

Easter Sunday
March 31, 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 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"i thank You God for most this amazing day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky;and for everything which is natural which is infinite
which is yes"

E.E. Cummings

PRELUDE

Feierlicher einzug
(Solemn Entry)
Organ, Brass, and Percussion

Richard Strauss
arr. Gary Olson

CHORAL INTROIT

Call to Worship
Chancel Choir
Breanna Coe, conductor

John Rutter

I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;
I will tell of his glory and will show forth his praise;
I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold. Alleluia.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Christ is Risen!

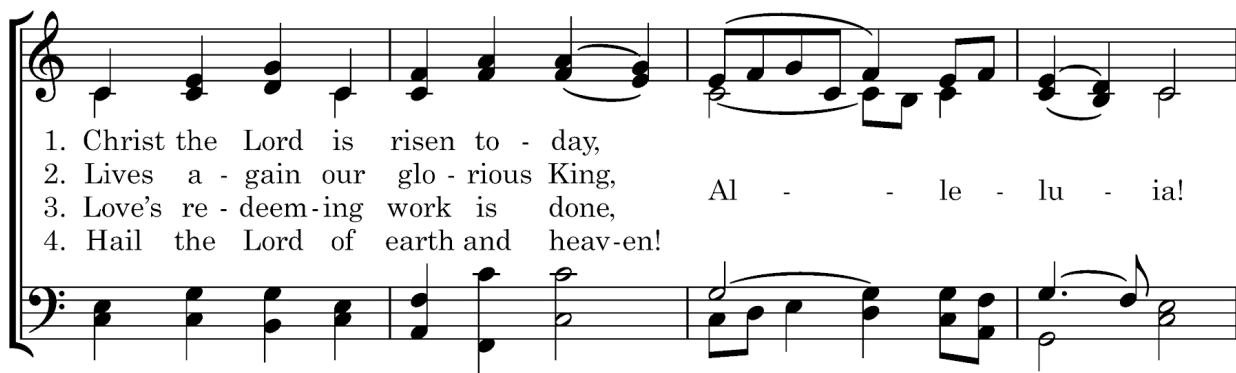
All: He is risen indeed!

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

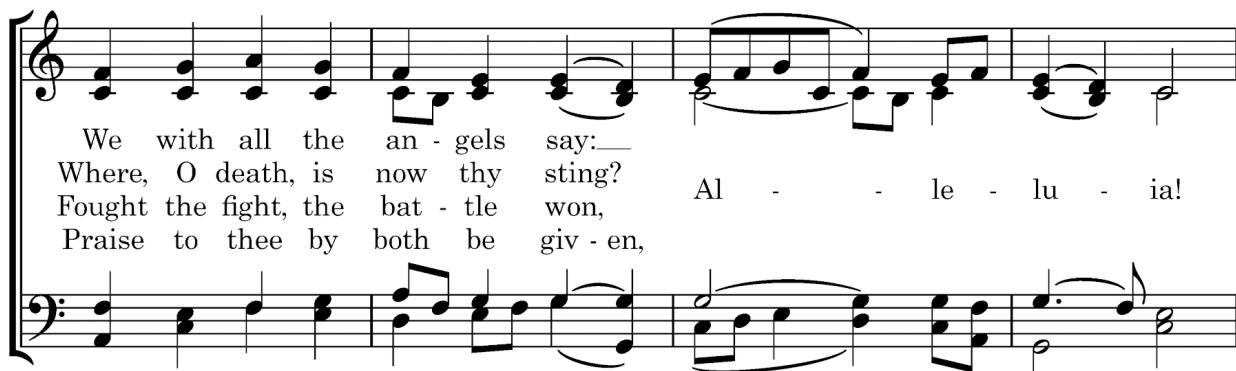
* HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

