



July 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

Life isn't fair. We're in a broken world that's filled with broken people. We can't control that. But we can control our response. Follow Jesus and serve others expecting nothing in return and you will find joy and meaning in an unfair world.

PRELUDE

I Expect to See Him
St. Arbucks Quartet

Jessy Dixon

CHIMES

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth;

All: give me an undivided heart to revere your name.


One: I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify
your name forever.

**All: For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul
from the depths of Sheol.**

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

* HYMN

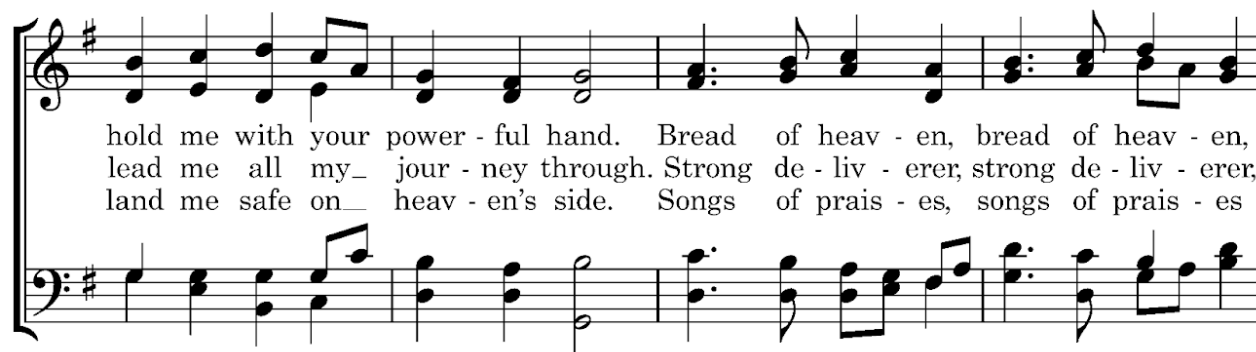
Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer



1. Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing
3. When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;
wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,



hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es



feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.
I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.

We love with condition.

We judge and condemn.

We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes.

We do not turn to You as the source of our healing.

Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

Deep River Black American Spiritual
Jen Kew and Kathy Kew Lee, soloists arr. Moses Hogan
Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

Deep River, my home is over Jordan.
Oh, Deep River, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace?

Deep River, my home is over Jordan...

Oh don't you want to go
to that gospel feast; that promised land where all is peace?

Deep River, my home is over Jordan
Deep River, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

SCRIPTURE

Sharon Collins

Matthew 13:24-30

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

"An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

"No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

* 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.

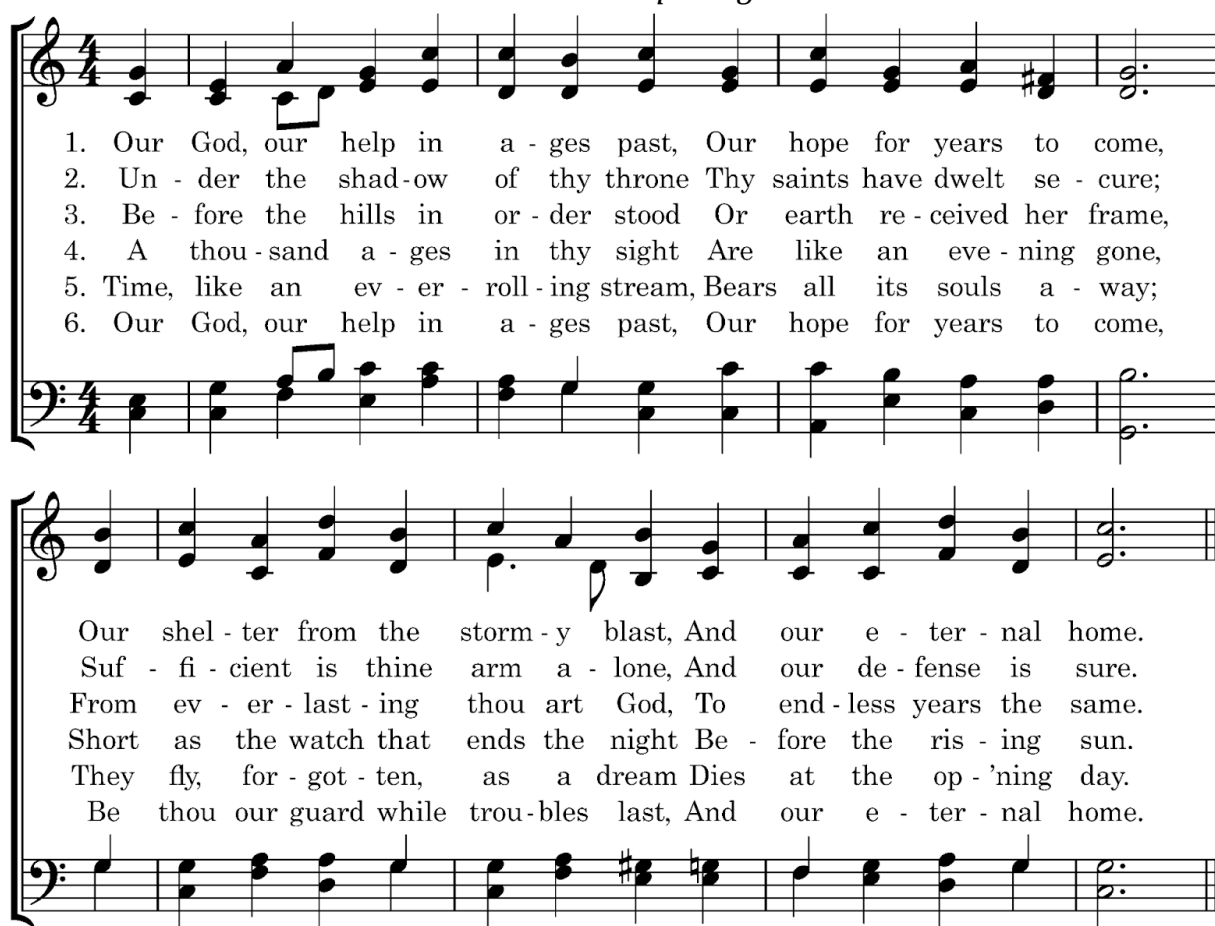
We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

