

June 4, 2023
Confirmation, Communion

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

"The Gospel is the announcement of a regime change."

William Willimon

PRELUDE

Adagio

Daniel Gawthrop

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

CHIMES

INTROIT

Come Down, O Love Divine
Chancel Choir

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* 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: And you have given us life to live together!

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

* HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Red Hymnal No. 263



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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God,
we bow before
the power of strength
the power of privilege
the power of shame
the power of self
the power of intellect
the power of nation
the power of wealth
the power of guilt.
We repent of our idolatry
and turn to you, Lord.
Forgive us. Amen.**

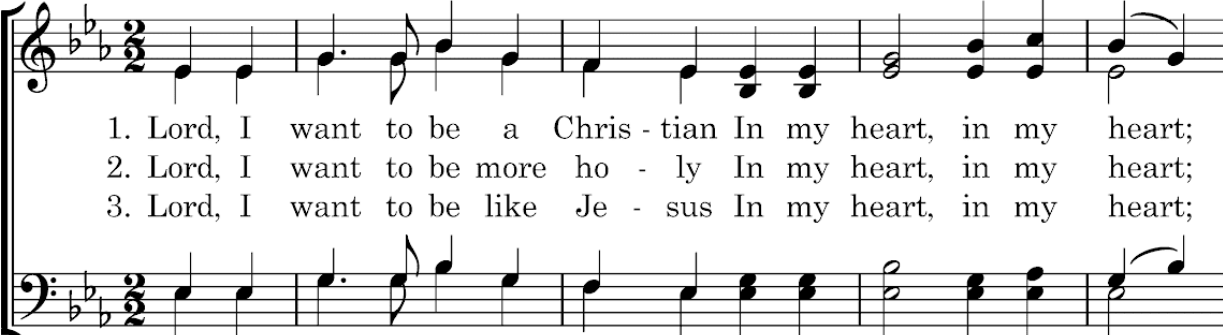
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

