

January 14, 2024

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	<i>A Change Is Gonna Come</i>	Sam Cooke
	St. Arbucks Quartet	

INTROIT	<i>Lift Every Voice and Sing</i>	J. Rosamond Johnson
	Chancel Choir	
	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	Liz Nickerson
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* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

* HYMN

Be Thou My Vision



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



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



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



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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 139)

O God, I am an open book to you.

You already know what I am thinking.

You know when I sit down and when I rise.

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

I look behind me and you are there; then up ahead and you are there, too.

It was you who formed my innermost being.

You knit me together in my mother's womb.

I thank you, God, that I am marvelously made!

You know me inside and out.

Search me, O God, and know my heart.

Test me and know my anxious thoughts.

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

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Beautiful Savior

Verses 1-2

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

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

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

SCRIPTURE

John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Amen, amen, I tell you all, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

* 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

Beautiful Savior

Verses 3-4

SERMON

"Come and See"

Jeff Carlson

* HYMN

You Walk Along the Shoreline



1. You walk a - long our shore - line where land meets un - known
2. You call us, Christ, to gath - er the peo - ple of the
3. We cast our net, O Je - sus; we seek your prom - ised



sea. We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now
earth. We can - not fish for on - ly those
reign; We work for love and jus - tice; we



come and fol - low me. And if you still will
lives we think have worth. We spread your net of
learn to hope through pain. You call on us to



fol - low through storm and wave and shoal, Then
gos - pel a - cross the wa - ter's face, Our
gath - er God's daugh - ters and God's sons, To



I will make you fish - ers, but of the hu - man soul."
boat a com - mon shel - ter for all found by your grace.
let your judg - ment heal us so that all may be one.

OFFERTORY

Precious Lord
Chancel Choir

Thomas A. Dorsey
arr. Arnold Sevier

Precious Lord, take my hand;
Lead me on, let me stand.
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Thro' the storm, thro' the night,
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand Lord
And lead me home.

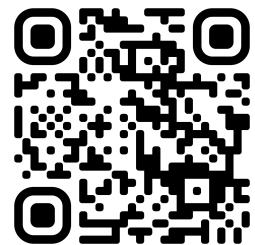
When my way grows drear
Precious Lord linger near.
When my life is almost gone
At the river, Lord, I stand!!
Guide my feet and hold my hand.
Take my hand Lord and lead me home.

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

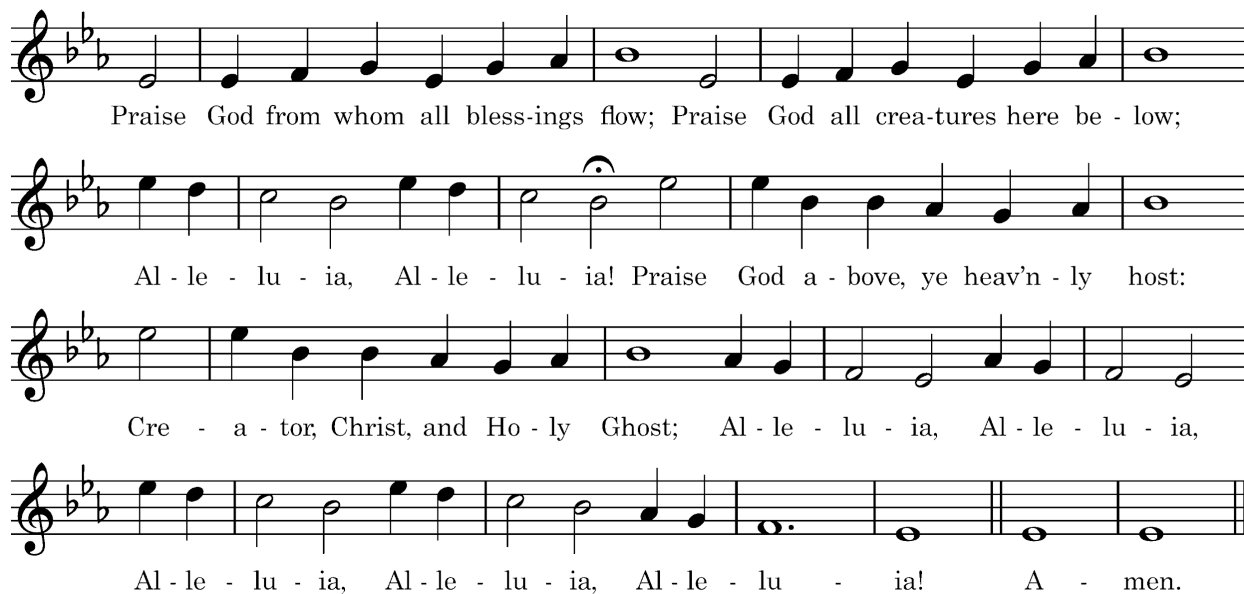
Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

