



September 10, 2023
Kickoff 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

"You may save yourself and find yourself and be yourself. But this is something
which is given."

Karl Barth

PRELUDE

O Happy Day!
St. Arbucks Quartet

Edwin Hawkins

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

Oh happy day ...

INTROIT

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Chancel Choir

J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty,
Let our rejoicing rise,
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound, loud as the rolling sea. Amen.

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Oh God, you are always with us!

All: And always on your way toward us!

One: Come, Risen One, light up our lives!

All: Come quickly! We are here! Amen.

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

* HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,
2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - - le - lu - ia!
3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done,
4. Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven!

Sons of men and an - gels say:—
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - - le - lu - ia!
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
Praise to thee by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
Dy - ing once, he all doth save, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Death in vain for - bids him rise,
Thee we greet tri - um - phant now,

Sing ye heav'ns and earth re - ply:—
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with the piano accompaniment providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of the hymn. The first system includes the opening lines and the 'Al - le lu ia!' refrain. The second system continues the lyrics and includes another 'Al - le lu ia!' refrain. The third system further develops the lyrics and includes a third 'Al - le lu ia!' refrain. The fourth system concludes the hymn with the final lines and a fourth 'Al - le lu ia!' refrain. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both the right and left hands, providing a rich harmonic texture.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

O God,

**help us see that
faith is not a risk,
or a trick;
Church is a relief.
We feel better when
we lay our burdens down.
So we give you our cares,
that you may care for us;
our fears, that you may quiet them;
our disbelief, that you might transform it,
all this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

COMMISSIONING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION TEACHERS

This year's Sunday school teachers are Mary Brown, Nancy Bingaman, Mary Winking, Leslie Chamberlain, Creighton Hartanov, Tom Clancy, Philip Smedley, Jennifer Heiney, and Bobbi Gannello.
Jan Fraccaro and Molly McGrath serve as substitute teachers.

This year's confirmation teachers are Bob Ball, Sue Finkle and Peg Wander

At this time, Sunday School students will be invited by grade to meet at the side door of the sanctuary. They will be escorted to their classrooms by the church staff. If you would like to accompany your child(ren), you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.

RESPONSE

Enter, Rejoice, And Come In!



1. En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.
2. O - pen your - self to the song. O - pen your - self to the song.
3. O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one. O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one.
4. Don't be a - fraid of some change. Don't be a - fraid of some change.
5. En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.



To - day will be a joy - ful day; en - ter, re - joice, and come in.

SCRIPTURE

Louise Gram

Romans 13:8-12

Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other "shall not" or "don't" you can think of, finally add up to this, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

But make sure that you don't get so exhausted taking care of your day to day obligations that you doze off, oblivious to God. Now is the moment for you to wake from sleep! For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of 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.

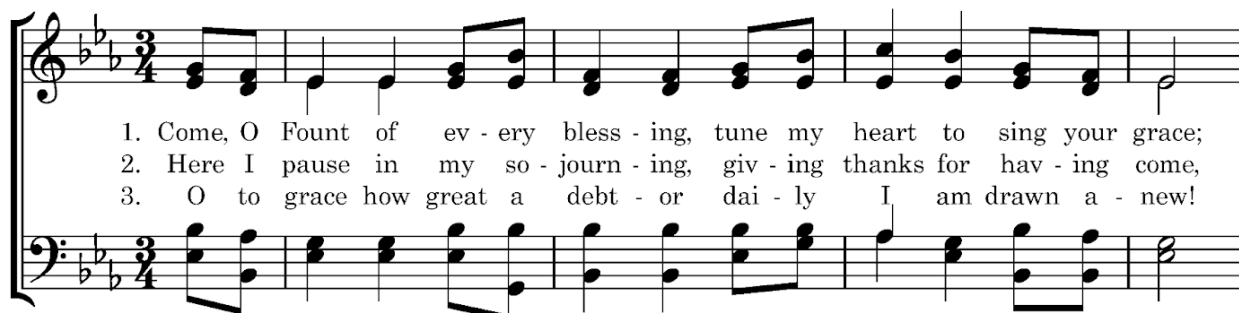
We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