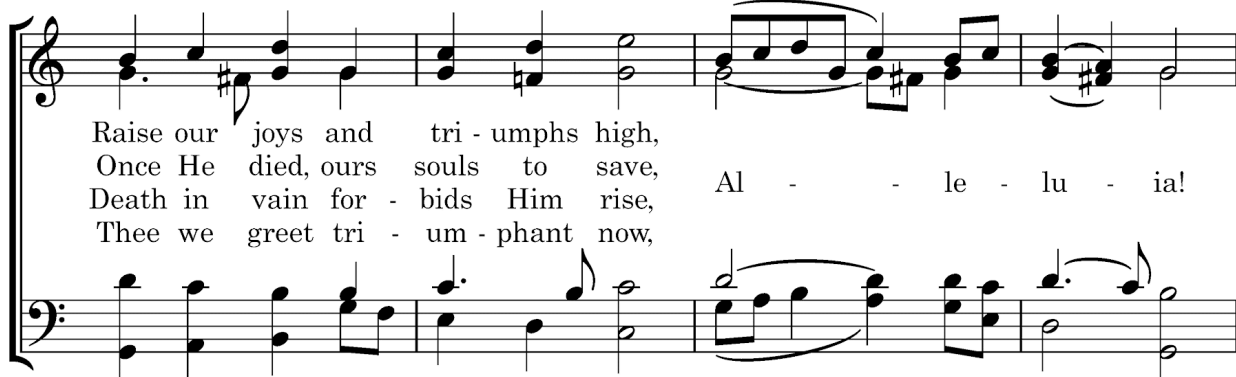
arr. Chip DeStefano



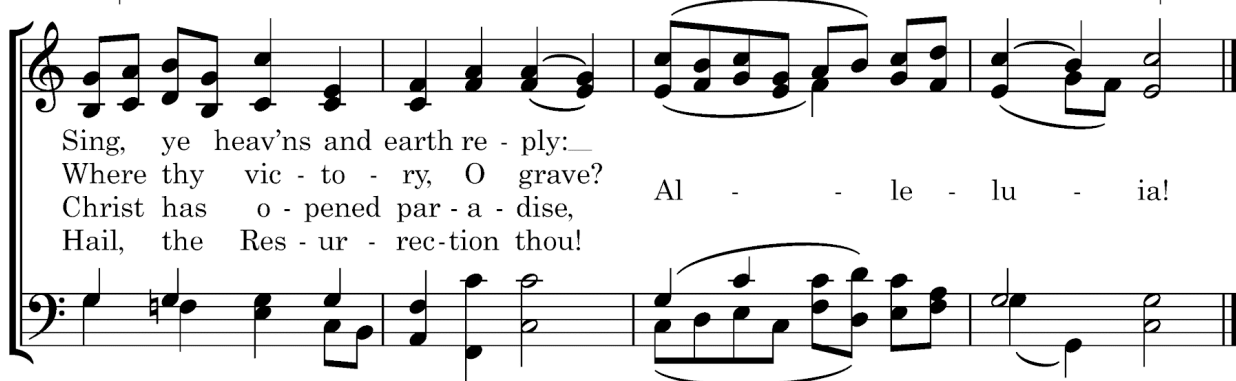
1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,
2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - - le - lu - ia!
3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done,
4. Hail the Lord of earth and heav - en!



We with all the 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 giv - en,



Raise our joys and tri - umphs high,
Once He died, ours souls to 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? Al - - le - lu - ia!
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise,
Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**New life springs up all around us Lord,
while we are earthbound still.**

**Distracted, dull, held down by doubt,
and kept back by fear,
we cannot or will not
see life through the "He is risen"
prism and its promise.**

Forgive us, Lord!

Renew us in the resurrection light!

Change the way we see!

Make us alive in Christ.

Amen

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!



1. Morn - ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black - bird has
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the



spo - ken Like the first bird.____ Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall On the first grass.____ Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet
 one light E - den saw play!____ Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!____
 gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where his feet pass.____
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!____

SCRIPTURE

Mark 16:1-8

Audrey Bettner, 9 a.m.

Nancy Voigts Godinez, 11 a.m.

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

* 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)

ANTHEM

I Saw The Light
St. Arbucks Quartet

Todd Rundgren

Oh the light is bright
Turning grief into amazed delight
Shining brightly as amazed daylight
in your life, in your life.

All is night and wrong
Before daybreak and the bright birdsong
Before Jesus and his daylight dawns
In your life, in your life

Then we drop to our knees
And the answer is plain to see
With the Easter light
In our eyes ...

Death can try to run
But it can't outrun the risen One
Shining brightly like the risen sun

Oh Lord we see
You live so we sing joyfully
with the Easter light
In our eyes

SERMON

“Jesus is Alive!”

Liz Nickerson, 9 a.m.
Matt Fitzgerald, 11 a.m.

* HYMN

Morning Has Broken
See previous hymn.

vv. 2 & 3

OFFERTORY

Worthy Is The Lamb
Blessing and Honor, Glory and Power
Amen
from Messiah

G. F. Handel

Jen Kew, Breanna Coe, Todd Coe and Lee Lichamer, solo quartet
Chancel Choir, Trumpets, Timpani, and Organ

Worthy is the lamb that was slain,
And hath redeemed us to God by his blood,
To receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and glory and blessing.

Blessing and honor, glory, and power be unto him,
That sitteth upon the throne and unto the lamb forever.

Amen.

