



August 13, 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.*

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

N. Rawsthorne.

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 103)

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless God's holy name!

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and remember the good God has done!

One: God forgives our sins and heals our diseases.

All: God lifts us out of the pit and showers us with love and mercy.

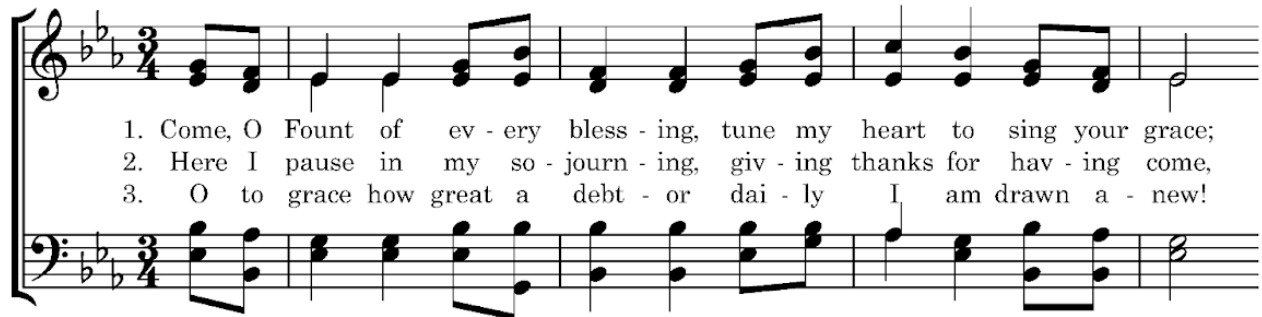
One: God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless God's holy name!

