

July 9, 2023
Baptism Sunday

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

"Yet the fact remains that we are invited to forget ourselves on purpose, cast our
awful solemnity to the winds and join in the dance." Thomas Merton

PRELUDE

Why We Sing
St. Arbucks Quartet

Kirk Franklin

Someone asked a question
Why do we sing?
When we lift our hands to Jesus
What do we really mean?

Someone may be wondering
When we sing our song
At times we may be crying
And nothing's even wrong

I sing because I'm happy
I sing because I'm free
His eye's on the sparrow
That's the reason why I sing

Glory, hallelujah
You're the reason why I sing
Glory, hallelujah
You're the reason why I sing

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!

All: Today is a gift - every moment of life.

One: Take a deep breath and let God's Spirit fill your soul.

All: God, open our ears to hear a fresh word from you.

One: Listen! The voice of Love is calling your name!

All: What a joy to sing to God in praise!

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

* HYMN

Be Thou My Vision



1. Be thou my__ vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my__ wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3. Rich - es I__ heed not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
4. Sover - eign of__ heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



Nought be all else to me save that thou art,
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
May I reach heav'n's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!



Thou my__ best__ thought, by day or by night,__
Moth - er__ and__ Fa - ther, thou art both to me,__
Thou and__ thou on - ly, first in my heart,__
Heart of__ my__ own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,__



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy__ pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing, thy__ child I shall be.
Rul - er of heav - en, my__ trea - sure thou art.
Still be my vi - sion, O__ Rul - er of all.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Psalms 139*

O God, I am an open book to you.

You already know what I am thinking.

You know when I sit down and when I rise;

Even before a word is on my tongue, you know it completely.

For it was you who formed my innermost being.

You knit me together in my mother's womb.

Search me, O God, and know my heart.

Test me and know my anxious thoughts.

See if there is any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

v. 1

1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir - it's sign;
2. Child of love, our love's ex - pres-sion, love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!
3. Child of joy, our dear - est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came,

With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
Back to God we hum - bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Kora Jadesolaoluwa Jaji, Scarlett Jorie England

Pastor: Kora and Scarlett, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as children of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Kora and Scarlett are now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your children, Kora and Scarlett. Inspire their lives. May they sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for their parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with their families as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.

Pastor: Kora and Scarlett, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

All: Amen

RESPONSE

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise
See previous hymn

vv. 2 & 3

SCRIPTURE

Monty Kehl

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

'To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn."

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.'

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

* 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

Softly and Tenderly

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for

you and for me;____ See at the por - tals Christ wait - ing and
you and for me?____ Why should we lin - ger and heed not God's

watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me.____ Come home,____ come
mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me?____

home,____ All who are wea - ry come home;____ Ear - nest - ly,

ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing— call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is simple and gentle, with many half and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with two verses. The first verse is "Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for" and the second verse is "Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for". The score continues with "you and for me;____ See at the por - tals Christ wait - ing and you and for me?____ Why should we lin - ger and heed not God's watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me.____ Come home,____ come mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me?____ home,____ All who are wea - ry come home;____ Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing— call - ing, 'O sin - ner, come home!'". The score ends with a double bar line.

SERMON

"It might lead to dancing."