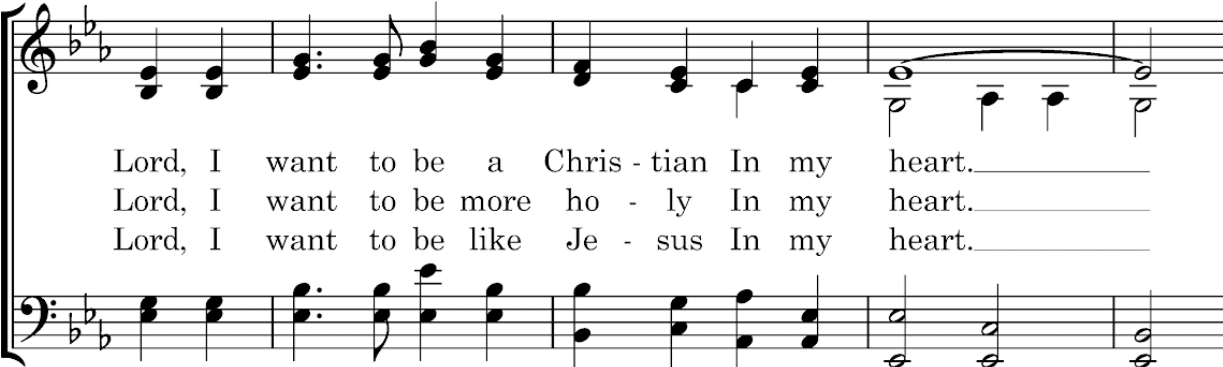
* RESPONSE

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

v. 1



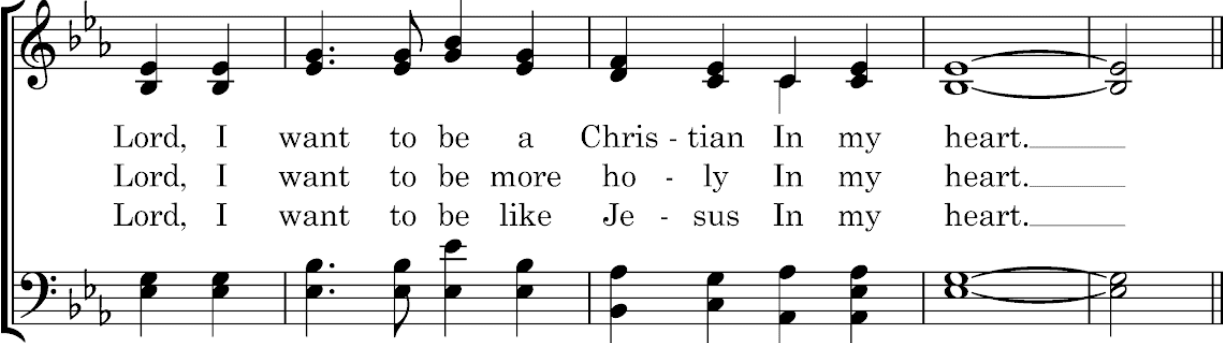
1. Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In my heart, in my heart;
2. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart, in my heart;
3. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart, in my heart;



Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In my heart._____
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart._____
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart._____



In my heart, In my heart, In my heart,
In my heart, In my heart, In my heart,



Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In my heart._____
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart._____
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart._____

SCRIPTURE

Louise Gram

Matthew 7:7-14

Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. If your child asks for bread, do you trick him with sawdust? If she asks for fish, do you scare her with a live snake on her plate? As evil as you are, you wouldn't think of such a thing. So imagine how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative *and do it for them*. This is the Law and the Prophets.

Enter through the narrow gate. The market is flooded with surefire, easygoing formulas for a successful life. This broad road leads to destruction, and many people are on it. The gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

* RESPONSE

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

v. 2

See previous hymn

SERMON

"Squeeze into the Most Palatial Space"

Matt Fitzgerald

* RESPONSE

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

v. 3

See previous hymn

THE SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

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

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

Confirmands: *We believe that God has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new.*

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Confirmands: *We believe that 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 prayers, participating regularly in the worship, fellowship and work of Saint Pauls and contributing to our life in Chicago and beyond?

Confirmands: *We do promise.*

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.

(Sponsors please rise and affirm your support of the confirmands.)

* Sponsors: *Together with you, we will celebrate God's presence, love and serve others, care for creation, seek justice and resist evil.*

(Congregation please rise and affirm your support of the confirmands.)

* Congregation: **Confirmands, we promise you our love, our care, and our support.
With you, 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!**

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

THE PRESENTATION OF THE CANDLES

* THE CONFIRMATION COVENANT

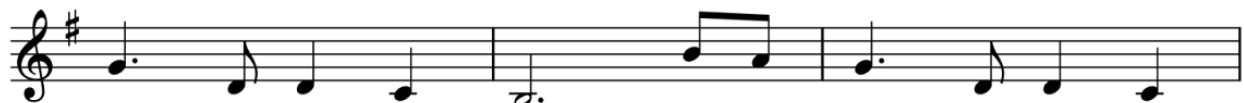
**All: We covenant with God and with one another,
to walk together in God's ways,
known or to be made known, whatever it should cost us.
Amen.**

* HYMN

I Was There to Hear Your Born-ing Cry



1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
2. When you found the won - der of the Word, I was
3. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
4. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be



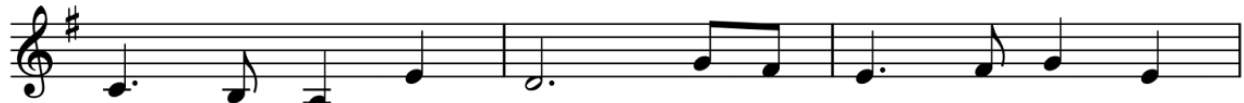
there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the
old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
there when you are old, I re - joiced the day you



were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold. *St. 4, end*



I was there when you were but a child, with a
Should you find some - one to share your time and you
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you



faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you
join our hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have



wan - der off and find where de - mons dwell.
vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

MISSION TRIP COMMISSIONING

OFFERTORY

The Lord Is My Shepherd

John Rutter

Mark Mosley, oboe

Chancel Choir

The Lord is my shepherd;
Therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in green pastures,
And lead me beside the still waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul
And bring me forth in the paths of righteousness,
For his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For thou art with me:
Thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table for me against them that trouble me:
Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

