



September 24, 2023

No matter who you are,  
No matter where you are  
On life's journey,  
You are welcome here.

***Please silence cell phones.***

*Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.  
Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.  
The Nursery and Toddler Room are open for children ages 0-5, from 10 to 11 a.m.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"I do not at all understand the mystery of grace - only that it meets us where we  
are but does not leave us where it found us." Anne Lamott

PRELUDE

*Symbiosis*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Kris Hansen

INTROIT

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*  
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of grace and God of glory

**All: on your people pour you power**

One: make us part of heaven's story

**All: grant us wisdom in this hour**

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

\* HYMN

*God Is Working His Purpose Out*



1. God is work - ing his pur - pose out As year suc -
2. From ut - most east to ut - most west, Wher - e'er man's
3. March we forth in the strength of God With the ban - ner of
4. All we can do is noth - ing worth Un - less God



-ceeds to year; God is work - ing his pur - pose out, And the  
foot hath trod, By the mouth of man - y mes - sen - gers Goes  
Christ un - furled, That the light of the glo - rious gos - pel of truth May  
bless - es the deed; Vain - ly we hope for the har - vest - tide Till



time is draw - ing near; Near - er and near - er draws the time, The  
forth the voice of God; Give ear to me, ye con - ti - nents, Ye  
shine through - out the world; Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin To  
God gives life to the seed; Yet near - er and near - er draws the time, The



time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the  
isles, give ear to me, That the earth may be filled with the  
set their cap - tives free, That the earth may be filled with the  
time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the



glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**God of grace, you call to us but we do not answer,  
we are too busy to hear your voice, God of glory you forgive us, but we don't  
follow your example and forgive others, instead we hold resentments  
against each other. God of goodness your grace meets us where we are, but  
instead of leaving us where you find us, transform us into your image and  
make us new.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.  
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),  
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

## RESPONSE

*Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant*

vv. 1 &amp; 2

1. & 6. Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me  
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are  
3. I will hold the Christ - light for you in the  
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you  
5. When we sing to God in heav - en we shall

be as Christ to you? Pray that I may  
trav - elers on the road; We are here to  
shad - ow of your fear; I will hold my  
laugh, I'll laugh with you. I will share your  
find such har - mo - ny, Born of all we've

have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.  
help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.  
hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in five systems, each corresponding to a line of music. The first system contains five lines of lyrics, the second and third systems contain four lines each, and the fourth system contains five lines. The score concludes with a double bar line.

*Matthew 20:1-15 NRSV*

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

**\* 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

*Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant*  
See previous hymn

vv. 3-6

SERMON

"It's not fair, it's grace!"

Liz Nickerson

\* HYMN

*Amazing Grace*

1. A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound, that  
2. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
3. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

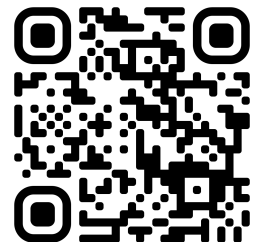
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
have al - ready - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me  
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

OFFERTORY *Avinu Malkeynu* Max Janowski  
(Sung in Hebrew)  
Nancy Pifer & Terry Brancaccio Hansen, soloists  
Chancel Choir