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

* HYMN

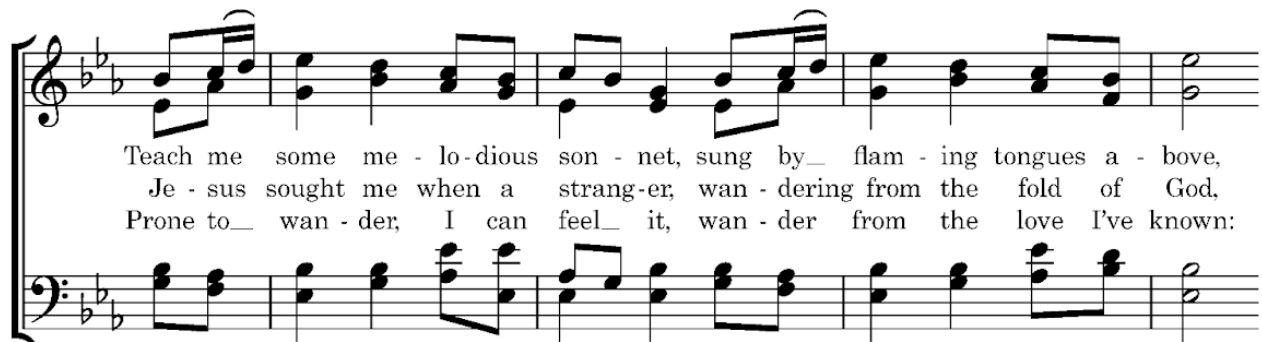
Come O Fount of Every Blessing



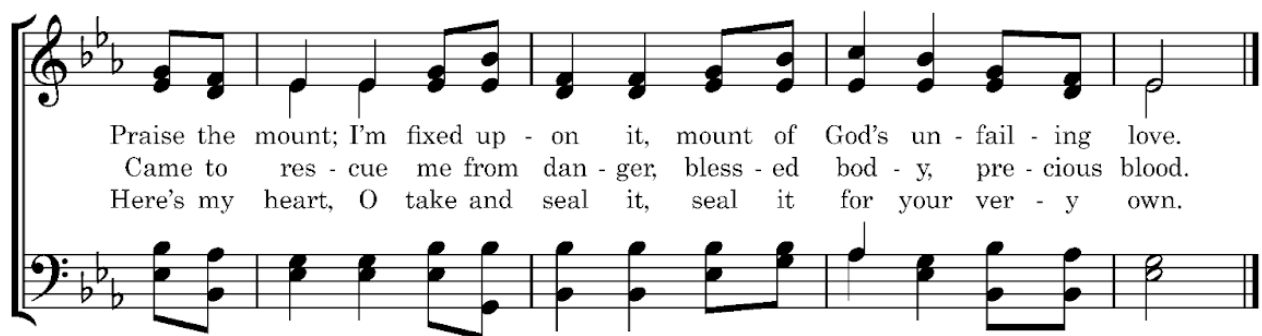
1. Come, O Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
2. Here I pause in my so - journ - ing, giv - ing thanks for hav - ing come,
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of end - less praise.
come to trust, at ev - ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe - ly home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to you.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God,
Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan - der from the love I've known:



Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.
Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless - ed bod - y, pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Come, Fount of every blessing,
Our hearts are out of tune. We need your grace.
Come, streams of mercy.
Wash us in your river of life.
Come, Lord Jesus, for we are lost and wandering.
Draw our wandering hearts to you.
Place your love as a seal around our hearts,
That we might sing of your endless grace.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* RESPONSE

Over My Head

vv. 1 & 2



1. O - ver my head I hear mu - sic in the air.

2. O - ver my head I hear sing-ing the in air.

3. O - ver my head I see trou-ble in the air.

4. O - er my head I see Je - sus in the air.

O - ver my head I hear mu - sic in the air.

O - ver my head I hear sing-ing in the air.

O - ver my head I see trou-ble in the air.

O - ver my head I see Je - sus in the air.

there must be a God some - where.

ANTHEM

Cantate Domino (Psalm 98)

Natalie Sleeth

(Sung in Latin and English)

The Altos of the Chancel Choir

Breanna Coe, conductor

Cantate Domino in dulci jubilo.

(Sing to the Lord with sweet rejoicing.)

O sing to the the Lord every land,

Every nation.

Sing and with music adore.

O sing to the Lord now in glad adoration.

Sing and bring praises evermore.

O sing to the Lord and praises bring.

Sing!

SCRIPTURE

Carrie Bruggers

Matthew 14:22-33

As soon as the meal was finished, Jesus insisted that the disciples get in the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he said good-bye to the crowds. When he had said good-bye to everybody, he climbed the mountain so he could be by himself and pray. He stayed there alone, late into the night.

Meanwhile, the boat was far out to sea when the wind came up against them and they were battered by the waves. At about four o'clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them walking on the water. They were scared to death. "A ghost!" they said, screaming in terror. But immediately Jesus said to them. "Courage, it's me. Don't be afraid."

Peter said, "Lord, if it's really you, call me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come ahead."

Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning beneath his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He screamed, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus reached down and grabbed his hand. Then he said, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

The two of them climbed into the boat, and the wind died down. The people in the boat worshiped Jesus, saying, "Truly you are Son of God!"

* 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

Over My Head

vv. 3-4

SERMON

"In Over Your Head"

Jeff Carlson

* HYMN

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



1. My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
2. What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
3. When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear; and hear their death knells
4. I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -



- ta - tion. I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
liv - ing. What though the shad - ow's gath - er 'round? A
ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
- bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since



hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes



and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All



finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?
Love com - mands both heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?
things are mine since I am Christ's—how can I keep from sing - ing?

OFFERTORY

Down to the River to Pray
The Altos of the Chancel Choir
Breanna Coe, conductor

American Folk Hymn
arr. Mary McDonald

As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord, show me the way!

O brothers let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
Come on brothers let's go down
Down in the river to pray.

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Something's gonna happen like the world has never known,
when the people of the Lord get down to pray;
A door's gonna swing open, and the walls come a-tumbling down,
when the people of the Lord get down to pray.

O children let's go down ...

Lord, listen to your children praying ...

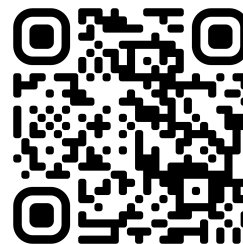
I went down in the river to pray.