* RESPONSE

Our God Our Help in Ages Past

vv. 1 & 2



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2. Un - der the shad-ow of thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4. A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,
5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Bears all its souls a - way;
6. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,

Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home.
Suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
They fly, for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the op - 'ning day.
Be thou our guard while trou - bles last, And our e - ter - nal home.

SERMON

"It Isn't Fair"

Liz Nickerson

* HYMN

Our God Our Help in Ages Past
See previous hymn

vv. 3-6

OFFERTORY

Only Grace

Music by Hannah Rand

Jen Kew and Kathy Kew Lee, soloists Words by Lenora Rand

Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

Things are broken here.

Things are shared

Things are carried here

Hearts bow in prayer

It is grace, only grace

That brings us here, holds us together here.

All together here.

Things are dying here

Things are torn

Things are growing here

And burdens borne.

It is grace, only grace...

Amazing grace, hear the sound.

Here is where hope is found.

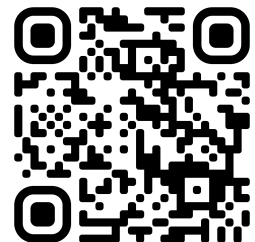
It is grace, only grace...

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

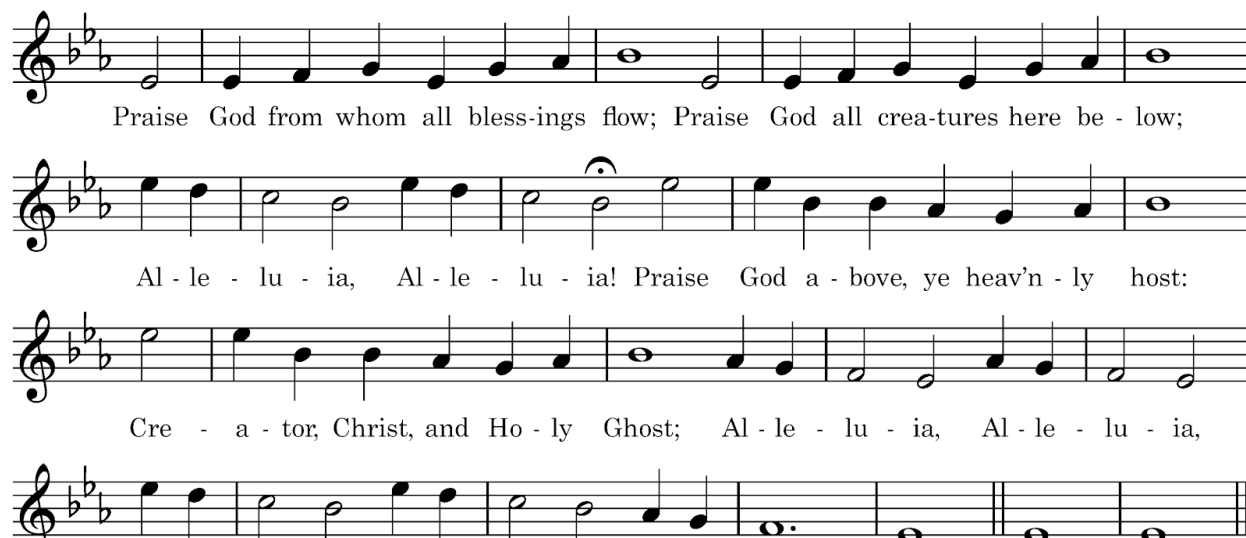
Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