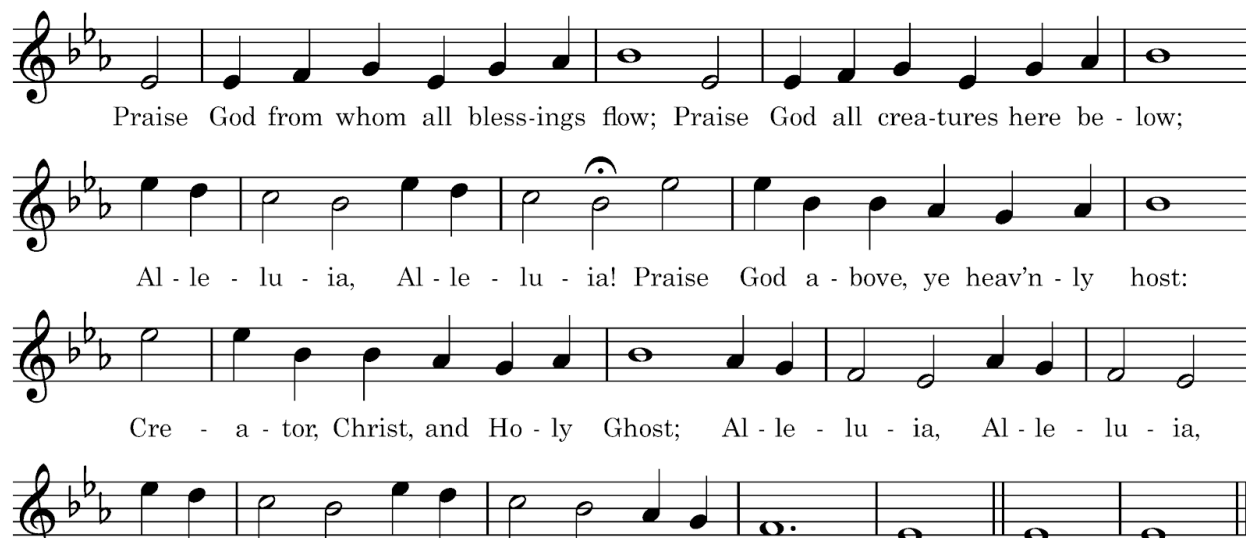
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PayPal at [spucc.org/paypal](https://spucc.org/paypal), or Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*





\* 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

*Called As Partners in Christ's Service*

1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min - is - tries of\_\_ grace,  
2. Christ's ex - am - ple, Christ's in - spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob - al\_\_ sense,  
4. So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

We re-pond with deep com - mit - ment fresh new lines of faith to\_\_ trace.  
Let us fol - low, nev - er\_\_ fal - tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on\_\_ earth.  
Help us bear each oth - er's\_\_ bur - dens, break - ing down each wall or\_\_ fence.  
That sur-round each per - son's sor - row with a calm that con - quers strife.

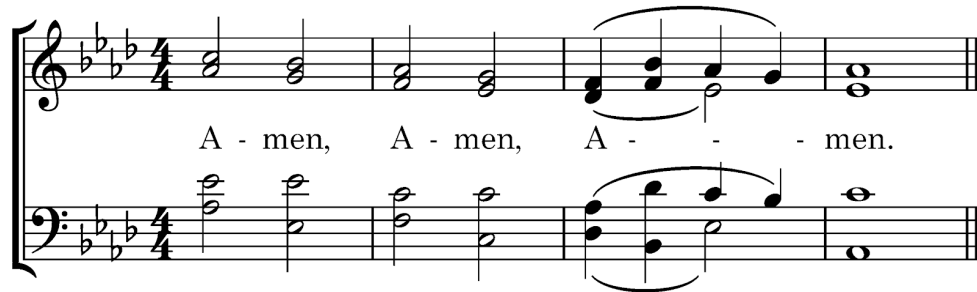
May we learn the art of\_\_ shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
Men and wom - en, rich - er, \_\_ poor - er, all God's peo - ple, young and\_\_ old,  
Words of com - fort, words of\_\_ vi - sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com - pas - sion to in - crease,

E - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.  
Blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth-er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.  
Bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col - leagues, free and fair.  
Mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of music. The first system contains four numbered lines of lyrics. The second system contains three lines of lyrics. The third system contains three lines of lyrics. The fourth system contains three lines of lyrics. The score concludes with a double bar line.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

*Fugue in G minor, BWV 578*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. S. Bach

***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.
- SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION have resumed. 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 today 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:** Julia Ehrhardt

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Doug Clark, David Faulkner

**Greeters:** Blair De Haan, Derek De Haan

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are in honor of Team Lily, the volunteers who deliver the altar flowers to church members unable to attend Sunday Services.