Text from Revelation 5: 11 & 12

You can give to St. Pauls Easter Fund electronically by:

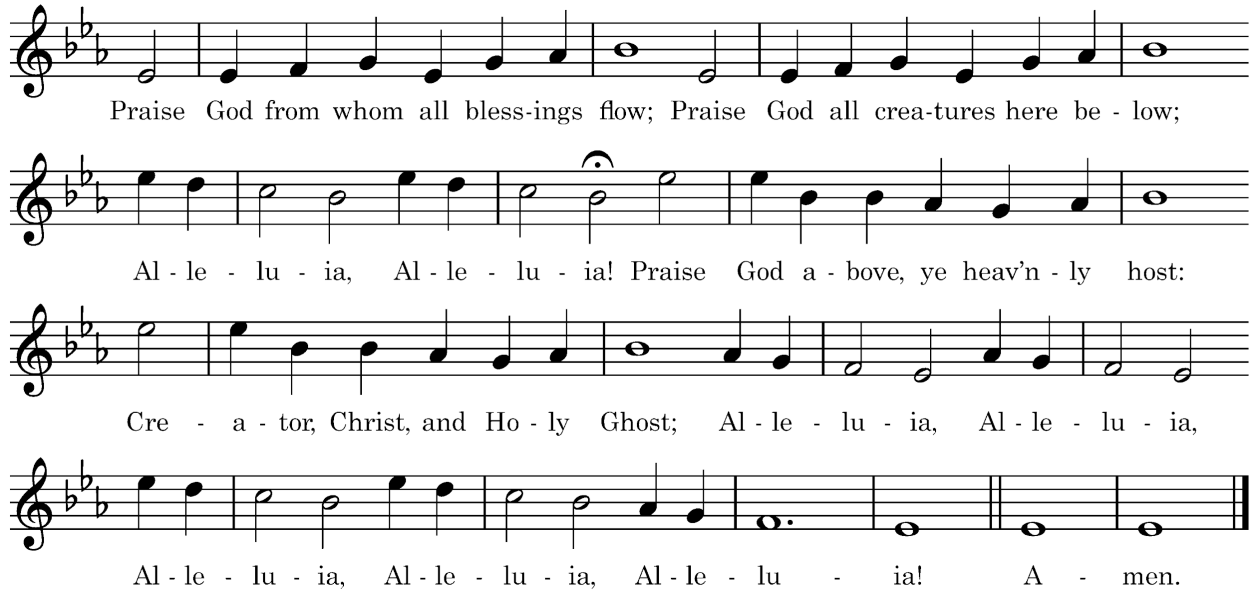
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/easter,

Or through Zelle or PayPal 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.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.**

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MEDITATION MUSIC

BREAD	<i>Two Consolations in E Major</i> Jeffrey Wagner, piano	Franz Lizst
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WINE	<i>The Creator Has A Master Plan</i> St. Arbucks Quartet Kris Hansen, soloist	Pharoh Saunders
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The creator has a working plan
Peace and happiness for everyone
The creator has a master plan
The creator makes but one demand
Happiness through all the land

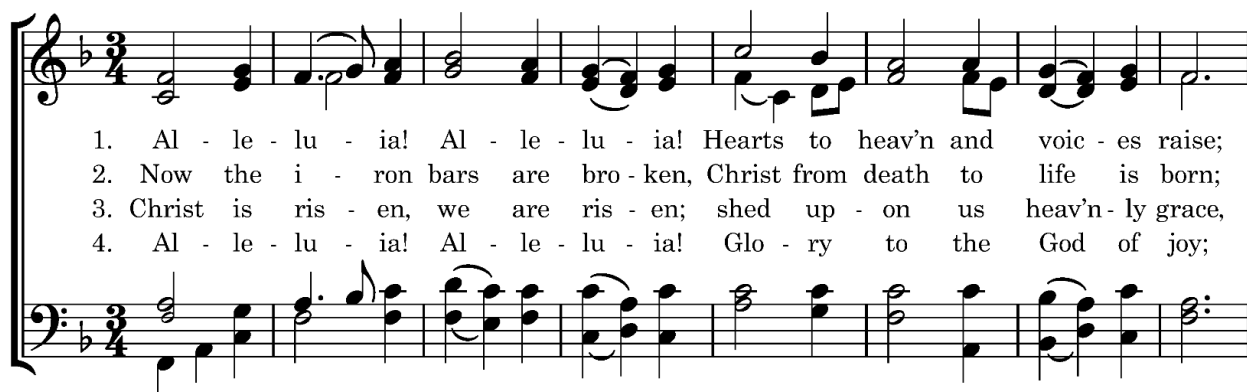
* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**All things have been made new! All the seas and dry lands.
All the forests and the fields. All the cities and towns.
Everything that swims or flies, even you, and even me!
All have been made new today! Oh God we thank you!
For love is more powerful than fear. Life is triumphant over the grave.
You have just defeated death.
Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!**