* RESPONSE

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

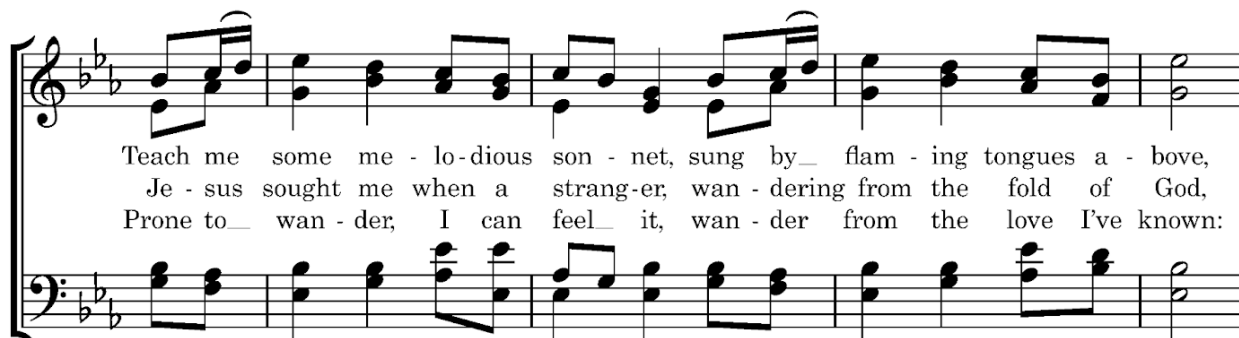
v. 1



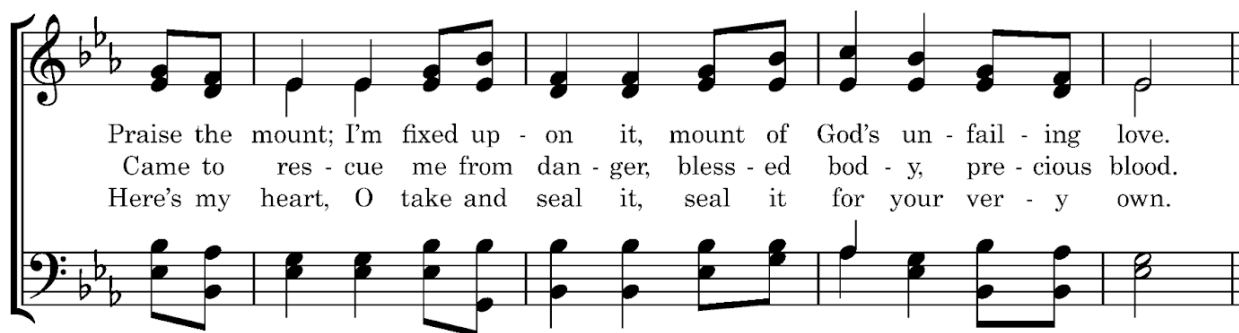
1. Come, O Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
2. Here I pause in my so - journ - ing, giv - ing thanks for hav - ing come,
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!



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.

SERMON

“ 5,7,5”

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing
See previous hymn

vv. 2 & 3

OFFERTORY

With a Voice of Singing
Chancel Choir

Martin Shaw

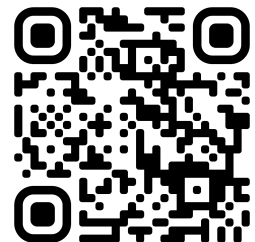
With a voice of singing
Declare ye this, and let it be heard,
Alleluia.
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.
The Lord hath delivered his people,
Alleluia.
O be joyful in God, all ye lands,
O sing praises to the honor of his name,
Make his praise to be glorious.

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

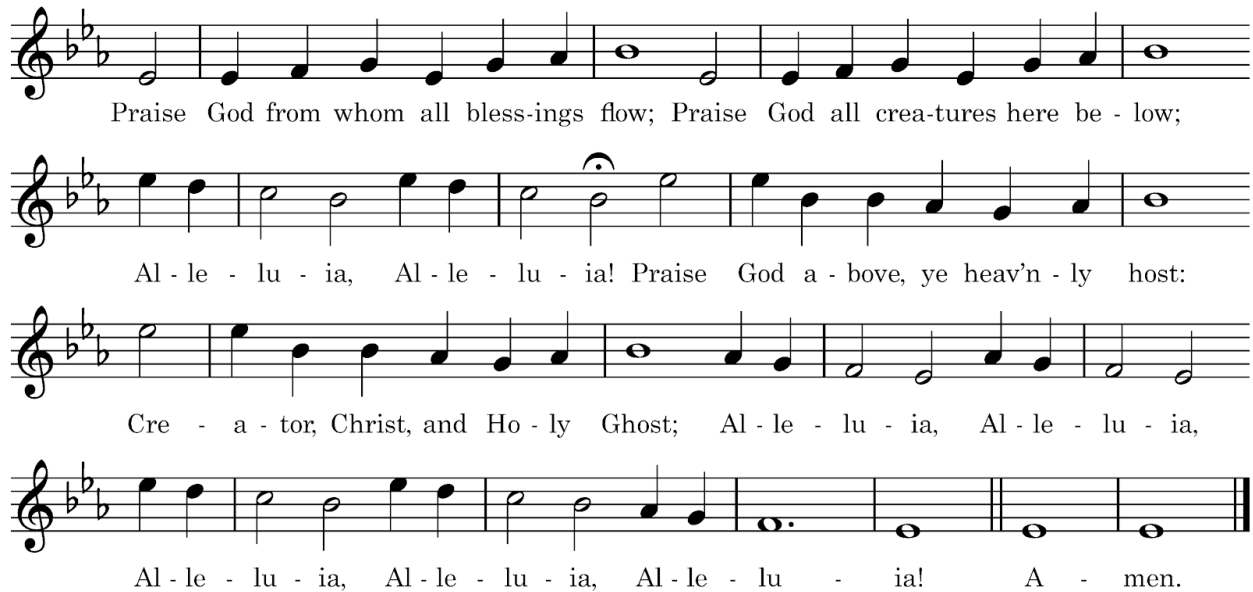
Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

