



July 30, 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

"If we fix our eyes upon the place where the course of the world reaches its lowest point, where its vanity is unmistakable, where its groanings are most bitter and the divine incognito most impenetrable, we shall encounter there - Jesus Christ."

Karl Barth

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth
St. Arbucks Quartet

arr. Craig Curry

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 105)

One: Give thanks to God!

All: Sing songs of praise and tell of the wonders God has done.

One: Honor God with hallelujahs and a joyful heart.

All: God reigns over all the earth.

One: God remembers us, and is faithful for a thousand generations.

All: Hallelujah!

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

* HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,
2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thy own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed Thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed— Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jeff Carlson

**O, God, you are faithful; we are fickle.
Your love is constant; our love grows cold.
We are pulled about by our emotions and feelings,
easily angered, impatient and quick to judge.
Forgive us, O God.
Breathe your Spirit into us.
Strengthen our hearts to be faithful in your way of love,
Through the grace of Jesus. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* RESPONSE

Santo, Santo Santo

Repeat once

¡San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zón te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Dios.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly God.

Romans 8:26-39 (the Message Translation)

God's Spirit is right alongside helping us. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. The Spirit does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. He knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our weakness, and keeps us present before God. We know that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him. After God made that decision of what his children should be like, he followed it up by calling people by name. After he called them by name, he set them on a solid basis with himself. And then, after getting them established, he stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what he had begun.

So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not nakedness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing.

None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Lord has embraced us.

* 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

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ing, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down, Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell-ing, All thy faith-ful mer - cies crown; Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion; Pure, un - bound-ed love thou art;". The score consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The lyrics are placed between the staves of each system.

Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ing, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down,

Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell-ing, All thy faith-ful mer - cies crown;

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion; Pure, un - bound-ed love thou art;

Vis - it us_ with thy_ sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.

SERMON

"Groaning With God"

Jeff Carlson

* HYMN

Beautiful Savior

1. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Cre - a - tion's sov - 'reign
2. Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands,
3. Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light,
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, O'er all the na - tions,

One with God and_ one with us! Tru - ly I'd love_ thee,
Robed in_ flow'rs of_ bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er,
Bright the_ spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er,
One with God and_ one with us! Glo - ry and hon - or,

Tru - ly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
Je - sus is pur - er, He makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
Je - sus shines pur - er, Than all the an - gels in the sky.
Praise, ad - o - ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be thine.

OFFERTORY

Savior God Above
Meg Tazelaar, soloist
St. Arbucks Quartet

Duke Ellington

Savior God above, God Almighty, God of love,
Please look down and see my people through.

I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky,
I don't mind the gray skies 'cause they're just clouds passing by.

Savior God above...

Heaven is a goodness time, a brighter light on high.
Love your neighbor as yourself, and have a brighter by and by.
Savior God above ...

I believe that God is now, was then, and always will be.
With God's blessing, we can make it through eternity.

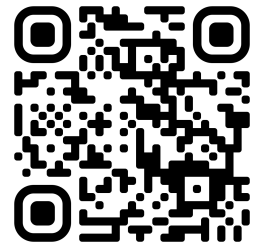
Savior God above ...

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

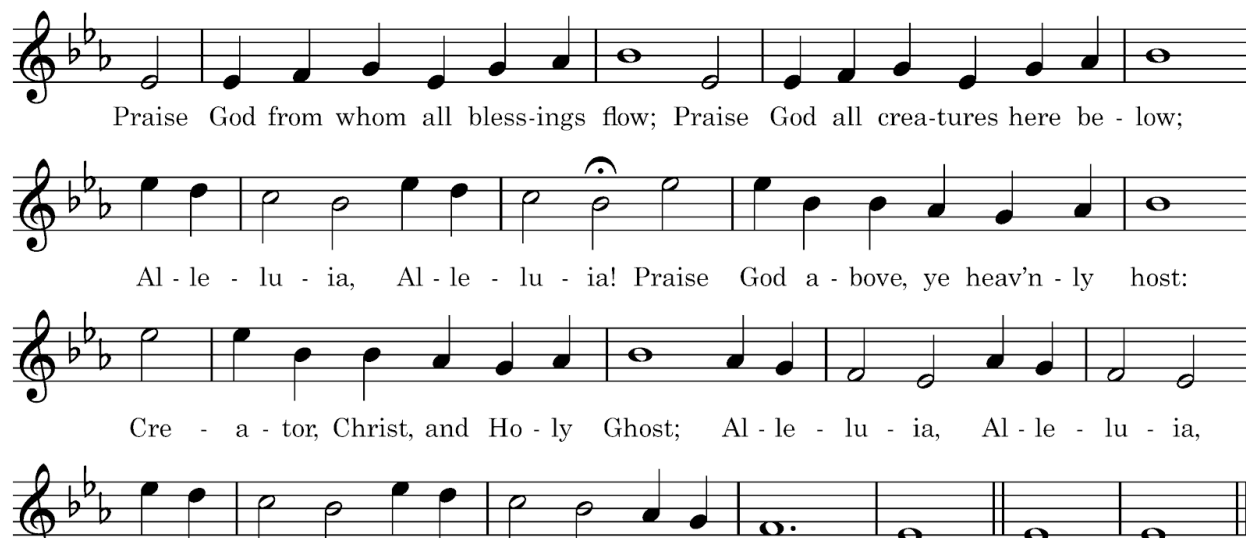
Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

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 a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host: Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men."