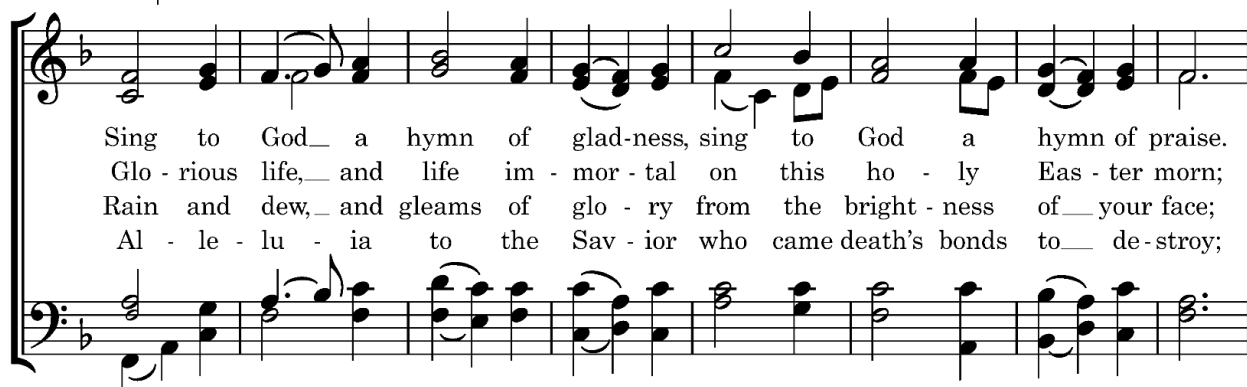
* HYMN

Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

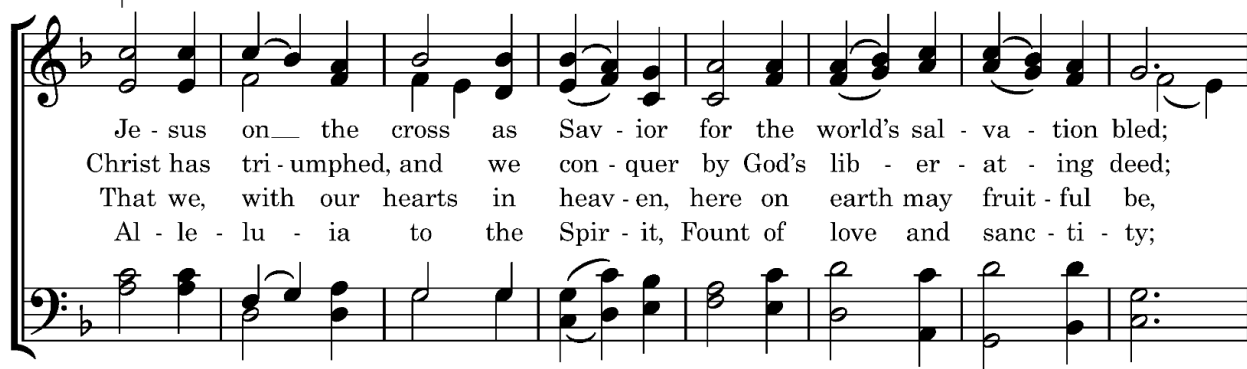
arr. Richard Webster



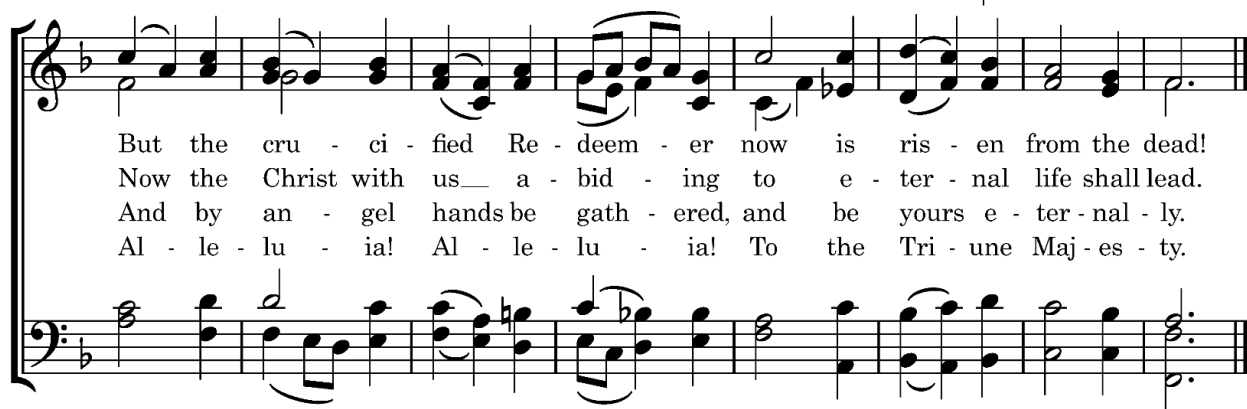
1. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise;
2. Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born;
3. Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en; shed up - on us heav'n - ly grace,
4. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to the God of joy;



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
Glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal on this ho - ly Eas - ter morn;
Rain and dew, and gleams of glo - ry from the bright - ness of your face;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who came death's bonds to de - stroy;



Je - sus on the cross as Sav - ior for the world's sal - va - tion bled;
Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer by God's lib - er - at - ing deed;
That we, with our hearts in heav - en, here on earth may fruit - ful be,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;



But the cru - ci - fied Re - deem - er now is ris - en from the dead!
Now the Christ with us a - bid - ing to e - ter - nal life shall lead.
And by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be yours e - ter - nal - ly.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! To the Tri - une Maj - es - ty.