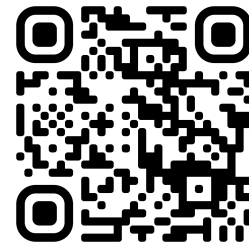
Psalm 23

You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:

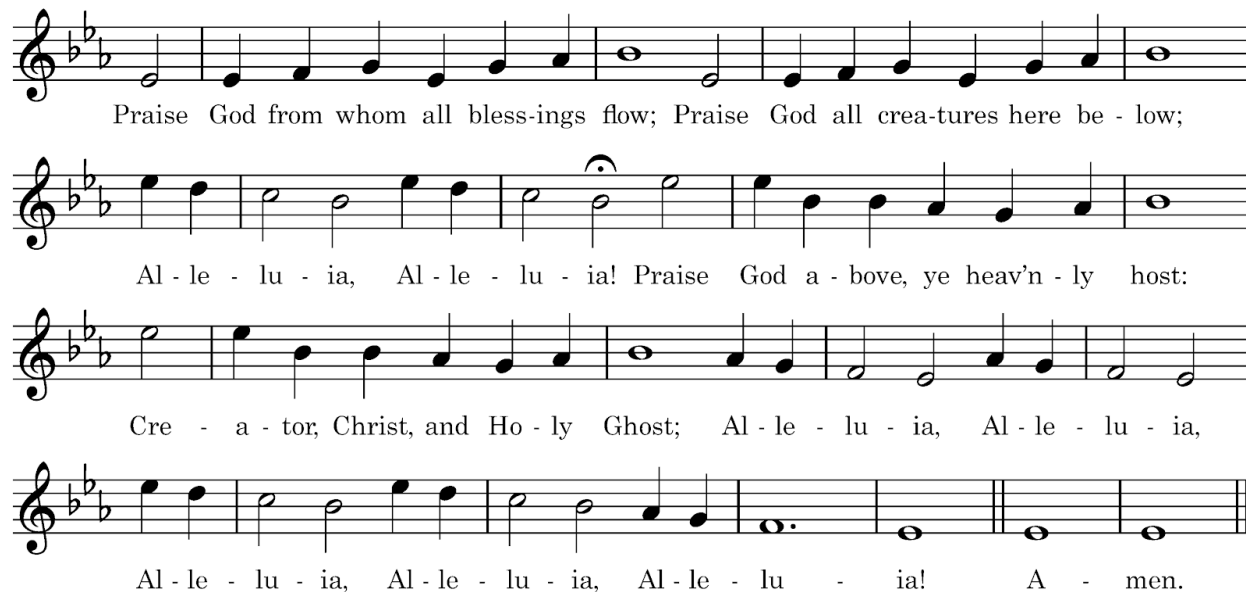
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

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.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.**

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.

COMMENDING OUR RECENT GRADUATES

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, thank you for blessing us from generation to generation with your presence, your life, and the new life of Easter faith. Amen.

* HYMN

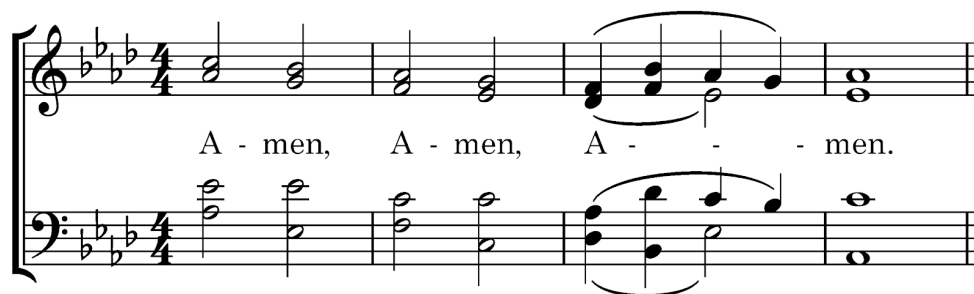
How Firm a Foundation



1. How firm a foundation for you has been laid,
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
3. "When through the deep waters I call you to go,
by God in the Word, in the sacrifice paid!
for I am your God, I will still give you aid;
the rivers of woe shall not over you flow;
What more can God say than to you has been said,
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
to you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
up-held by my gracious, om-ni-po-tent hand."
de-liv-er-ing you from your deep-est dis-tress."