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

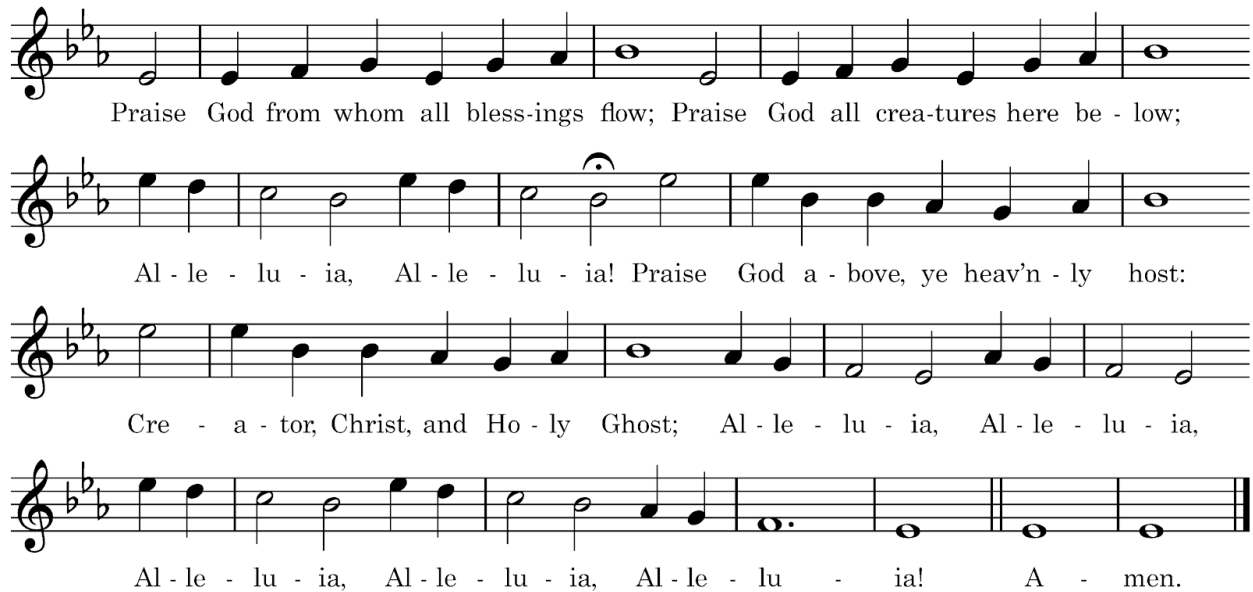
Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

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.

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 aligned under the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the doxology. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the fourth line, which ends with a double bar line.

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

How Firm a Foundation



1. How_ firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
5. "The_ soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,



by___ God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!
for___ I am your God, I will still give you aid;
the___ riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;
my___ grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
I___ will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



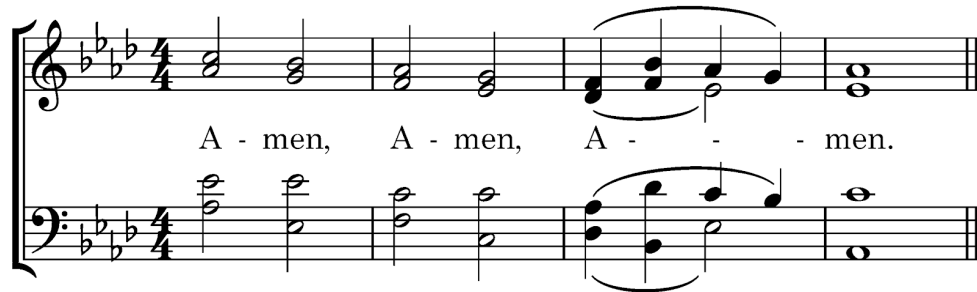
What more can God say than to you has been said,
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand
For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt you; for I have de - signed
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake.



to___ you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."
de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."
your_ soul to make pure just as gold is re - fined."
I'll___ nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Here Comes Jesus
St. Arbucks Quartet

Traditional

Here comes Jesus, see Him walking on the water,
He'll lift you up and He'll help you to stand;
Oh, here comes Jesus,
He's the Master of the waves that roll.
Here comes Jesus, let him take your hand.