TODAY'S MUSIC

Richard Strauss (1864–1949) composed *Feierlicher Einzug der Ritter des Johanniterordens* (Solemn entry of the Knights of St. John) in 1909.

He is perhaps best known for his operas which include *Elektra*, *Salome*, and *Der Rosenkavalier*, to name a few. His music gained popularity long after his death for the opening phrases of *Also sprach Zarathustra* (Thus spake Zarathustra) that was used for the movie score of *2001, A Space Odyssey*. *Feierlicher Einzug* is a majestic work originally scored for 15 (!) trumpets, 4 horns, 4 trombones, 2 tubas and timpani. It was composed and first performed in Dresden, the same year as the composition of *Elektra*. It was transcribed by Chip DeStefano specifically for St. Pauls.

The *Call to Worship* was composed in 1982 by John Rutter (b. 1945) who also composed the text based on psalms of praise. John Rutter's music was introduced to this country by Mel Olson, who was the Director of Music at Dundee Presbyterian Church in Omaha, NE, where our music director grew up and sang in his choirs.

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.

The text for *Morning Has Broken* was written by Elinor Farjeon (1881-1965), who also wrote children's books. The tune, BUNESSAN, we know so well is a Gaelic melody.

Franz Liszt (1811-1886) composed the *2 Consolations* (Tröstungen) *in E Major*-at different times, the first, S. 171a, between 1844 and 1849 and the second, S. 172, between 1849 and 1850. They are reflective works in the style of a *nocturne*, a night song or serenade. The works are likely to have been inspired by a Lamartine (1790-1869) poem about Consolation. It is hard to understate Liszt's career as a performer. He had a prodigious technique and his audiences were often affected in a manner we would associate with pop stars of this era. Audience members literally swooned and fainted. All of these reactions don't lessen his stature as both a performer and composer.

I Saw The Light was composed and recorded in 1972 by Todd Rundgren (b. 1948). It shares the same title as a well known Hank Williams (1923 - 1953) song he wrote in 1952. Rundgren reported that he composed the song in 20 minutes of creative fire. His song has appeared in many films and television programs. Rundgren has always pushed the creative boundaries in both recording and performing as a

composer, singer, and guitarist. He is certainly one of the most innovative popular artists of our time. Matt Fitzgerald has composed new lyrics for the this service.

The Creator Has A Master Plan was composed by Pharoah Sanders (1940-2022) He was born Farrell Sanders and changed his name after his conversion to Islam. He was a saxophonist was known for creating “spiritual jazz“ as well as exploring the overtones on the sax. The legendary saxophonist John Coltrane, who became a close friend of Sanders, recorded this work as an almost musical mantra and featured it on his testament album, *A Love Supreme*.

Worthy Is The Lamb is the final chorus of Messiah and sums up the triumphal message of Christ’s resurrection. Although it is most often associated with Christmas, Messiah actually announces the victory of Christ over death. Handel composed the entire work in a two-week flurry of creativity in 1741. The final ***Amen*** is a fugue and begins rather modestly with only continuo, one cello, one bass, organ and a quartet of singers. There is a brief violin interlude before the entire choir, trumpets, timpani, and all other instruments storm the heavens in a very Baroque fashion, decoration on top of decoration.

Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885) wrote the text for ***Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven***. He wrote more than 120 hymn texts and was also the nephew of the famous poet William Wordsworth. The words are set to the famous Welsh tune, HYFRYDOL by Rowan Hugh Prichard (1811-1887), composed when he was only 19.

The ***Hallelujah Chorus*** is arguably the most often performed and well known of the works of George Frideric Handel (1685-1759). This chorus closes Part Two of *Messiah*. The tradition of standing for the *Hallelujah Chorus* dates to King George II standing at a performance in London. It isn’t clear if, as tradition suggests, he was deeply moved or perhaps just needed to stand. No matter the reason, the tradition of standing for the *Hallelujah Chorus* is a long established way to honor Handel’s genius and the victorious text.

Final from Symphony No. 3 in C Minor, Op. 78 was composed in 1886 by Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921), who was at the peak of his skills and popularity. It is most often referred to as The Organ Symphony, because of the prominent part composed for the organ. It is undoubtedly one of the most recorded of the Romantic French symphonic repertoire. The symphony was commissioned by the Royal Philharmonic Society in England. Saint-Saëns conducted the first performance in London and dedicated it to his recently deceased friend Franz Liszt. The symphony requires a pipe organ of significant size to be heard over an entire romantic orchestra. Mark Mosley prepared this transcription.

SPECIAL MUSIC 2023-2024
"MASS APPEAL"

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.

Our final offering of MASS APPEAL will be Sunday, May 19, 2024 - *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. *Gospel Mass* will be offered in memory of Ron McCowan, our beloved Chancel Choir bass section leader for more than 25 years, who entered that eternal "home in that Rock" on March 4, 2024.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy:

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

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

Easter Instrumentalists: Tom Madeja & Kris Hansen, trumpet; Liz Deitemyer, French horn; Mark Swanson, trombone; Colby Fahrenbacher, tuba; Ralph Wisler, timpani; Matt Plaskota, percussion; and Jeffrey Wagner and Graham Hicks, piano.

