIC

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) composed six trio sonatas for organ. The term *trio* refers to one voice for each hand and one voice for the feet on the pedals. The sonatas were études, studies for technique. They can sound easy, but they are NOT! Bach composed this work, ***Sonata No 4 in C Major, BWV 529***, sometime between 1727 and 1730. *Largo* is an Italian musical term and means a slow tempo.

Our Introit ***Alleluia!*** was composed by Henry Purcell (1659-1695). Purcell was the greatest early English Baroque composer whose music continues to inspire composers and performances long after his early death at age 36. His most popular work is his *Canon in D*, which is played at many weddings as a processional. However, he also composed the opera *Dido and Aeneas* and a number of works for staged performances of *The Fairy Queen* and *King Arthur*, as well as solo music for voice and church music.

The text for ***As We Gather at Your Table*** was written in 1989 by Carl P. Daw Jr. (b. 1944). Daw is the son of a Baptist minister and also has a Ph.D. in English literature. He has penned a number of hymn texts. The tune, BEACH SPRING, is attributed to Benjamin F. White (1800-1879) and is first found in the great American shape-note hymnal, *The Sacred Harp*, which dates from 1844.

Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy, to the tune RESTORATION, is mined from the wonderful early 19th century American shape-note hymnals, including *Southern Harmony*. Its composer and lyricist are unknown, but it was first published in 1835. The melody is characterized by a folk-like swing.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need employs a text by the great English poet and hymnodist, Issac Watts (1674-1748). Watts set the entire book of Psalms poetically, many of which we still sing today, notably *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*. RESIGNATION is another hymn melody whose composer is unattributed and is from the great early American hymnal, *The Sacred Harp*.

Total Praise was “composed,” both the words and music, in 1996 by Richard Smallwood (b. 1948). The word “composed” must be amplified to be understood in the context of Gospel music. Very often printed scores of gospel songs follow AFTER a song is learned and performed. A bit like transcribing a jazz solo that is improvised in the moment. Most gospel choirs learn their music aurally, or by ear. That gives the spirit and voice more freedom within strict time. Richard Smallwood is a classically trained pianist and singer who graduated *cum laude* from Howard University and was also steeped in the style and substance of the gospel musical

traditions. He was BOTH classically trained and also adept in creating music and text in a “spiritual jazz” freedom and inspiration. **Total Praise** is one of his most popular gospel songs and came out of a time of great sorrow in his life. *Precious Lord* was “composed” by Thomas Dorsey under the same kind of sorrow. Carol Cymbala is the Music Director of the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir and has won six Grammy Awards with the choir. The Tabernacle and its Choir celebrate a diverse membership and styles of worship.

Forward Through the Ages is known as *Onward Christian Soldiers* (1865) by many believers. This text was penned by Frederick L. Hosmer (1840-1929) in 1908, as a less militant encouragement to believers. Hosmer became a Unitarian minister who wrote more than 100 hymn texts. The tune, ST. GERTRUDE was composed in 1871 by the famous Arthur Sullivan (1841-1900), who composed a great deal of classical music in addition to his famous collaborative theater pieces with W. S. Gilbert. He composed the stirring tune for the Hosmer text.

Danniebelle Hall (1938-2000) was a deeply committed Gospel artist who sought to evangelize through her singing and composing. She formed her own group, The Danniebelles, and was also a member of Andraé Crouch’s gospel group, The Disciples. She recorded several solo albums and toured around the world. **Keep Holdin’ On** was composed and recorded in the 1980s.

ST. 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.

- Loved ones of Petrine Ashley at her death. A memorial service will be held at St. Pauls on May 13 at 2 p.m. Petrine would delight in us wearing pink, coral or orange in her honor.
- Kevin O'Brien's friend, Clay Taylor, recovering from heart transplant surgery.
- Sarah and her children, Emma and Jack, at the loss of their husband/father in an accident.
- Nick, at the passing of his mother.
- 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 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.