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



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

POSTLUDE

I Saw the Light
St. Arbucks Quartet

Hank Williams

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.

CONFIRMANDS

The Confirmation Class of 2023 participated in a group service project. After touring the church as part of their studies, the confirmands decided some organization/decluttering of various areas in the church might be useful. As a result, in April, the class and their sponsors cleaned and organized a major section of the church's catacombs.

Andrew Hein

Andrew says that one of his favorite memories of St. Pauls are the Bible Off Broadway performances and that he enjoys the music during the services. He is part of a family with a long history at St. Pauls; his mother and two sisters, Emily (19) and Vivian (17), were also confirmed at the church. Andrew enjoys volleyball and chess and will be a freshman at Maine South High School in the fall. He also likes that St. Pauls welcomes everyone. His parents are Karen and Armin Hein. His sponsor is Rebecca Sandoval.

Alayna Karin Mack

Alayna is the daughter of Kristin and Kyle Mack and has two sisters, Eva (12) and Thea (10). She will be continuing at Francis Parker for high school in the fall. Her activities include involvement in choir and musical theater. What she likes best about St. Pauls is that the congregation represents people of all ages and races. Among her favorite memories is the time she has spent helping in the St. Pauls nursery. Her sponsor is Hannah Bryant.

Henry Winking

Henry will be attending St. Patrick High School in the fall. He enjoys water polo, basketball and hanging out with friends. Henry is the son of Mary Frances and Andrew Winking. He likes that St. Pauls is such an inclusive place and says one of his favorite memories is participating in the Confirmation Class. His sponsor is Tom Murray.

MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Simon Baurer
Denzel Braimah
Randy Braimah
Julia Brizzolara
Sonya Brizzolara
Julian Chaiken
Ethan Fitzgerald
Hannah Fitzgerald
Matt Fitzgerald
Ramiro Gonzalez

Lav Grmusa
Carri Johnson
Eliza Johnson
Jack Lyons
Charlie Rodriguez
Harrison Rogers
Clark Tavas
Nolan Tavas
Nathaniel Weglarz
Henry Winking

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY GRADUATES

High School Graduates

Vivian Hein, *Maine South High School*
Erik Ramirez, *Noble Academy High School*
Ethan Sage Ashley-Ferguson, *Walter Payton High School*
Amelia Baurer, *Northside College Prep*
Jack Kahan, *Francis W. Parker High School*
Hannah Fitzgerald, *Lincoln Park High School*
John G. Nickerson, *Lane Tech High School*

College Graduates

Jake Nitzsche, *Tulane University*
Rebecca Fayhee, *American University, Bachelor of Arts, Double Major: Psychology and Political Science*
Calvin Doty, *University of Illinois, Champaign, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering*
Jean Wilk, *Purdue University, Civil Engineering*

Graduate School Graduate

Nathan Chamberlain, *DePaul University - Kellstadt Graduate School of Business, Master of Science in Marketing*

TODAY'S MUSIC

Our prelude today, ***Adagio***, was composed by Daniel E. Gawthrop (b. 1949). He was born in Ft. Wayne, IN, and is known for his output of compositions for choirs and also the organ. He has been the recipient of more than 100 commissions for his works. He attended both Michigan State University and Brigham Young University. He currently resides in southern Idaho with his wife.

The text for ***Come Down, O Love Divine*** was originally composed in Italian by Bianco de Siena (c. 1350-c. 1434) and translated by Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890). Siena was a poet and wool worker who became a non-ordained Jesuit in 1367. Irish born Littledale became both an Anglican priest and lawyer. Due to lifelong illness, he spent much of his time writing. The tune, DOWN AMPNEY, was composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) in 1906. He was one of the greatest English composers of the 20th century. He composed nine symphonies, operas, and numerous oratorios and choral works.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God is arguably the greatest Martin Luther (1483-1546) hymn and encapsulates the theology of the Lutheran Church. The original version is almost dance-like in rhythm. The processional hymn presents a more majestic march.