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Communion Servers, 9 a.m.: Joe JaQuay, Gay Kelly

Communion Servers, 11 a.m.: Carrie Bettler, Renae Bradshaw, Carrie Bruggers, Char Damron, Larry Damron, Doug Heyboer, Marcia Knudson, Jack Lyons, Karen Lyons, Wayne Parman, Jack Sancya, Mark Sancya, Rebecca Sandoval, Donn Schimp, Glen Timmerman, Jill Wachholz

Head Ushers: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers, 9 a.m.: Dodd Brown, Mary Brown, Peg Wander

Ushers, 11 a.m.: David Baker, John Balevic, Juanita Barlow, Ninon Freeman, Gloria Joseph, Cheryl Kennedy, Larry Simpson, Peg Wander

Acolyte Coordinator: Rebecca Sandoval

Acolytes, 9 a.m.: Nolan Tavas, Clark Tavas, Jack Kahan, Annika Hull

Acolytes, 11 a.m.: Olivia Weglarz, Nate Weglarz, Charlie Rodriguez, Julian Chaiken

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Pew Literature Racks Organizer: Mary Brown

Easter Altar Decorators: Marcia Opp, Cres Roewer, Doug Roewer, Barb Kaiser, Jill Minetz, Doug Clark, Pev Petrunich, Jan Bail

Custodians: Ramiro Gonzalez, Louis Luri

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.

EASTER FLOWERS IN CELEBRATION OF ...

KEVIN DZIERZAWSKI from Kurt R. Hansen
CHANCEL CHOIR from Kurt R. Hansen
KRISTOFER & ALEX HANSEN from Kurt R. Hansen and Terry Brancaccio Hansen
ST. ARBUCKS QUARTET, from Kurt R. Hansen
DENISE BEITELSCHMIDT from the entire staff of St. Pauls
WEDNESDAY SHORT CIRCLE from Kurt R. Hansen
VIOLET & WILFRED GOTTSCHALK from Jan and Rick Bail and family
ARCHIE & DOTTIE FLETCHER from the Fletcher & Thomas families
OUR GRANDCHILDREN ANNIKA, OSCAR, SOPHIE, NATHANIEL, MARGOT, ELLERY,
ANDERSON from Marcia Opp & Jon Ekdahl
ERICA BARBOSA from Rodney E. Sippy
10 YEARS WITH HER PARTNER JON from Jen Kew

EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF ...

NICHOLAS AND BERTHA BRANCACCIO from the Hansen Family
DOLORES "Mom" PIFER from Kurt R. Hansen and the tenors and basses
GRIGG FOUNTAIN from Kurt R. Hansen and Terry Brancaccio Hansen
KERMIT AND MARY HANSEN from the Hansen Family
LOLA AND ALEX RAND from Kurt R. Hansen and Terry Brancaccio Hansen
RON McCOWAN from Kurt R. Hansen and the Chancel Choir
DONNA BRANCACCIO SEGSCHEIDER from Terry Brancaccio Hansen
KATHERIN & PHILIP BAIL from Jan and Rick Bail and family
MARCIA LOU FETTERS from Jan and Rick Bail and family
LINDA G JOHNSON from Micki & Deon Fayhee
JAMES RINGBERG and LYNN SMITH from Sherry and Ken Smith
JOSEPH HEINEY from Jennifer Heiney
FRANCES & FRANK WANDER from Peg Wander
VIRGINIA & WILTON HEINEMANN, VIRGINIA & ROBERT BORDEN, and HAZEL
VESPA from Bill Borden and Allen Heinemann
RON McCOWAN from Kurt R. Hansen and the Chancel Choir
RAY HARRIS from Liz Kurman
EDWARD ZASADIL from Larry Simpson
JOHN CURRAN from John Balevic and Debbie Edwards

RACHEL & HARVEY CLEMONS and FRANK P. WHITRIDGE from Greg Clemons & Jeff Whitridge

POLLY PALMER SIPPY from Rodney E. Sippy

OTTO E. ROEWER from Doug and Cres Roewer and family

ALEXANDER ROWLEY from James and Lisa Rowley

HERBERT & ANNA BEECK from Barb, Paul, Peter and families

DOLORES PIFER from her friends and family

FAMILY & FRIENDS who have passed before us from Nadia Jiménez & Nancy Pifer

MARILYN KEW from Jen Kew

LEROY & HENNY DYKSTRA, LEE DYKSTRA, CLARENCE VAN`T HUL, EDWARD SEELEY DAVIS from Lynn Dykstra-Davis

DEL ARSENAULT from the Arsenault family

BERNIECE & JOSEPH BUTTINGER, and MABEL & WARREN ARSENAULT from the Arsenault family