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

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Blessed Assurance



1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!___ O what a
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light!___ Vis - sions of
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest,___ I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!___ Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
Sav - ior am hap - py and blessed; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God,___ born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood. ___
- bove___ ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. ___
- bove,___ filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love. ___



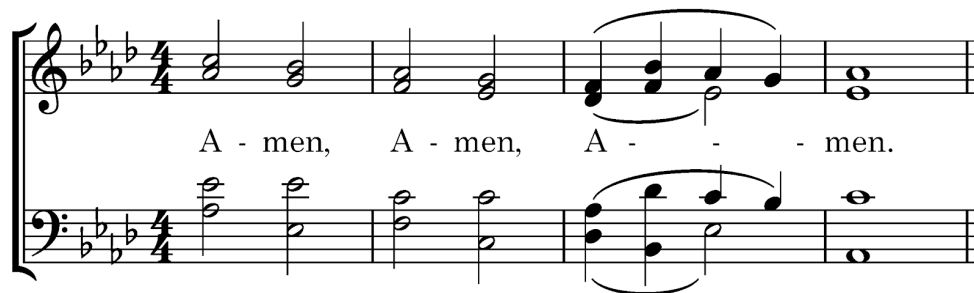
This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Fanfare

J. Lemmens

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

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: Liz Nickerson, 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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Karen Johnson

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Doug Clark, David Faulkner

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 & AUGUST

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 30 Diane Biegert, Emma Braband, Waylon Leaf

August 1 Becky Burton, Cheryl Kennedy, Jack Anderson

August 2 Chris Montague, Shannon Banjavcic, Lydia Busker

August 3 Cruz Lohnes

August 4 Marah Marshall, Mary Vasys, Tim Weidman, Nikki Miller, Nolan Mussatt,
Zoe Lawrence

August 5 Caleb Bryant, Juan Nuno, Vivian Hein

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.

AUGUST 2 - 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.

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

Keeping Cool... The heat dome hovering over a large part of the U.S. is predicted to recur this summer. There are things we can do individually to mitigate heat stress. Above all, keep out of the sun between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and stay indoors or in a shady area. Drink plenty of fluids and avoid consuming beverages with alcohol or caffeine as they are diuretics. Eat foods with a high water content such as strawberries, cucumbers, lettuce and watermelon. Finally, eat spicy or hot foods as they make one sweat and therefore cool down.

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 Pam Woll pamelawoll@sbcglobal.net with questions, or 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 Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to the distribution list below, or look out for future events in the bulletin calendar: spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social.

SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster) meets monthly to discern how we as a congregation can answer the call to live our faith in an age of injustice. We invite you to join us in identifying the educational opportunities, resources, and actions to take on our journey toward racial justice. To participate or share your ideas, contact Cindy Ball at cindyzinn11@gmail.com.

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

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

Craig Curry, who arranged this great hymn tune, ***For the Beauty of the Earth***, is a graduate of Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and the University of Miami. He is an active composer whose arrangements and compositions have been widely performed.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, tune FAITHFULNESS, dates from 1923 and was composed by William M. Runyan (1870-1957). He finished his ministry in Kansas and was particularly fond of the poet Thomas Chisholm (1866-1960), who wrote this text. Runyan set 25 of Chisholm's poems to music. Chisholm based this text on Lamentation 3:22 and 3:23: "*Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed.*"

Santo, Santo, Santo (Holy, Holy, Holy), originally in Spanish, is an unattributed Argentine folk melody. It is so simple and popular that it has been translated into at least five languages and published in 45 hymnals... so far.

The text for ***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*** was written by Charles Wesley (1707-1788). His brother, John, was the founder of the Methodist faith. The words were set to the famous Welsh tune, HYFRYDOL by Rowan Hugh Prichard (1811-1887) when he was only 19. We also sing this tune to the text *Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven*. This text is one of the few that is the source of a "hymn battle" over which tune to sing. The other well known tune for this text is BEECHER.

Beautiful Savior was originally a German hymn, *Schönster Herr Jesu*, first found and attributed in a 17th century hymnal. The English tune name is CRUSADER'S HYMN. The translation was provided by Joseph Augustus Seiss, (1823 -1904), who was a Lutheran pastor in this country in the mid-1800s. *Beautiful Savior* also became the alma mater of St. Olaf College, and is sung at the close of every concert and important events at St. Olaf and other colleges.

Both the text and tune, COME SUNDAY, for ***Savior God Above*** were composed in 1943 by the famous jazz artist, pianist, composer, and bandleader Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington (1899-1974). This hymn was part of a larger jazz suite *Black, Brown and Beige*. The words represented the hope of the people as they prayed to love everyone unconditionally while in church. It was part of the landmark performance of the Ellington Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in 1944.

The text for ***Blessed Assurance*** was penned by one of the most famous American hymnodists, Fanny Crosby (1820-1915). She wrote literally hundreds of hymn texts that were set to music by many composers. To be taken seriously, she used at least 20 pseudonyms, at least half of them male names. She became blind as an infant at 6 weeks of age. The tune ASSURANCE was composed in 1873 by Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839-1908). The daughter of a Methodist evangelist, she married at age 16 the founder of Metropolitan Life Insurance and composed more than 500 gospel songs in her lifetime.

The composer of ***Fanfare*** (1862), Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens (1823-1881), was born in Belgium and trained to reinvigorate the Belgian organ tradition. He also studied the works of Bach in Germany. At only age 26, he was appointed the organ professor at the Royal Brussels Conservatoire. As a tribute to his influence and fame, a church music institute which he founded in Mechelen was named in his honor after his death.

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.

- Family and friends of Michael Toomin at his death. A memorial service will be held at St. Pauls on Aug 15 at 4:30 p.m.
- 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.
- 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.