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 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

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

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A bul - wark nev - er
2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un -
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a -



fail - ing; Our help - er he a - mid the flood Of
 los - ing, Were not the right man on our side, The
 - do us, We will not fear, for God hath willed His
 - bid - eth; The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe Doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim, We
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, This



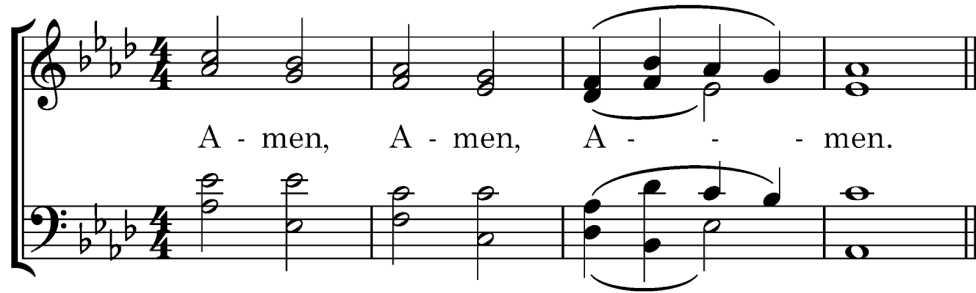
seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, And
 Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sab - a - oth his name. From
 trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en - dure, For
 mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill; God's



armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, And he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure: One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - er.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Symphony No. 1, Op. 14—Finale
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Louis Vierne

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. Activity “busy bags” are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service.
- REGULAR SUNDAY CHILDREN & CONFIRMATION resume today. Students are dismissed with their teachers during the worship service and parents pick up children after the service in their classrooms.
- High school youth group starts on 9/17 and meets immediately following the service in Pastor Matt’s office. Parents and teens should join the High School GroupMe for up to date information.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, 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: Louise Gram

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, John Balevic, Juanita Barlow`

Greeters: Craig Wilbanks, Monty Kehl

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are from Marcia Opp and Jon Ekdahl, in memory of Melba and Armel Opp and Dorothy and Oscar Ekdahl.

BORN THIS WEEK IN SEPTEMBER

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.

Sept 11 Mary Brown

Sept 12 Eric Moulton, Lucas Banks, Matt Raterman

Sept 13 Sharon Collins, Henry Weil, Ryan Castle, Layla Baumann

Sept 14 Hannah Bryant, Stephen White

Sept 15 Kirk Chernansky, Linda Nitzsche, Sean Atkinson

Sept 16 Melinda Stinnett, Sylvia Pine, Marcel Baumann

PASTORS' SABBATICAL SCHEDULE

St. Pauls provides a three-month sabbatical to each of our pastors every seven years. This year, Pastor Jeff is on sabbatical through October 23. Pastor Matt will be on sabbatical October 16 to December 16.

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.

SEPT 17 - MINISTRY FAIR - 11 a.m., Gym

There are many ways to get involved at St. Pauls, make connections and use your God-given gifts, but you might not know where to start or might like to try something new. After worship on September 17, come to our ministry fair; meet representatives from the varied groups and committees within our church, and find out more about how to get involved. There's a place for everyone at St. Pauls!

SEPT 19 - RETIREMENT GROUP – 10 a.m., Parlor*

The Retirement Group meets 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.