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.
- UPCOMING SUMMER ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES: August 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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Carrie Bruggers

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Mary Brown, Doug Clark, David Faulkner

Greeters: Madelyn Jansma, Jim Jansma

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are from the St. Pauls Chancel Choir Altos in appreciation for our amazing music program.

BORN THIS WEEK IN 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.

Aug 14 David Burnett, Lorri Gunn Wirsum, Scott Jackson, Justin DuPont,
Olivia Kearns, Jack Crater

Aug 15 Laura DuPont, Sally Acker, Winnie Castle

Aug 16 Neil Peterson

Aug 17 Felix Hecht, Winnie Kearns, Zack Murray, Kevin O'Brien

Aug 18 Mark O'Brien, Irem Metin

Aug 19 Daniel Limina, Erik Peterson, Jide Jaji, Madelyn Jansma, Jeremy Liabo

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.

AUG 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.

AUG 16 - 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.

AUG 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.

AUG 20 - BABY SHOWER FOR GUEST FAMILY - 11 a.m., Gym

We celebrate the upcoming birth to Armanyelis and Gustavo who have been living with us here at St. Pauls this summer! During the August 20 coffee hour in the gym after worship, we will include a shower for the couple and their soon-to-arrive baby due this fall. If you wish to bring a gift, we suggest basic layette items and Target gift cards to provide flexibility as their housing is in transition. Also looking for a gently used stroller and infant car seat. We have a pack and play already donated. Contact Lynn Dykstra Davis with any questions. Lrdykstra@aol.com, (773) 407-1896

AUG 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

AUG 27 - NEW MEMBER CLASS - 11 a.m., Cloud Room*
Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for our upcoming New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love for you to be part of the conversation! We'll meet after worship, and childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in your registration). The joining date for this class will be Sept. 17. Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1870150. Can't attend this time? Click the link to see other upcoming class dates too!

AUG 27 - CONSIDER THE LILIES TEAM MEETING - Comet Room, 11 a.m.
Are you looking for a way to get involved with the life of St. Pauls? Join us for an informational meeting and light lunch to learn more about being part of our team. We deliver the 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 join us for this meeting or contact Jan Bail at janbail@msn.com.

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

SEPT 23 - ST. PAULS OKTOBERFEST - 1 - 8 p.m.

It's Munich meets Chicago as St. Pauls hosts Oktoberfest in celebration of its German heritage! What better way to tap into the excitement of this Bavarian tradition than with authentic German food, local Oktoberfest beers, live music and dancing, a jumpy-house, and games for all ages. This year's live entertainment will once again include the Midwest's premier oompah band, Die Musikmeisters, as well as acclaimed children's entertainer, Laura Doherty. Grab your lederhosen and join us for a festive day of Alpine merriment! Admission is free. This event is open to the public and family

friendly so invite your neighbors and friends and join us at the corner of Fullerton and Orchard. In the case of inclement weather, the event will be held in our gymnasium.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

STUDYING JUSTICE FOR THE NATIVE NATIONS - This group will begin by reading cutting edge scholarship on the relationship between the United States and the Native Nations of Turtle Island starting with Steve Newcomb's *Pagans in the Promised Land*. Contact Steve Schwartzberg with questions, stevenschwartzberg@yahoo.com. Join the group here: spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/studying-justice-for-the-native-nations.

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

Today, no federally recognized tribes reside in Illinois, though Chicago is home to one of the largest urban communities of Indigenous people in the country. The absence of tribal government has led to the state having among the worst repatriation track records in the nation. Friday, Gov. Pritzker signed a law that for the first time will give tribal nations final say over how and when the remains of their ancestors and sacred items are returned to them. Learn more about this potentially healing legislation here: tinyurl.com/49rhdhzn.