PETRINE JANE CHRISTEIN ASHLEY from Gary, Jessica, Seth, Sharon, and children

GORDON & MARGARET BALL and ROBERT & LAINI ZINN from Bob & Cindy Ball

ELFRIEDE IVERSEN & LEO WEBER from Madeline Hurlbutt and Jennifer Iversen

VIRGINIA & WILLIAM AMOS AMERSON and ASHLAND & THEDFORD MALLARD from Lydia Murray

BRUCE, MY LOVING FATHER from Karin Magnuson

REV. & MRS. HERBERT T. TETZLAFF from Ted, Elle, Alexa, The & Trevor Tetzlaff

WES SALSBURY from Marcia Knudson

BETSY HARTANOV from Justin & Creighton Hartanov

BETSY HARTANOV from Aniston & Grady Hartanov

BETSY HARTANOV from Randy Hartanov

BORN THIS WEEK IN MARCH/APRIL

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.

March 31 Diana Penniman, Will Quinton

April 1 Susan Schwendener

April 2 Alexander Cittadine, Grady Hartanov, Kate Weiskirch, Peter Wiebe, Reese Carter, Sam Riportella

April 3 Laura Schalekamp, MacKenzie Rogers, Terra Johnson

April 4 Kyle DuPont, Peter Doerr

April 5 Caroline Hedberg, Jenny Benefield, Mandy Key

April 6 Jennifer Kew, Will Jackson



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 in session. Students are dismissed with their teachers during the worship service and parents pick up children after the service in their classrooms.
- High School Sunday School class meets on the first and third Sundays of the month. Remaining spring dates are: April 7, 21; May 5, 19; June 2, 16. High schoolers meet immediately following the service downstairs in the Youth Lounge. Parents and teens should join the High School GroupMe for up-to-date information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 7 - GAZA PANEL DISCUSSION -11:30 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room

What is the responsibility of the church amidst the current conflict in Israel & Palestine? Palestinian American physician and population health expert, Yasser Said, on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Author, retired professor & minister, Rev. Don Wagner, on the history and consequences of Christian Zionism. Please RSVP at tinyurl.com/Gaza-panel or contact David Burnett at burnett.db@gmail.com

APRIL 7 - PANCAKE CHURCH - 10 a.m., Gym

Our April 7, worship moves to the Gym for the return of Pancake Church! We'll sit at tables, have breakfast and worship together. Our youth, who are going to Tulsa in June for a week of service and learning with ministries doing the work of racial reconciliation, will cook and serve. Our free will offering that Sunday will go to support their fundraising goal of \$10,000. You can also support their trip online on our giving page by selecting "Youth Mission Trip."

APRIL 27 - REBUILDING TOGETHER DAY - 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Join us for Rebuilding Together Day on April 27! We will be working on a home in Englewood near 66th and Damen. We'll be painting a back porch (4-6 people) and a couple of bedroom ceilings (4-6 people). In addition, we will be removing lots of garbage bags from the basement (6-10 people), and there is also some minor handyman stuff like installing smoke detectors and some knobs on the kitchen cabinets (2-3 people). Anyone 10 and older can participate. House Captain Gerald Wilk could also use the help of a volunteer co-coordinator. Contact Gerald for more information: gcjwilk@sbcglobal.net. Sign up to volunteer here: <http://tinyurl.com/49dpkm38>.

JUNE 8-15 - YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Learn to "Be the Neighbor" From Leaders on Race and Reconciliation

We are excited to invite our youth on the summer 2024 trip - a Tulsa Race and Reconciliation Week, June 8-15. This will be our second experience with youth service and learning between the UCC and the Disciples of Christ in a nationwide program called "Be the Neighbor." Tulsa Race and Reconciliation weeks are centered around a justice-focused biblical curriculum based on Luke and Matthew. Youth will have opportunities to serve with local ministries and social service organizations. Drawing from Tulsa's history of racial violence in the Trail of Tears and the burning of "Black Wall Street," youth will learn from activists and church leaders who are determined to find hope and seek reconciliation and growth rather than simply lamenting the past. Youth will look back at the history of racism to understand why and how to address racism today and into the future. They will learn about types of racism, differences between equity and equality, and the racial wealth gap. Lessons learned will be brought home and put to work at St. Pauls and in Chicago. Register here: tinyurl.com/2024-youth-mission-trip.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONSIDER BECOMING A STEPHEN MINISTER

A new Stephen Minister Training Class is coming in July and August. In Stephen Ministry, members of our congregation are trained and equipped to meet once a week, one to one, with someone going through a difficult time. Stephen Ministers provide a caring presence, a listening ear, and comforting words—supporting care receivers throughout their journey. Might God be calling you into this ministry? Here are some reasons to consider it:

1. You'll make a real difference in the lives of hurting people.
2. You'll help St. Pauls ensure that no one suffers alone.
3. Through thorough training, you'll learn what to say and do – and what not to say and do - to care effectively for people who are suffering.
4. You'll be using your gifts in important and meaningful ministry.
5. You'll deepen your faith as you see God at work in and through you.
6. You'll be a part of a Stephen Ministry team that supports each other.