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 case of inclement weather, the event will be in our gym.



SEPT 26 - 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. RSVP is appreciated but coming at the last minute is fine, as well as needing to leave early! spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1746758

OCT 1 - MEDICAL FAIR: VACCINES & MORE - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Gym

We will cover: 1. AED Demonstration 2. Blood Pressure 3. Five Wishes 4. Vaccinations administered by Aisha, RPh from Walgreens, no appointment needed. Covid booster, Shingles, Pneumonia, and Flu shots. Kids under 18 need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Remember to bring your Covid vaccine card and your Medicare card or insurance card for the pneumonia and shingles shots.

OCT 1 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY & NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

The first Sunday in October is designated to remember that around the globe—in different languages, with different traditions and customs, and in various forms of liturgy—the Lord's Supper is celebrated. The table of Jesus runs around the world and connects us in unity with brothers and sisters in Christ of every race, tongue and nation. We will also participate in a special offering for UCC: Neighbors in Need. It supports ministries of justice and compassion around the USA, including the Council for American Indian Ministry and justice advocacy work. For more information, visit ucc.org/nin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**LISTEN FOR GOD IN NEW SMALL GROUPS!**

Do you want to hear God's voice? We are forming new small groups of church members who will meet weekly for eight weeks. "Listening for God" will introduce you to new church friends and a renewed faith in conversations about a different short story each week. We will read short stories from Alice Walker, Raymond Carver and more great authors. Register by September 24 to be placed in a group. Groups will begin the week of October 2. Questions? Please contact Pastor Matt, mfitzgerald@spucc.org. If you are already in a small group that meets regularly, there is no need to register. Let Matt know if your group would like to use our new curriculum. Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1930279

REGISTER FOR CHURCH SCHOOL!

God created us to be creative and to create! This will be our theme as we start Church School today! Each child will learn that they were each created in God's own image. They will learn to love and value all people and to love themselves. They won't want to miss growing in their faith and making new friends this fall! Please fill out the one-time registration for the '23-'24 school year below. We have a nursery for children under 2, Preschool Child Care for children 2-5, and Sunday School/Confirmation I & II for 5-year-olds to high school. Email questions to Children's Program Coordinator Danielle Mayfield at danielle.mayfield@spucc.org. Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1850397

VOLUNTEER FOR OKTOBERFEST

St. Pauls Oktoberfest block party returns this fall on September 23rd, from 1-8 p.m.. How do we pour 600 beers, serve 500 brats/hot dogs, and run kids' activities for seven hours? With the help of many volunteers! Can we count on you to be one of them? As a volunteer, you will work a 2-hour shift and receive a free food/drink ticket, as well as enjoy the chance to meet new friends, support St. Pauls' neighborhood outreach efforts, and have fun! Please sign up here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1899278, or contact Lorne Frank at lornefrank@lornefrank.com. PROST!

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES - Send our college students some love by bringing small care package items to the church office by October 7. If you have a daughter or son in college, please send Children's Program Coordinator Danielle Mayfield their mailing address so the Connectors can send them a care package this fall. danielle.mayfield@spucc.org.

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: spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/studying-justice-for-the-native-nations.

RECYCLE CRAYONS, MARKERS, HIGHLIGHTERS, GLUE STICKS & MORE!

Sponsored By Green Team & Little Lights

Overconsumption and a throwaway culture have led to our global waste crisis. While waste piles up in landfills damaging our environment, virgin materials are used for new products. Crayons are one example of a petroleum product that takes years to biodegrade. Help divert these items from landfills or incineration. Collect these school, office, and art supplies and place them in designated boxes in the Narthex.

- All crayons - broken, used, new, wrapped or not (separate box from rest)
- All brands markers/caps, highlighters/caps, pens/caps, mechanical pencils, glue stick tubes/caps, watercolor paint trays, flexible packaging from these items

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Today, no federally recognized Indigenous tribes reside in Illinois, though Chicago is home to one of the largest urban communities of Indigenous people in the country. Last month, Gov. Pritzker signed a law mandating that Native American history be taught in K-12 starting with the 2024-25 school year. Topics will cover sovereignty and self-determination along with a focus on Urban Indians, and include Native Americans in the study of the Holocaust and genocide. The effort for this legislation was led by the Chicago American Indian Community Collaborative, chicagoaicc.com. Learn more about the process at rlucas1118.wixsite.com/chicagonatives/hb-1633.

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.

BIBLE STUDY – Starting again November 1. Weekly on Wednesdays, noon to 1p.m. All are welcome! Contact Pastor Jeff for the Zoom link, jcarlson@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.