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian is another in a long line of great African American spirituals. Neither the tune nor text are attributed. The origin may go as far back as 1750. The first publication to include it was *Folk Songs of the American Negro* (1907), compiled by brothers Frederick (no dates) and John (1871-1925) Work. John Work was also the music director of the famous Fisk Jubilee Singers.

John Rutter's (b. 1945) setting of Psalm 23, ***The Lord Is My Shepherd*** was written in 1978 for Mel Olson, who was Kurt R. Hansen's church choir director as he grew up in Omaha. Mel Olson was almost single handedly responsible for introducing Rutter and his music to this country. This motet is also included in Rutter's *Requiem*.

Both the text and tune, WATERLIFE, to ***I Was There To Hear Your Borne Cry*** were composed by John Yivisaker (1937-2017). Because of the number of hymns he wrote, he was called the "Bob Dylan of the Lutheran Church." Although Minnesota was his home, he was widely traveled and noted for his self-effacing personality.

How Firm a Foundation, although of anonymous origin, is a true American hymn first published in Funk's *Genuine Church Music* in 1832. That hymnal is part of what is often referred to as the Sacred Harp, or shape-note hymnal, tradition in our country which began in the early 19th Century. These treasures gained a rebirth during the bicentennial celebrations in 1976. Did you know that before the revival of this tune, FOUNDATION, this text was most often sung to the tune *Adeste Fideles* (*O Come All Ye Faithful*)? The text is also unattributed, but first discovered by John Rippon (1751–1836), who was an English Baptist clergy. He noted the author as “K.”

I Saw the Light was composed and recorded in 1952 by Hank Williams (1923-1953). He was a beloved country music singer and composer. In his all-too-short life, he recorded 35 singles, and 11 of those reached No. 1 on the Country & Western charts.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Jeff Carlson, 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: Louise Gram

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Communion Servers: Our Confirmands: Andrew Hein, Alayna Karin Mack, Henry Winking

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Juanita Barlow, David Faulkner, 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.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in celebration of 20 years of friendship that started as adult leaders on the 2003 mission trip. Carrie, Peg, and Sally (aka CPS).

BORN THIS WEEK IN JUNE

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.

June 5 Sarah Good Mosley

June 6 Rosa Schmahl, Zachary Jarzebowski

June 7 Amy Bashiti, Linda Lang

June 8 Jean Weimer, Colin Murray, Noah Bashiti, Jack Kobak

June 9 Don Camp, Sue Lannin, Alex Hansen, Kai Renfrow, Will Shirey, Craig Wilbanks

June 10 Todd Beeson

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.

JUNE 7 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoom

We're studying 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.

JUNE 9 - JULY 7 - YOUNG ADULT FRIDAY BEACH VOLLEYBALL - 6-8:30 p.m.

Make new friends and enjoy summer sunsets on North Avenue Beach! Join our Chicago Social recreational beach volleyball team. We'll gather on Fridays to have fun and support UCAN, the non-profit agency which St. Pauls founded to help kids in need. For more info and to sign-up, contact youngadults@spucc.org.

JUNE 11 - SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 11:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Please join us for this special congregational meeting to vote on the kick-off of fundraising efforts for the next stage of the Expanding Our Openness campaign and changes to our bylaws relating to the Human Resources policies and practices of our Church. This meeting will take place in person, with Zoom Webinar and call-in options for those who wish to participate virtually. For more meeting details and Zoom information, see the full announcement here: tinyurl.com/ektz4uah.

JUNE 16 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL AT THE SYMPHONY - 6:30 p.m., Millennium Park

For adults of all ages, join St. Pauls Social and host Madelyn Jansma for an evening of composer Antonín Dvořák. Pack a picnic and enjoy good music, good company and (hopefully) good weather. Madelyn will arrive at 6 p.m. and be in the middle towards the back with a red and black checked blanket. To find her, text her at (425) 894-1853.

JUNE 25 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL PRIDE COOKOUT - 4 p.m., Courtyard

Adults of all ages are invited to join St. Pauls Social and hosts Rick Peterson and Doug Heyboer for a cookout after the Pride Parade in the St. Pauls courtyard. Whether you're marching or not, you're invited to join this fun cookout. Please bring your own food and beverages. A grill will be provided for all to share. You can leave your food at the church during the march.