## **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 24 Donna Braden, Jennifer Saltarelli, Reannon Fanai Danesh, Rob Castle,  
Johnny Busker, Glen Timmerman, Colin Grosshans

Sept 25 Matt Fitzgerald, Christie Crouch, Christine Schmidt, Kim Chamberlain,  
Kay Wilde, Nicole Chaiken, Sarah Quinton, Tess Scrivner

Sept 26 Jorie Hamm, Kristi Noonan

Sept 27 AJ Smart, Douglas Roewer, Will Carter

Sept 28 Betsy Kalmar, Toby Rogers, Brian Gallagher, Olivia Block, Cole Roark

Sept 29 Jill Brennan, Jonathan Leaf, Andy Vahey, Hannah Fitzgerald, Miles Davidson

Sept 30 Layton Olson, Claire Terborg, Emily Wood

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*See our full event calendar online at [spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar](http://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 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. Just come if it is your first time. Those who have previously attended should please RSVP via the group email reminder. Coming at the last minute is fine, as well as needing to leave early!

**SEPT 30 - ECOFEST SHRED EVENT** - 9:30-11 a.m., St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 2701 N. Sheffield. The first Annual St. George Ecofest Shred Event will include free paper shredding, pharmaceutical disposals, electronic disposals as well as environmental resources, including free take-home offerings, such as native pollinator and milkweed seed packets and oak saplings. Learn more about composting and stormwater management. Enter to win a rain barrel. Greek food will be provided by the church. Sponsored by Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner (MRDC) Mariyana Spyropoulus and supported by the Cook County Sheriff's Office, Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnen, State Representative Ann Williams, Chicago Alderman Timmy Knudsen, Waste Not Compost, and the church. What an Opportunity!

**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 an 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](http://ucc.org/nin).

### **OCT 17 - 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](mailto:marciaknudson@gmail.com).

## **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 today** to be placed in a group. Groups will begin the week of October 2. Questions? Please contact Pastor Matt, [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto: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](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1930279)

### **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](mailto:danielle.mayfield@spucc.org).

### **UCAN GIFT TRAIN**

As the Christmas Season approaches, the Outreach & Benevolence Committee is making preparations to help St. Pauls participate in UCAN's gift train for another year! This is a great opportunity to engage with UCAN and support those they serve. Keep an eye out for more information in late October on how you can participate!

### **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](mailto:stevenschwartzberg@yahoo.com). Join the group: [spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/studying-justice-for-the-native-nations](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/studying-justice-for-the-native-nations).

## **REGISTER FOR CHURCH SCHOOL!**

God created us to be creative and to create! This will be our theme as we start Church School. 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](mailto:danielle.mayfield@spucc.org). Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1850397](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1850397)

## **JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC**

What is God doing in this moment to make justice and love real in our midst? Is racial justice even possible? What does it look like to practice a new world? See an example and an invitation from this summer's UCC General Synod 34 here, [tinyurl.com/bdh53xx7](https://tinyurl.com/bdh53xx7). Then consider what might shift if you replaced anger or indifference with curiosity.

## **CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team**

**REUSE IN YOUR YARD** - According to the EPA, leaves and other yard debris account for more than 13% of the nation's solid waste. Without enough oxygen to decompose, this organic matter releases the greenhouse gas methane. Solid-waste landfills are the largest U.S. source of man-made methane. Sending leaves to landfills harms the environment, robs gardens of nutrients, and destroys wildlife habitat. Leave the leaves! They can help your turf, you can place around trees, use as winter mulch, or cover garden beds. A thick layer of leaves forms natural mulch and fertilizer for the soil as it breaks down.

## **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.

## **SPECIAL MUSIC 2023-2024**

### **“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](http://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, May 19, 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.

## **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](mailto:JenniferLKew@gmail.com), or Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:pamelawoll@sbcglobal.net) with questions, or Claire Higgins at [chiggins@spucc.org](mailto:chiggins@spucc.org) to be added to the email list.