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.

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.

GREETING TEAM – Would you consider being one of our Sunday morning greeters? The ushers and greeters meet in the Narthex at 9:30 a.m. for quick announcements and a prayer. Then, the greeters stand at the church doors to say "Hello!" to folks—greeting attendees with a smile and cheerfulness, while the ushers are inside continuing to welcome attendees and hand out worship bulletins. It's a great jumping off point to see other ministries and expand your involvement. Contact Madelyn Jansma to learn more: madelynj@live.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 have limited spots remaining 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 – 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 Church Center 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. Join our GroupMe group with the QR code 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

After a summer break, it is a joy to welcome back our **Chancel Choir** to worship.

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

The Introit, ***Lift Every Voice and Sing***, is the joyous refrain of a longer hymn that is the unofficial anthem of Black churches and the civil rights movement. J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954), the composer, and James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938), the poet, were brothers who crafted this wonderful hymn together. They also wrote Broadway musicals and edited song collections as a team.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, tune EASTER HYMN or LYRA DAVIDICA, uses a text by Charles Wesley (1707-1788) the great Methodist theologian and hymnodist. The tune's composer is not known and is taken from a collection, *Lyra Davidica*; hence, one of the tune names. It is equally appropriate to sing this great Easter hymn on a day that has a real sense of resurrection for many at St. Pauls.

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In was composed in the 1970s by Louise Ruspini (1900-2000), who also provided the text based on Psalm 100. The tune borrows the first line of the refrain: ENTER, REJOICE.

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.

Martin Shaw, (1875-1958), was a campaigner for better church music and for English opera. He was co-editor with Ralph Vaughan Williams of the *Oxford Book of Carols* (1928). ***With a Voice of Singing*** was composed in 1923 for a festival of church choirs in Rochester, New York. Shaw also wrote the text.

Our ***Festival Doxology*** is to the German hymn tune LASST UNS ERFREUEN, dates from 1623, and was first found in a hymnal published in Cologne, Germany.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God is arguably the greatest Martin Luther (1483-1546) hymn and encapsulated the theology of the Lutheran Church. The tune name, EIN

FESTE BURG, are the first three words of the original German text. Luther's original version is almost dance-like in rhythm. The recessional hymn presents a more majestic march.

The ***Finale from Symphony No. 1 in D minor, Op 14*** was composed by Louis Vierne (1870-1937) from 1888 to 1889. Along with Charles-Marie Widor, Vierne was one of the great Romantic symphonists for organ. Born blind, he composed six symphonies for the organ. He was also the organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris from 1900 until his death. In fact, Vierne collapsed and died at the console at Notre Dame at the close of a recital there. Maurice Duruflé was at his side as an assistant that day. The *Finale* shows Vierne's brilliance as both a composer and performer.

Special Music 2023-2024 **Theme - MASS APPEAL**

Once again, there is a theme for special music during the 2023-2024 season offered by our Chancel Choir during our 10 a.m. Sunday morning worship services. Please add these dates to your calendar and please invite your friends to join us in person or online at spucc.org/streaming.

Mass Appeal is a way to look at one of the oldest forms of Christian liturgical worship in three very different ways. The goal is to share how the words of the liturgical Mass can be expressed in varied musical styles but always with the same goal: expressing the spiritual joy, longing, majesty, and supplication.

Sunday, December 3, 2023 - *St. Francis in the Americas - A Caribbean Mass* composed in 1997 by Glenn McClure. This joyfully rhythmic Mass setting is a perfect expression of the journey from the anticipation of Advent to the birth of Jesus on Christmas. It is accompanied by a steel drum band.

Sunday, March 17, 2024 - *Messe solennelle* by Louis Vierne. This French Romantic setting in Latin was composed for choir and organ in 1899. It showcases beautiful and majestic writing for both choir and a pipe organ with the breadth of colors available on our Phoenix and the talents of Kevin Dzierzawski.

Sunday, Mat 17, 2024 - *A Gospel Mass* was composed in 1982 by Robert Ray. This wonderful setting, largely in English, marries the spiritual energy and uplift of Gospel music with the timeless words of the Mass ordinary. This gives us a chance to showcase not only the Chancel Choir, but also our incredible St. Arbucks Quartet.

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.

- Leslie, sister of Mary Stainton, diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- Cheryl Kennedy, recovering from a heart attack.
- 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.
- Family and friends of Barb Bolsen at her death.
- 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

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614
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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 LGPTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are blessed by your presence and
we are glad you are here.