If you'd like to explore whether or not Stephen Ministry would be a good fit for you, contact Stephen Ministry leader Marti Pechnyo, mpechnyo@gmail.com

LITTLE LIGHTS SUMMER CAMP - REGISTRATION IS OPEN

For ages 3-5, Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., June-August. Camp includes themed and structured fun inside our classrooms, in the gym and outside in the sun. There will be water games, arts & crafts, music, sports, and more! Register by March 31 to lock in Early Rate (10% discount). There is also a 10% sibling discount and 20% Church Member discount (contact Erin for the code erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org). Register here: tinyurl.com/Little-Lights-Summer-Camp.

PALESTINE STUDY GROUP

We will be discussing the introduction and chapter one of Rashid Khalidi's *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine*, which covers the historical period 1917-1947. All are welcome! Meeting time is Tuesday, April 2 at 7 p.m via Zoom. To join us, visit: tinyurl.com/Palestine-Study-Group or contact David Burnett at burnett.db@gmail.com for updates.

“HEALING HEARTS” PET SUPPORT GROUP: ST. PAULS PET LOSS COMMUNITY

Are you struggling with losing a beloved furry friend/companion/animal assistant? Losing a pet can be one of the most heart-wrenching experiences in life. At St. Pauls, we understand the deep bond you shared with your beloved pet/family member and we're here to offer support, understanding and a virtual shoulder to lean on. To join, visit tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. Age 18+ only, 15 participants maximum.

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!

Listen to our St. Arbucks Quartet's album, *Mid-Winter Gifts*, featuring the music played during our worship services. It's free on both Spotify tinyurl.com/bdcpvedv and Apple Music tinyurl.com/39skfy9k. Share the links with your friends; no account needed 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 lawrencedamron@gmail.com.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Please join Jim Brandt in discussing Robert P. Jones' book, [The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy: and the Path to a Shared American Future](#). Jones' reframing of American origins explains how the founders of the United States built the philosophical framework for a democratic society on a foundation of mass racial violence—and why this paradox survives today in the form of white Christian nationalism. How might we move beyond this to finally fulfill the promise of a pluralistic democracy? This presentation is in 2 parts, April 14 and April 28. Register for either or both at tinyurl.com/fk3kfx37.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

Preparing for Earth Day and Earth Month

World Earth Day is April 22nd and this year's theme is "Planet vs. Plastics." The organizers, [EARTHDAY.ORG](https://www.earthday.org), are promoting a 60% reduction in plastic manufacturing by 2024. Particularly important to this goal is the elimination of single-use plastics:

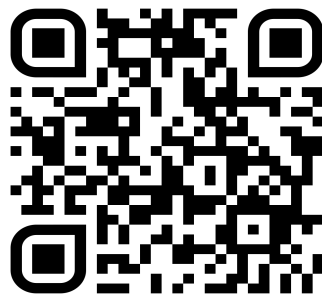
- straws
- plastic bags
- utensils
- plates
- water bottles

We all need to find substitutes—and they are readily available—but we must change our mindset and behaviors!



PLEDGE TO EXPAND AND ELEVATE OUR OPENNESS!

Please remember to submit your three-year Capital Campaign pledge to help fund the six-stop elevator and open-air courtyard at our church. Submit your special pledge via the Letter of Intent available in the church office or via the church website's homepage link or the QR code here. We need every household to help us reach our bold campaign goal! And watch for the short weekly video messages about the campaign from our pastors and members.



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.

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 child care 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 child care will be provided as needed (please let us know in your registration). See upcoming dates here: spucc.org/new_member_classes.

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 information, 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 Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to the distribution list below, or look out for future events in the bulletin calendar: spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social.

SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster) meets monthly to discern how we as a congregation can answer the call to live our faith in an age of injustice. We invite you to join us in identifying the educational opportunities, resources and actions to take on our journey toward racial justice. To participate or share your ideas, contact Cindy Ball at cindyball11@gmail.com.

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

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: tinyurl.com/alter-flowers-2024.

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 or register here: <http://tinyurl.com/team-lilies>.

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 page, St. Pauls Together. **Please limit announcements to 100 words.** Thank you!

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 the family and friends of Ron McCowan at his death.
- Prayers for Nathan Chamberlain's parents Larry and Mary Lou Chamberlain as Larry recovers from surgery complications.
- Prayers for peace - in our city, nation and world.
- Prayers for Donn Schimp and his family as Donn begins cancer treatment.
- Betty Voice being treated for sepsis.
- Alex Doty and her mother who has been hospitalized and is now in rehab.
- Deborah's friend, Anita Smith, recovering at Paul House and Health Care Center following a lengthy hospitalization.
- 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.

“i thank You God for most this amazing” by E.E Cummings

i thank You God for most this amazing
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky;and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes
(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun’s birthday;this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings:and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)
how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any—lifted from the no
of all nothing—human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

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.