Jeff Carlson

* HYMN

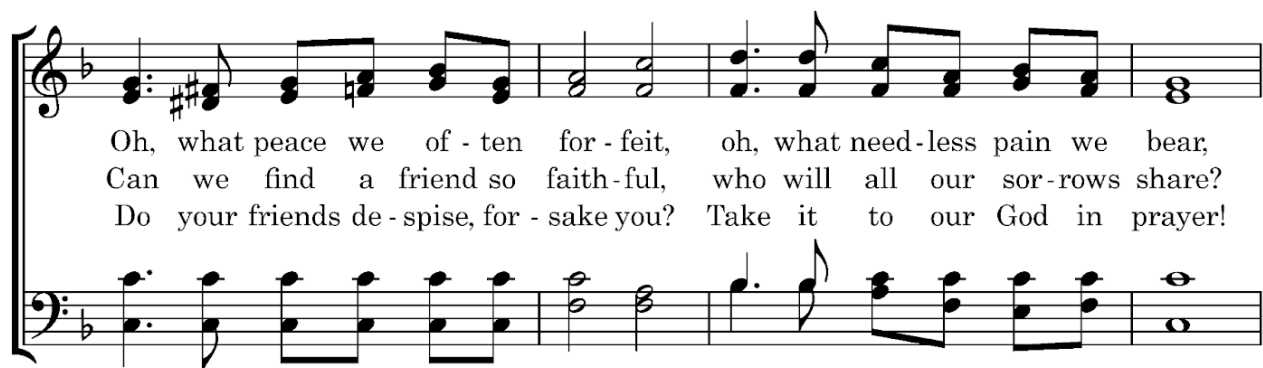
What a Friend We Have in Jesus



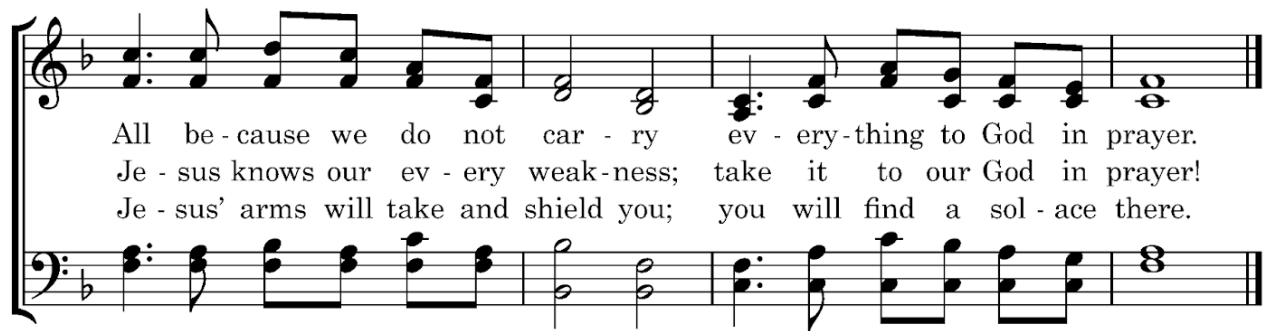
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, bur - dened with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to our God in prayer!
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, take it to our God in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to our God in prayer!



All be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to our God in prayer!
Je - sus' arms will take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace
St. Pauls Brass

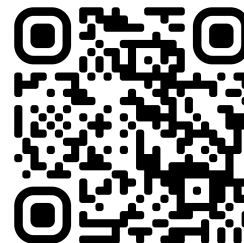
arr. William Himes

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

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

Matt Fitzgerald

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

* HYMN

Be Still My Soul

1. Be still, my soul: for God is on your side;
 2. Be still, my soul: for God will un - der - take
 3. Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here

— bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain; — Leave to your
 — to guide in fu - ture days as in the past. — Your hope, your
 — when we shall be with God whom we a - dore, — with dis - ap -

God to or - der and pro - vide; — in ev - ery change God
 con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake; — all now mys - te - rious
 - point - ment gone, no grief nor fear, — sor - row re - placed with

faith - ful will re - main. — Be still, my soul: your best e - ter - nal
 shall be clear at last. — Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
 joy for - ev - er - more. — Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

friend — through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 know — how Je - sus' pow - er ruled them long a - go.
 past, — all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Peace I Leave with You

Amy Marcy Beach

St. Pauls Brass

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah! Amen!
 from Judas Maccabeus
 St. Pauls Brass

George Friderick Handel
 arr. Walter H. Barnes

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 Courtyard.