PayPal at spucc.org/paypal, or Zelle 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 contains the first line of the doxology, the second and third staves contain the 'Al-le-lu-ia' refrain, and the fourth staff contains the final line.

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

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

God Our Author and Creator



1. God our Au - thor and Cre - a - tor, in whose life we find our own,
2. Like those first a - pos - tles, Sav - ior, give us strength to love and serve:
3. Keep us faith - ful, Ho - ly Spir - it, help us bear the mes - sage true,



make our dai - ly wit - ness great - er, by our lives make your love known.
when our faint - ing spir - its wa - ver, fire our hearts and steel our nerve.
that at last all lands may hear it: "God is love; Christ died for you."



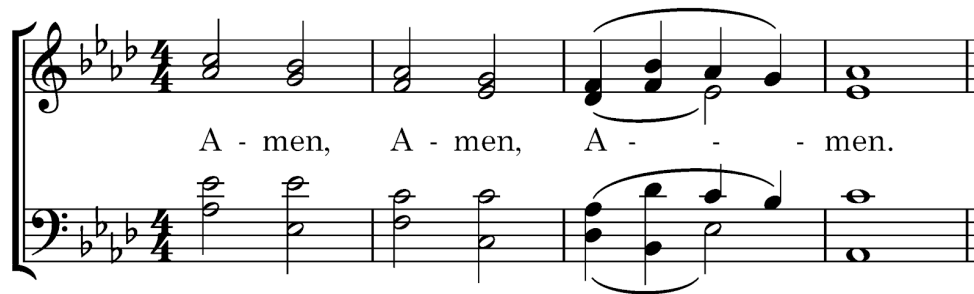
Help us show how love em - brac - es those whom fear and greed down - trod;
Teach us wis - dom and com - pas - sion: bid our rest - less thoughts be still;
Join our lives in might - y cho - us till we come from ev - ery place,



in all yearn - ing hearts and fac - es let us see a child of God.
by your guid - ance help us fash - ion lives con - formed un - to your will.
with all those who went be - fore us, to the full - ness of God's grace.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Oh Happy Day
St. Arbucks Quartet

Edwin Hawkins

Oh happy day
When Jesus washed
He washed my sins away!

Oh happy day ...

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 to coffee hour in the Social Hall, directly below the Sanctuary.

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

- Childcare is available for babies and toddlers up to age 5, during worship from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Nursery and Toddler Room downstairs.
- Older children are encouraged to worship with their parents. Look for the children's Bibles placed throughout the pews. Activity "busy bags" are available in the Narthex.
- Did you know that there are two playgrounds immediately to the south of the church? Consider arriving early for church and giving your kids some free time at the playground this summer! This is a terrific incentive for getting them out the door: "If you're ready to go by 9:15, we can stop by the playground and run around with some other church friends!"
- UPCOMING SUMMER ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES: August 20 & 27
- REGULAR SUNDAY CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS resume on September 17.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Jeff Carlson, Liz Nickerson

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Sharon Collins

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Mary Brown

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Greeters: Madelyn Jansma, Jim Jansma

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

BORN THIS WEEK IN JULY

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.

July 23 Nic Mutch, Lukas Hecht, Lucy Bashiti

July 24 Lovely Carter, Charlie Razeghi, Everett Nach, Natalie Campbell,
Benjamin Ritchie

July 25 Benny VanDerburgh, Maira Simonton

July 26 Andrew Cittadine, Christine Weible-Cruz, Doug Dunham, Nicole Jackson,
Paul Deters, Colleen Kompare, Samantha Beck

July 27 Andy Davis, Diane Massie, Paul Malley

July 28 Philip Cedeño-Smedley, Toby Smedley, Eliza Johnson

July 29 Gerald Wilk, José Flores

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.

JULY 26 - 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 as we look for treasure in unfamiliar terrain! RSVP to Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

JULY 29 - WINDY CITY WINDS - OUTDOOR SUMMER CONCERT - 3 p.m.,

Washington Square Park (901 N. Clark St. - Near North).