PayPal at spucc.org/paypal, or Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Matt Fitzgerald

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

* HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1. I__ heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me__ and rest;
2. I__ heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3. I__ heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I__ am this lost world's Light,

Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on__ my breast."
The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, draw near, and drink, and live."
Look un - to me; your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I__ came to Je - sus as I was, so__ wea - ry, worn, and sad,
I__ came to Je - sus, and I drank of__ that life - giv - ing stream;
I__ looked to Je - sus, and I found my__ guid - ing Star, my Sun;

And there I found a__ rest - ing place, where Je - sus made me glad!
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I am re - deemed.
And in that light of__ life I'll go till__ trav - eling days are done.

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o." The vocal line features a melodic line with various note values and rests, while the piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines. The score concludes with a double bar line.

POSTLUDE

Wie schön leuchtet Morgenstern

Johann Pachelbel

Kevin Dzierzaski, organ

If you would like someone to pray with you today, Stephen Ministers are present after the postlude at the right front of the Sanctuary.

Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks in the Social Hall, downstairs, directly beneath the Sanctuary.

PEACE CANDLE - We have added a peace candle to the Chancel. Jesus said blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God. Please pray for peace daily for all the current wars raging in the world and in our hearts.

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

- Childcare is available for babies and toddlers up to age 5 during worship from 10 to 11 a.m. downstairs in the Nursery and Toddler Room. Activity “busy bags” are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service.
- SUNDAY SCHOOL and CONFIRMATION classes are on hold during Bible Off Broadway Rehearsals. All children are encouraged to participate.
- High School Sunday School class meets on the first and third Sundays of the month. Winter dates are: January 7, 21; February 4, 18; March 3 and 17. High schoolers meet immediately following the service in the Youth Lounge, downstairs. Parents and teens should join the High School GroupMe for up-to-date information.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Liz Nickerson, Jeff Carlson

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

Altar flowers were donated by Janice Bail to honor the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Blessed Are the Peacemakers.

BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY

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.

Jan. 14 Harper Braun, Hunter Braun, Katie Huber

Jan. 15 Adrian Broderick, Jonah Schloerb, Julia Frisch, Larry Simpson, Lindsey Liabo, Mark Sancya

Jan. 16 Alan Cramb, David Faulkner, Kristin Lane Mack, Nicholas Peterson

Jan. 17 Mark Weglarz

Jan. 18 Annie Holland, Boris Tong, Brian Nach, Cara Hotz, Jake Peterson

Jan. 20 Judson Harper, Tom Kompare

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY- FEB. 3 - CHILDREN'S BIBLE OFF-BROADWAY REHEARSALS CONTINUE FOR "THE PARABLES OF JESUS"!

All youth ages 4 through 18 are encouraged to participate in this amazing musical production in a way that works for them! Sunday morning rehearsals will continue from January 14-28, with a February 3 dress rehearsal and the in-worship production staged during the Sunday, February 4 worship service. For details contact: janaobrien1@gmail.com.

TODAY - MOMS' GROUP - 11:15 -12:30 p.m., Youth Lounge - gather with other moms with newborns through 10-year-olds to support each other! Each month will have a helpful theme for us to explore so we can become the best moms possible and form a tight-knit community. Free childcare provided. Contact Pastor Liz at lnickerson@spucc.org.

JAN. 15 - UCAN MLK DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

UCAN's Nichols Center - 3605 W. Fillmore Street

St. Pauls is invited to join our friends at UCAN to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by serving others, remembering those we've lost, and promoting peace in our community. Dr. King's willingness to serve and encourage solidarity inspires us. On this day, we will stand together with UCAN staff, family members, friends, and participants to remember lives lost and build a stronger foundation for peace. The program will include a prayer for the community, a service project to assemble comfort kits for anyone suffering loss, and a catered lunch. Register online with UCAN at: ucanchicago.org/mlk-day.