**CHURCH CENTER** – [spucc.churchcenter.com](http://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](http://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 email [lilies@spucc.org](mailto:lilies@spucc.org).

**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](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com).

**EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS** – Follow this link for additional information: [spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271](https://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](mailto:nlanda05@yahoo.com) or Rick Peterson at [rnpeterson2017@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:madelynj@live.com).

**HANDWORK MEET-UP** – If you enjoy handwork, you’re invited to sit together and stitch in community on the first Sunday of the month at our drop-in handwork group. We gather in a corner of the Social Hall for one hour after the worship service. New to handwork? We have expert knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, and sewers to help you get started with a project. We also welcome admirers of handwork should you wish to pull up a chair and join the conversation!

**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:lynnebrenan@yahoo.com) or (630) 542-7012. Learn more here: [tinyurl.com/4sfbcmpx](https://tinyurl.com/4sfbcmpx).

**NEW MEMBER CLASSES** – 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)), Marti Pechnyo ([mpechnyo@gmail.com](mailto:mpechnyo@gmail.com)), or Barb Kaiser ([bkaiser2213@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

***Symbiosis*** was composed in 2023 by Kris Hansen (b. 1995). The music expresses a collective experience of support. Raised, baptized and confirmed at St. Pauls, Kris is a member of our St. Arbucks Quartet. He is an active singer, music producer, composer, trumpet player, and keyboard player in his own group, Semi-Cycle. He also performs regularly with other bands, including The Walters, Kweku Collins, and Othersides.

***When Morning Gilds the Skies*** was originally a German hymn, *Beim frühen Morgenlicht*, and dates from the late 18th century. Joseph Barnaby (1838-1896) adapted that tune to fit the translation by Edward Caswall (1814-1878). Caswell was the son of an Anglican clergy and converted to Roman Catholicism later in life.

Joseph Barnaby was an important choral director of his era and produced the first performance of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* in an English church, as well as annual performances of the *St. John Passion*.

***God Is Working His Purpose Out*** is a favorite hymn of our recently deceased Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry. The text was written by Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841–1919) in 1894. The text demanded a muscular tune, which Martin Shaw (1916–1999) provided in 1951.

***Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant***, tune title THE SERVANT SONG, is a relatively new hymn composed in 1977 by Richard Gillard (b. 1953). Gillard was born in England, but moved to New Zealand when he was only 3 years old. He is a self-trained musician.

The text for ***Amazing Grace*** is by John Newton (1725-1807), who was a slave ship captain, but 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 and was first published in 1829.

***Avinu Malkeynu*** is one of Max Janowski's (1912-1991) most performed works and is a prayer made on *Rosh Hashanah* and repeated on *Yom Kippur* for another year of blessing. Max Janowski was Cantor and Director of Music at KAM-Isaiah Israel Congregation in Chicago for 50 years. Kurt and Terry Hansen sang with him for his last 17 years. Mr. Janowski was truly one of the "great lights" of Jewish music of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This anthem was composed on the kitchen table of the Rabbi of KAM in 1967, Jacob Weinstein.

The text for ***Called As Partners in Christ's Service*** was written in 1981 by Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008). She was a well known Presbyterian hymn writer, having composed lyrics for more than 100 hymns. She also championed women's rights within her denomination, the Presbyterian Church (USA). The words are set to the tune, BEECHER by John Zundel (1815-1882) and named after the famed preacher, Henry Ward Beecher.

***Fugue in G minor, BWV 578*** was composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Bach is the acknowledged master of fugue composition. A fugue is a more complex version of a round usually involving four to five layered voices using the same theme, but entering at different times and starting on different pitches.

## **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.*

- Sister-in-law of Gloria Joseph, dealing with a cancer diagnosis.
- 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 entered hospice care.
- 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](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)

Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)

Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org)

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership  
Please visit [www.spucc.org/contact](http://www.spucc.org/contact)

**St. Pauls United Church of Christ**  
**2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614**  
**(773) 348-3829   [www.spucc.org](http://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 LGPTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

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