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

- The Nursery and Toddler Room are open for children ages 0-5, during worship from 10 to 11 a.m.
- 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!"
- SUMMER ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES: August 13, 20, 27
- REGULAR SUNDAY CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS resume on September 17.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, 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

St. Pauls Brass: Kris Hansen, Jake Nitzsche, Jim Brandt, trumpets; Jeanine Woodman, flügelhorn & trumpet; Tom Clancy, Rick Peterson, French horns; Nancy Pifer, tenor horn; Lorne Frank, trombone; Mark Swanson, baritone horn; Chris Bettler, tuba; Sarah Good Mosley, timpani; Matt Plaskota, percussion; Mark Mosley, conductor

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Monty Kehl

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Juanita Barlow, Doug Clark, David Faulkner

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Greeters: Blair De Haan, Derek De Haan, Madelyn Jansma, Jim Jansma

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are from the entire Jaji family, on the baptism of our dear Kora Jadesolaoluwa Jaji.

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 9 Barb Kaiser, Liz Ewing, Sandi Weiskirch, Devin Abraham, Michael Dunham, Sophia Miller, Dana Leo

July 10 Andrew Patton, Michael McGuire, Smith Beeson

July 11 Cole Bailey, Larry Lundquist, Hayden McGuire

July 12 Annette Robinson, Lynn Dykstra, Becca Kent, Cooper Kohler, Vince Lohnes, Gary Landem, Ryan Wood

July 13 Grace Orozco, Cal Connolly, Oscar Nach

July 14 Bill Borden, Creighton Hartanov, Tim Nowack

July 15 Carolyn Hyson, Laird Koldyke, Lee Lichamer, Ninon Freeman, Margot Rose Grachan

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 12 - 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 14 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL TRANSIT HIKE - 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Fox River Trail

Adults of all ages are invited to take a Friday off, leave your car behind and join Pastor Jeff for a transit hike to the Fox River Valley. Take the 8:33 a.m. Metra train from Union Station to Aurora and walk along the Fox River Trail approximately 10 miles north to Geneva, stopping for lunch in Batavia. Return by Metra from Geneva and be back in Chicago at 3 p.m. Contact Pastor Jeff with any questions at jcarlson@spucc.org and RSVP here:

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1820715

JULY 15/20/29 - WINDY CITY WINDS - THREE OUTDOOR SUMMER CONCERTS

Windy City Winds, the 60-piece community band that rehearses weekly at St. Pauls, will perform three outdoor concerts in July, 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. Come hear the band on July 15 at 7 p.m. at Churchill Field (2007 W. Churchill - Bucktown); July 20 at 7 p.m. at Buttercup Park (4901 N. Sheridan - Uptown); and July 29 at 3 p.m. at Washington Square Park (901 N. Clark St. - Near North).

JULY 18 - 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.

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 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

CHANCEL CHOIR ON SUMMER BREAK - Our Chancel Choir will be on a summer break beginning July 2 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 through July, August, and the first Sunday in September.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

As we celebrate Independence Day, ask yourself: are all Americans truly free? How can practicing antiracism continue the Juneteenth lineage of moving us from emancipation toward freedom? How does an examination of history inform Kendi's concepts of failure, success, and survival in practice? In the UCC, what must we be willing to do so that all can thrive? Learn from UCC leaders in the movement in this incisive, engaging article and webinar, tinyurl.com/476d75jy.

CREATION CORNER - provided by the Green Team

"The Dirty Dozen" – The Environmental Working Group (EWG) just published its list of the "Dirty Dozen," i.e. fruit and vegetables with the most pesticide residue: strawberries, spinach, kale, collards and mustard greens, peaches, pears, nectarines, apples, grapes, bell and hot peppers, cherries, blueberries.

If organics are not affordable or available, the pesticide residue can be mostly washed off by running water for thirty seconds to a minute. Produce with skins can be brushed and washed. For lettuce and cabbages, remove the outer leaves because they will have higher residues. When finished, do not forget to wash down the brush and sink.

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 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).

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

Our prelude, ***Someone Asked a Question-Why We Sing*** was written in 1993 and features both text and music by Kirk Franklin (b. 1970). Mr Franklin also pays homage in this song to the historic hymn text *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*. He has brought a new and contemporary edge to gospel music by adding the energy of hip-hop.