To carpool from St. Pauls, or to just let us know you plan to attend, please RSVP here: <http://tinyurl.com/4akzhxt4>.

JAN. 22 - YOUNG ADULTS PICKLEBALL - 7 p.m., Gym

Come meet new people and have some fun. This is a group for folks in their twenties and thirties. Email us at youngadults@spucc.org.

JAN. 23 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 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 (bring your own lunch), fellowship, fun and faith. You may register here if you wish: tinyurl.com/2p3w8jnf.

FEB. 9 - ST PAULS SOCIAL WHISKEY TASTING - 7 p.m., Parlor

Join St. Pauls Social and host Todd Coe for a whiskey tasting. Todd will walk us through the sights, smells and tastes of several different whiskies and discuss what to look for when shopping for a bottle of your own. Please bring a snack to share. A donation of \$10 is requested to cover the costs of the samples. Please RSVP by Friday, February 2 at <http://tinyurl.com/4d3pvdvy>.

The event is limited to the first 20 attendees.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN OUR INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA

Do you play an orchestral string, woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument? If so, please join the St. Pauls UCC Intergenerational Orchestra as we prepare to perform in worship on Sunday, March 3. Orchestra members include pre-teens, teenagers and adults of all ages and abilities! Rehearsals are immediately after worship for about an hour in the Oscar Mayer Room on February 11, 18 and 25. If you are interested, please contact our conductor Mark Mosley at (773) 732-0625 or mwmosley@gmail.com. Please join us as together we "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!"

FAITH IN ACTION MESSAGING GROUP

Some people call it showing up for a protest or marching against a government policy. Others call it public witnessing for the values inherent in our faith. Most of us appreciate being able to do both with like-minded members of our congregation.

Members and friends of St. Pauls can join this group. If you'd like to receive advance email notice of such protests, gatherings or advocacy opportunities – frequently on short notice due to swift governmental action - or to invite others in the group to join you in an advocacy opportunity, join Faith in Action. Register here: <http://tinyurl.com/wuphf495>.

A MUSICAL GIFT FOR YOU!

Our own St. Arbucks Quartet recorded an album, *Mid-Winter Gifts*, in February 2022 featuring music they have played during our worship services. It is available FREE to you and everyone online. Here is a link to the album on Spotify:

<http://tinyurl.com/bdcpvedv>.

And here is a link to the same album on Apple Music: <http://tinyurl.com/39skfy9k>.

It is exactly the same music on both sites, simply choose your preferred platform.

Please feel free to share these links with your friends. You do not need a Spotify or Apple Music account to listen.

USE OF CHURCH REVENUE TASK FORCE - We are looking to increase the funds the church receives from building rentals and use fees for events. We need your talent and creative ideas and are looking for people to serve on this task force to devise a plan. Interested? Contact Larry Damron at lawerencedamron@gmail.com.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Make Friends! Jemar Tisby notes that the intentional segregation of races means that many white people will have to go out of their way to meet people from different backgrounds. Often, you will have to go beyond your existing social network to encounter people who are different from you and spend time in places that have racial and ethnic diversity. The **UCAN MLK Day of Service and Remembrance** this Monday, January 15, noted elsewhere in the bulletin, is a great opportunity to expand and diversify your social network.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

REFLECT ON CREATION JUSTICE

Dear Lord, we renew our covenant to be good stewards of your Earth. Forgive us for abuse of your creation.

Lead us to abandon practices that harm.

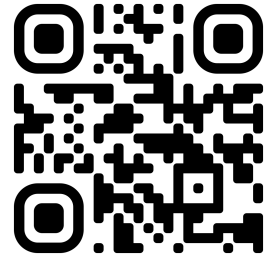
Help us to joyfully and justly enrich your world.

Give us strength for lovingly tending your garden, O God.

PLEDGING & GIVING INFORMATION

PLEDGE WITH BOLD GRATITUDE FOR 2024

Thank you to everyone who has already made a pledge for 2024! Your generous support of St. Pauls is greatly needed and much appreciated. If you have yet to pledge your time, talents or treasures for 2024, you can fill out a paper pledge form and put it in the offering tray or return it to the office. Or, you can pledge online at spucc.org/pledge or by scanning this QR code.