Windy City Winds, the 60-piece community band that rehearses weekly at St. Pauls will perform the last of three outdoor concerts this Saturday featuring movie music in a "Salute to Great Film Composers," including John Williams, Elmer Bernstein, Alfred Newman, Bernard Herrmann, John Barry, Michael Giacchino, and more.

JULY 29-30 WOMEN'S FARM/STARVED ROCK WEEKEND AT VOLK FARM

Please join us at Marcia Volk's family farm the weekend of July 29-30. Come for Saturday only or the weekend. Carpool to farm (about two hours SW) and spend Saturday hiking at Starved Rock and/or enjoying the farm trails, picking wildflowers, riding our 4-wheeler, zip line, and boating. On Saturday night we'll have a potluck dinner and bonfire. On Sunday, we'll attend Marcia's summer UCC church in Lacon (optional). Breakfast and lunch are at the farm Sunday. Please bring \$10 for expenses, if possible. First 11 people to respond get the beds, two to a bed. All beds require the ability to climb stairs. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com or (773) 307-6866.

AUGUST 9 - GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL w/ ST. PAULS SOCIAL - 6:30-8 p.m.

Adults of all ages are invited to join St. Pauls Social and hosts Andrea Koepke and Jan Fraccaro for the Grant Park Music Festival. The performance will be by Troupe Vertigo, a combination of circus, dance, and musical theater. The beautiful Jay Pritzker Pavilion will be the background for this amazing event. Please bring your food, drink, chairs, blankets, etc., and join us on the lawn. Look for the two blue balloons flying high to guide you to the St. Pauls group. You don't want to miss this amazing experience!

AUGUST 15 - RETIREMENT GROUP – 10 a.m., Parlor*

The Retirement Group meets at 10 a.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. Please join us to discuss our transition paths, ways we found ourselves here, what's meaningful, and what's next with or without planned health, funds or companionship. For more info, contact Marcia Knudson at marciaknudson@gmail.com.

AUGUST 16 - AN EVENING ON THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY - 6 p.m. Social Hall

How did 15th century papal bulls become the legal basis of the treatment of North American Indigenous nations? Join us for a light meal and documentary viewing and discussion of *The Doctrine of Discovery*, with co-director and author Steve Newcomb to find out! His 2008 book, *Pagans in the Promised Land*, and this 2015 documentary powerfully attack the presumption that Indigenous nations are legitimately subject to the plenary power of the United States, explain how this extraordinary presumption entered U.S. law, policy and conduct, and convey something of its horrific consequences. There will be a free will offering to cover costs. Please register at spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1827158.

AUGUST 22 - SACK LUNCH GROUP: FOOD FOR THE SOUL - 12 -1:30 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 Jeff Carlson will be at the piano for a "Hymn Sing" after we eat. This is your chance to sing your favorite hymn from either the Red or Black Hymnal. You choose the hymns, Pastor Jeff will play them, and everyone will sing. Along with the singing, test your hymnology with a game of "Name That Hymn!" RSVP is appreciated but coming at the last minute is fine, as well as needing to leave early!

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1746758

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONSIDER THE LILIES - Are you looking for a way to get involved with the life of St. Pauls? Join the team that delivers our Sunday altar flowers to members and friends who need to know St. Pauls is thinking of them. We hope to have enough volunteers so that each team member makes a delivery once a month. If you would like to be part of this initiative, please contact Jan Bail at janbail@msn.com.

CHANCEL CHOIR ON SUMMER BREAK - Our Chancel Choir is on summer break and will return to worship services on our Kick-off Sunday, September 10. Until then, music will be provided by talented members of our congregation each Sunday.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Our partners at Community Renewal Society (CRS) “work every day to become a region free of race and class barriers, a mission that ultimately leads to a Beloved Community where all of God’s children can flourish and prosper.” They invite us to examine how “the Japanese American reparations movement serves as an example and inspiration for ongoing efforts to secure reparations for other marginalized communities.” Drawing on the history of reparations for survivors of Japanese American internment camps during World War II, note the striking similarities between that fight and the current demand for reparations. Read part two of *The Kansha Project*, tinyurl.com/55mt72tr.