Be Thou My Vision is a lovely Irish folk tune, SLANE. The translation was made in 1905 from the original Gaelic by Mary E. Byrne (1880-1931), who was born in Ireland. She was a respected university level academic in Dublin.

The text for ***Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*** was written in 1981 by a UCC pastor and teacher of theology, Ronald Cole-Turner (b. 1948). The tune, STUTTGART, was composed in 1715 by Christian Friederich Witt (1660-1716). Witt completed a huge hymnal, *Psalmodia Sacra*, the year before his death. Of the 774 hymns (!!!), he composed nearly 100. He was Kapellmeister of the Gotha court in Stuttgart at the same time that Bach was in Leipzig, just 300 miles north. As an interesting side note, Nathan Laube, world renowned organist and friend of St. Pauls, was until recently on the organ faculty at the Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart. He has since returned to the faculty at the Eastman School of Music.

Both the text and music for ***Softly and Tenderly*** were composed in 1880 by Will L. Thompson (1847-1909), which also explains the naming of the tune, THOMPSON. He was born in Ohio and after unsuccessful attempts to sell his songs, he started his own publishing firm. He composed both the text and music for numerous hymns, this being his most famous.

Joseph Medcott Scriven (1819-1886) wrote the famous text for ***What a Friend We Have in Jesus*** in 1855. He was an Irish immigrant to Canada. His life was full of ill health and grief, which he worked out in Christian poetry. The tune, ERIE, is also known as CONVERSE, and was composed in 1868 by John C. Converse (1832-1918), who grew up in Erie, Pennsylvania, which explains both tune names. He was an attorney who also composed "church songs." He studied both law and music in Leipzig before returning to this country

Be Still My Soul uses a tune called FINLANDIA, because the melody was composed by Jean Sibelius (1865-1957) as part of his famous tone poem by the same name honoring his homeland. The original German text is by Kathrina von Schlegel

(1697–17??) and it was translated into English by Scottish Jane Borthwick (1813–1897), who translated and composed many hymn texts.

The text for ***Amazing Grace*** is by John Newton (1725-1807), a slave ship captain who became an Anglican clergy and fervent abolitionist. He once said that writing this text saved his soul. The tune, NEW BRITAIN, is most likely an African American spiritual first published in 1829. The arranger for the postlude, William Himes (b.1949), was the Music Director for the Chicago Staff Band of the Salvation Army for many years. He received his musical training at the University of Michigan.

Peace I Leave with You Op. 8, No. 3 was originally a choral work composed in the mid-1890s by Amy Marcy Beach (1867-1944). It is hard to overstate the importance of Amy Beach as a romantic American composer, especially since she was a trailblazer for women composers who followed her. Her *Gaelic Symphony* (1896) was commissioned by the Boston Symphony Orchestra and had numerous performances in this country and Europe. She composed chamber music, works for her instrument the piano, choral works, and very beautiful solo songs. Sadly, her music fell out of favor after her death with the rise of 12-tone composition and the rejection of “romanticism.” Thank heaven her music found a revival in the latter decades of the 20th century.

The composition of *Judas Maccabeus* (1746) came five years after George Friderick Handel (1685-1759) penned *Messiah*. Hebrew Bible stories were very popular as concert dramas, more properly called *oratorios*, in England. It relates the story of Chanukah, the festival of lights, found in the Apocryphal book of First Maccabees. In the story, Judah Maccabee fights against the idol worship commanded by King Antiochus. Judah cleanses the altar in the Temple. This ***Hallelujah Chorus***, often fondly referred to in the musical community as the “*Jewish Hallelujah Chorus*,” is the finale of *Judas Maccabeus*, and expresses the thanksgiving of the Israelites. Of some local interest, KAM-Isaiah Israel Synagogue in Hyde Park sponsors a “Do-it-Yourself” *Judas Maccabbeus* each Chanukah season. Walter H. Barnes (1936-2005) arranged this work for the Canadian Brass. He was a Canadian choral conductor, educator and performer based in Toronto.

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.

- 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.
- 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. Juanita gives thanks for your love and support.
- 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 age 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.