Making a pledge shares with us your intention to donate your time, talents and financial support. This information helps us plan and budget for the upcoming year.

Important Note: If your pledged financial support for 2024 is changing from this year, and you have a current recurring donation set up through one of our donation options, please adjust your recurring donation accordingly. Pledge forms do not authorize St. Pauls to create or update recurring donations. Email bookkeeper@spucc.org with questions or for help.

IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

If you have an IRA and are required, or will be required, to take a minimum annual distribution (RMD) from your account, you may be interested to know that there are tax advantages to taking your distribution as a direct contribution to a charitable organization such as St. Pauls.

If the distribution is made directly from your IRA to St. Pauls, then you enjoy two tax benefits: 1) the distribution does not count as taxable income and 2) the distribution does count towards satisfying your RMD if over age 73. The gift, called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), must go directly from your IRA to the organization, and your total gifts cannot exceed \$100,000 per year. You can make QCDs after you reach age 70 ½, which is earlier than the current RMD age of 73. You cannot make QCDs from your 401K; it has to be rolled into an IRA first.

With the 2017 changes in the tax law, some have lost the ability to itemize their deductions, including charitable contributions, and are now taking the higher standard deduction. Making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a great way to still get a tax benefit for charitable giving. If you have questions about QCDs, consult your tax or financial advisor. Members of the Finance Committee are able to provide more information as well. Reach out to Committee chair Sally Fletcher at Treasurer@SPUCC.org.

GROUPS & ACTIVITIES

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.

BASKETBALL – Join us for a weekly Wednesday 7 p.m. pickup game! All skill levels welcome. Email Pastor Matt to get on the updates list, mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

BIBLE STUDY – Weekly on Wednesdays, noon-1 p.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. Contact Pam Woll pamelawoll@sbcglobal.net with questions, or info@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!

CHURCH SCHOOL – God created us to be creative and to create! This is our theme for Church School this year. Each child will learn that they were created in God's own image. They will learn to love and value all people and to love themselves. 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

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 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. If you would like to schedule a tour or have additional questions, contact Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

MOMS GROUP – Being a mom is the hardest job in the world! So come to the Youth Lounge after worship on the second Sunday of each month to gather with other moms with newborns through 10 years and support each other! Each month will have a helpful theme for us to explore so we can become the best moms possible and form a tight-knit community. Free childcare by trained professionals is available in the church nursery on the south wall of the Social Hall. RSVP at spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/mom-s-group or contact Pastor Liz at lnickerson@spucc.org.

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.

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! All skill levels are invited. If you have questions, call or text Steve Garrett at (312) 208-0636. Game Time: Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30 p.m. spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball.

RETIREMENT GROUP – The Retirement Group meets at 10 a.m. in the Parlor 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.

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 cindyball11@gmail.com.

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

UCC DAILY DEVOTIONAL PRAYER GUIDE – Every day there is a scripture passage and reflection that you can sign up to receive in your inbox! This is a great way to make time to reflect on God each day and grow in your faith. To sign-up visit ucc.org/daily-devotional.



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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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. Sign up here:

<https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1967767>.

COMMON PANTRY COMMUNION SUNDAYS – We're collecting food for the Common Pantry every communion Sunday - usually the first Sunday of the month. See their wish list 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.

CALL FOR LIVE STREAM VOLUNTEERS – Love all things digital, especially fancy devices? Got a knack for capturing special moments on camera? Love to chat with family, friends and others? Want to contribute to a key outreach effort of St. Pauls? If you answered yes to any of the above questions, the St. Pauls Streaming Team needs you. Our team is expanding its mission and can use your help. If interested, come see us in the balcony after the service or reach out to Brian Hafner (bhafner2@att.net) or Bob Ball (Robert.f.ball@outlook.com).

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. The flower ministry is flexible and meant to be an easy and rewarding experience. Team members sign up for approximately one Sunday every three months. It is amazing how this simple gesture brings such joy and feelings of love to the recipient – not to mention the joy and love experienced by the deliverer. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please email lilies@spucc.org.

DRIVERS/TRANSPORTATION AIDES NEEDED FOR OLDER ADULTS – We are looking for volunteers to drive some older adults to church and accompany one of our congregants to church on Sunday mornings on the Pace bus round trip from their nursing facility. This is a great way for you to make a real difference for a fellow member. For questions or more information, please contact Pastor Liz at lnickerson@spucc.org.