CREATION CORNER - provided by the Green Team

What is Wet Bulb Temperature (WBT)? The U. S. National Weather Service uses the three-measurements of WBT to predict stress on the human body in direct sunlight. A “wet bulb” is the measure read by a thermometer covered in a wet cloth - as water evaporates from the cloth, evaporation cools the thermometer. This mirrors how the human body cools itself with sweat. In addition, the “black globe” measures the effect of solar radiation as it heats the globe, and “dry globe” measures the air temperature in the shade. The critical WBT point for healthy humans to survive in high heat and humidity for six hours is an air temperature of 104°F at 75% relative humidity, clearly something one does not want to test!

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.

BASKETBALL – Now on Wednesdays. Join us for a weekly pickup game! All skill levels welcome. Email Pastor Matt to get on the updates list, mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

THE BOOK NOOK – Find your next good read or drop off books to share in 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, contact Linda Nitzsche, lindanitz@yahoo.com.

CAREGIVERS’ GROUP – A caregiving role can be a source of love, joy and considerable stress, but it’s easier when it doesn’t feel like you’re the only one. The St. Pauls Caregivers’ Group is an informal support group of people who are responsible for the care of parents, partners, friends, or children with illnesses or disabilities. We gather via Zoom the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 10 to 11 a.m. to listen, share, empathize, and encourage. Contact Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org to be added to the email list.

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 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.

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

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 Social Hall 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!

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 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).

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 9:30 on Sunday mornings during the school year.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send announcements for St. Pauls-sponsored events to chiggins@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, for publication in the Friday email and next Sunday bulletin. You are welcome to share personal announcements and event invitations in our Facebook Group, St. Pauls Together.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

TODAY'S MUSIC

I Expect to See Him is by Jessy Dixon (1938-2011), another gospel artist and composer with deep roots in Chicago. His music was beloved outside his own community and he received seven Grammy nominations in his career. He toured the world with Paul Simon after Mr. Simon heard him and the Jessy Dixon Singers at a concert at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. He also wrote music for artists as varied as Diana Ross and Cher.

The text for *Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer* was written in Welsh in 1745 by William Williams (1717-1791). He was called the "Issac Watts of Wales." He studied medicine but became a Calvinist Methodist clergy. The translation to English was made in 1771 by Peter Williams (1722-1796), who was also Welsh and became a Calvinist Methodist. The tune, CWM RHONNDA, is a great Welsh melody composed in 1905 by John Hughes (1873-1932). Hughes composed this for a Baptist song festival in Wales.

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

Issac Watts (1674-1748) penned the text for *Our God Our Help in Ages Past* in 1719. It is a poetic setting of Psalm 90. We sing Watts' setting of Psalm 23 before and as part of the offertory anthem. The tune, ST. ANNE, was likely composed in 1708 in London by William Croft (1677-1727), who became the organist at Westminster Cathedral. As a side note, Bach's famous *Prelude and Fugue in E Flat Major, BWV 552* (1735-36) is often referred to as "St. Anne," because Bach seems to quote that tune in the final theme of the "triple fugue." There is no way Bach would have heard or known that tune, but it certainly is an interestingly apocryphal story.

Lenora and Hannah Rand are a mother and daughter team. Lenora wrote the text and Hannah composed the music for *Only Grace*. With Gary Rand, husband and father, they formed The Plural Guild as their musical outlet here in the Chicago area. They have published many pieces of worship music. Gary Rand was also on the faculty of McCormick Theological Seminary.

The text for ***God Our Author and Creator*** was written in 1985 by Carl P. Daws Jr. (b. 1944) to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. Daws is a Kentucky born Episcopalian priest and also served as executive director of the Hymn Society in this country and Canada. JEFFERSON is another great hymn from the early 19th century American shaped-note hymnal tradition. Its composer is unknown and it was first published in *Southern Harmony* in 1835.

Oh Happy Day was composed by Edwin Hawkins (1943-2018). He was an artist of wide ranging talents: gospel musician, singer, pianist, composer, arranger, and choir master. He was born in Oakland, California, and was already playing keyboards at age 7 for his family's gospel group. *Oh Happy Day* is his most performed and remembered work.

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.

- Theresa Herlevsen and family at the death of her mother Gertrude.
- Students and staff of the GCE school in Chicago, which recently closed.
- LeeAnne Tongue.
- Friends and family of Bo at his death.
- David Bueschel and family at the death of Betsy Bueschel. A memorial service will be held August 5 at 10:30 a.m.
- Leroy Johnson, husband of Karen L. Johnson, in the hospital, was diagnosed with acute leukemia.
- Michael Toomin, hospitalized with an aggressive form of lymphoma.
- New member Irem Metin, who had surgery on July 6. Please keep Irem, her husband William, and sons Aidan and Benjamin in your prayers.
- Sarah and her children, Emma and Jack, at the loss of their husband/father in an accident.
- 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

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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.