CREATION CORNER - provided by the Green Team

REDUCE ELECTRICITY USAGE.

- Shut down your computers.
- Computers are some of the biggest energy wasters. Turn off your monitor at night and dump the screen saver. Today's computers can be turned off and on more than 40,000 times. Opting to turn off your screen saver does nothing to your computer's lifespan.
- To avoid paying for this "vampire power" (i.e., idle electronics), use a power strip to off turn all devices at once. Flipping the switch on your power strip has the same effect as unplugging each socket from the wall, preventing phantom energy use. So power 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.

NEW MEMBER CLASS August 27 - Join pastors, members, and others curious about St. Pauls for an upcoming New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love for you to be part of the conversation! We'll meet after worship, and childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in your registration). See upcoming dates here: spucc.org/new_member_classes

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. Join our GroupMe group here or Email us 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

We welcome and thank **The Altos of the Chancel Choir** for their music today. Those that are singing under the direction of Breanna Coe are Pamela Woll, Pat Ruch, Terry Hansen, Winnie Kearns, Jana O'Brien, Cindy Ball, Amy Barton, Carrie Bruggers, Micki Fayhee, Lois Basil, and Amy Beck.

Cantate Domino was composed in 1984 by Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992). The text is in Latin and English employing and expanding on parts of Psalm 98. Natalie Sleeth became one of the most performed and popular composers of church anthems especially for children's voices. One of her hymns was chosen for our New Century Hymnal, *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*. She was born in Evanston, received her musical training at Wellesley College, and her husband was a professor of homiletics.

Come O Fount of Every Blessing, to the tune NETTLETON, is from the rich American tradition of the Sacred Harp hymnals, specifically *Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music*. The text was written by Robert Robinson (1735-1790), who began his professional life as an apprentice to a hairdresser before committing himself to a religious life.

Over My Head is another text and melody from the great wealth of spirituals. Its current version was arranged in 1981 by Verolga Nix (1933-2014), a world class pianist and graduate of Oberlin Conservatory; and J. Jefferson Cleveland (1937-1986), one of the most important scholars of African American spirituals. Cleveland and Nix collaborated on a seminal work about African American music, *Songs of Zion*. It is actually a shortened version including only the very catchy refrain of a longer song.

My Life Flows On in Endless Song, both the text and the tune, ENDLESS SONG, was composed by Robert Lowry (1826-1899). Lowrey was a preacher and scholar with a musical background from his childhood.

This anthem is a musical marriage between the 19th century American folk hymn ***As I Went Down to the River to Pray*** and a more contemporary song, *Lord, Listen to the Children Pray*. Both the text and music were composed in 1973 by Ken Medema (b. 1943). He is a singer/songwriter who has been making music for more than 40 years. He was born almost blind, but earned a degree in music from Michigan State University. Mary McDonald (b. 1956) arranged this anthem in 2017. She composed her first hymn at age 5 and received her formal music training at Carson-Newman University in Tennessee. She is an active choral clinician and served as the first woman president of the Southern Baptist Music Convention.

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

Here Comes Jesus has the same opening verse and tune name. The text for stanzas 2-4 were written by Cordelia Spitzer and published in 1980. No biographical information is found for her. The first stanza and tune are “traditional” and unattributed.

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 at the death of Bob Knuti.
- Thomas Wikman, beloved conductor and founder of Music of the Baroque, who has just entered hospice care.
- Barb Bolsen and her friends and family as she deals with cancer.
- Family and friends of Michael Toomin at his death. A memorial service will be held at St. Pauls on August 15 at 4:30 p.m. This service will not be streamed.
- Theresa Herlevsen and family at the death of her mother Gertrude.
- David Bueschel and family at the death of Betsy Bueschel.
- Students and staff of the GCE school in Chicago, which recently closed.
- LeeAnne Tongue.
- Friends and family of Bo at his death.
- Leroy Johnson, husband of Karen L. Johnson, in the hospital diagnosed with acute leukemia.
- New member Irem Metin, who is recovering from surgery. 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.