GREETING TEAM – Would you consider being one of our Sunday morning greeters? Arrive at 9:30 a.m. and meet with ushers in the Narthex for quick announcements and a prayer. Then stand at the church doors and say “Hello” to attendees, greeting them with a smile, warm welcome and cheerfulness. The ushers are inside continuing to welcome attendees and distribute worship bulletins. Sign up here: <https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2003286>

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 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.

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/1967800

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

For St. Pauls-sponsored events send to info@spucc.org by 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, for publication in the Friday email and next Sunday bulletin. Share personal announcements/ events on our Facebook Group, St. Pauls Together. **Please limit announcements to 100 words.** Thank you!

TODAY'S MUSIC

Singer-songwriter Sam Cooke (1941-1964) composed ***A Change Is Gonna Come*** in 1963. It was released on his album *Ain't That Good News* in February 1964. The song was inspired by events in Cooke's life, notably when he, his wife and friends were turned away from a whites-only hotel in Louisiana. Sadly, Cooke was shot and killed at a motel in December 1964 in an incident that now would have raised questions regarding race vs. protection of property.

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.

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

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

You Walk Along Our Shoreline, tune SALLEY GARDENS, uses a text written by Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993). She served the United Church of Canada, our Canadian UCC sister denomination, as a parish minister and prison chaplain. In her all too brief life, she composed numerous hymn texts. SALLEY GARDENS is a well known anonymous English ballad that has been arranged for other hymns and classical solo songs by composers like Benjamin Britten (1913-1976).

Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993) began his career as a blues pianist and songwriter. Later, he became a church choir director here in Chicago at Pilgrim Baptist Church and was a co-founder of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses. Widely known as the "father of the gospel song," he played an important role in the development of African American gospel music. His best-known song, ***Precious Lord***, was composed following the tragic double death of his first wife Nettie and their newborn son. It was a great comfort to Mr. Dorsey in his grief and countless others, including Mahalia Jackson, who have sung it. Arnold Sevier wrote the

arrangement while he was a student at Hyde Park High School in the 1970s. Mr. Sevier is a past Director of Music at Pilgrim Baptist Church where Thomas Dorsey got his start in Gospel music. We also celebrate that both Thomas A. Dorsey and Mahalia Jackson were added to our Sanctuary music windows in the south aisle in 2021 to memorialize their importance to Chicago, music history in general, and gospel music in particular.

I Heard The Voice of Jesus Say, tune KINGSFOLD, first appeared in a 19th century collection of English folk melodies, but may date back to the Middle Ages. The text was composed by Scottish clergy, Horatius Bonar (1808-1889). He came from a long line of ministers and composed many hymn texts and religious poems.

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern is known to us in English as an Epiphany hymn, *O Morning Star, How Clear and Bright* that can be found in our Black Hymnal No. 158. The chorale melody was composed in 1598 by Lutheran pastor, poet and composer Philip Nicolai (1556-1608). This chorale melody was so beloved that it was set by many composers, including Bach (1685-1750). Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) is not well known outside music circles, but his compositions, especially for organ and choir, provided a deep foundation for German composers such as Bach and his contemporaries in the following generation.

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 remaining 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, 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.

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.

- Prayers for peace - in our city, nation and world.
- Betty Voice being treated for sepsis.
- Family and friends of Karen Rieck at her death.
- David Sr., father of David Faulkner, who is dealing with cardiac and dehydration health concerns.
- Pat Kirby, hospitalized for tests.
- Liz Kurman recovering from elbow surgery
- Sister-in-law of Gloria Joseph, dealing with a cancer diagnosis.
- Leslie, sister of Mary Stainton, diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- Students and staff of the GCE school in Chicago, which recently closed.
- LeeAnne Tongue.
- Debra and Robin at the death of their son Sean.
- For Laura at the recent death of her mother and the paralysis of her son Ryan in an accident. Pray for Ryan too as he struggles to regain some function and mobility.
- Leroy Johnson, husband of Karen L. Johnson, 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.
- 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, during the past 180 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership
Please visit www.spucc.org/contact

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614
(773) 348-3829 www.spucc.org

Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
at the Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2316 N. Lincoln Ave.
Parking validation is available in the Narthex.



WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,
grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to LGBTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

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