JUNE 27 - SACK LUNCH GROUP: FOOD FOR THE SOUL - 12 -2 p.m., Social Hall

Sponsored by St. Pauls Social. Adults of all ages are invited. 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 but coming at the last minute is fine, as well as needing to leave early! spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1746758

JUNE 28 - COOKIES FOR A CAUSE - 5:30 p.m., St. Pauls Kitchen

Join the St. Pauls cookie bakers for dinner, socializing and cookie making. Meet us at 5:30 p.m. or whenever you can make it. We eat around 6:30 p.m. Cookies go to A Just Harvest and the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. If you can't join us but would like to participate, you may drop off cookies marked MARCIA at St. Pauls on the 28th. Please get in touch with Marcia Volk to reserve a spot and she will let you know what dinner/baking supplies are still needed, marcia@volkonline.com or (773) 307-6866.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIGRANT HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE

Some amazing things happened at Saint Pauls this week. We started from scratch and dedicated members stepped up to offer their time and talents on all kinds of tasks. On Thursday, we successfully relocated to Saint Pauls four families who recently arrived in Chicago from Venezuela. This includes 14 lovely individuals who now have a new, safe home for the next three months. Please continue to be patient with us as we learn and make adjustments to the day-to-day arrangements, and check frequently the sign-up lists for volunteer and donation opportunities as needs change. And, please remember that we have welcomed these families to our church and want them to have a safe, quiet, private space of their own. We love the radical hospitality of Saint Pauls, but ask that everyone be respectful of this space for them and do not enter without checking first with a staff member or dedicated Host on site. Thanks again to everyone for making this wonderful work happen.

David Brown, Project Manager

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! You can donate here: spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/youth-mission-trip-donations.

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

MAKE A BIBLE DIORAMA!

You are invited to craft a scene from the Bible for all to enjoy. Take a look at the brightly lit display case mounted to the back wall of the Narthex. Our first diorama is already installed! Register to make your own, using whatever you have on hand at home. Church staff will contact you to arrange installation.

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1776895

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

SPARC is sending a letter to this summer's 34th General Synod of the UCC, urging passage of a proposed resolution to further reparations nationally. The proposal urges the Synod to proclaim public support for federal legislation that establishes a pathway toward reparations for African Americans. It also calls for partnership across UCC bodies to inspire education and direct action toward reparations. **This means us! Please read this article, tinyurl.com/mr4atru5, to learn more, and join the follow-up discussion of The Big Payback on June 18, even if you did not attend the first session.**

CREATION CORNER - provided by the Green Team

Summer and its many celebrations have finally arrived. When planning gatherings, it is easy to focus on the guest list, food and drinks, and final costs while forgetting about the cost to the environment. Ask yourself how much of what I am using is biodegradable, reusable, recyclable, or even harmful to the environment?

It takes far more thought to plan an earth-centered gathering. First, skip the balloons as they are not biodegradable and harm wildlife. Second, use decorations made of cloth and paper instead of plastic. Finally, plan your menu around using utensils and plates that can be reused or biodegraded. This can include wax paper squares, bamboo utensils, chopsticks, coffee filters, and cloth napkins.

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!

COMMON PANTRY COMMUNION SUNDAYS – We’re collecting food for the Common Pantry every communion Sunday - usually the first Sunday of the month. See their wishlist for most-needed items here, commonpantry.org/donations. 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.

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.

HANDWORK MEET-UP – If you enjoy handwork, you’re invited to sit 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.

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.

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. Find a container 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!

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 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 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).

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.

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!

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.

- Gloria Joseph, hospitalized on May 22.
- Rachel Barton Pine, her husband Greg, and their daughter Sylvia as Rachel recuperates from surgery.
- Troy Meinders' sister, Tricia, who is undergoing cancer treatment.
- Juanita Barlow and Paquita Mueller at the death of their sister, Maria Dolores Guadalupe.
- Micki Fayhee and family at the death of her mother, Linda.
- Loved ones of Petrine Ashley at her death.
- Sarah and her children, Emma and Jack, at the loss of their husband/father in an accident.
- Nick, at the passing of his mother.
- 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.