

April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Eastertide

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

The Message that points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer silliness to those hellbent on destruction, but for those on the way of salvation it makes perfect sense. This is the way God works, and most powerfully as it turns out. It's written,

I'll turn conventional wisdom on its head,
I'll expose so-called experts as shams.

1 Cor 1:18-21

PRELUDE

Symphony No. 5—Adagio
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

C. M. Widor

INTROIT

Alleluia
Chancel Choir

Henry Purcell

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God, you have made us Easter people.

All: We are ready to tell the news of death's defeat.

One: We are alive with hope and eager to share our joy!

All: We are on the road with Jesus, help us to see him in our midst.

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

* HYMN

Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise



1. Hail the day that sees Christ rise,
2. Christ, for you high tri - umph waits,
3. See! The nail - marked hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
4. Christ for us still in - ter - cede,
5. Now, though part - ed from our sight,



To a throne in par - a - dise;
Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates!
Sing of God's re - deem - ing love; Al - le - lu - ia!
By your suf - fering for us plead;
In the depths of star - ry night,



Christ, the Lamb for sin - ners given,
You have con - quered death and sin;
Hark! Christ's words our hearts as - sure; Al - le - lu - ia!
Make us wor - thy of the place,
May our souls with you a - rise,



En - ters now the high - est heaven,
You, our Sov - ereign, en - ter in!
"I will send a Com - fort - er!" Al - le - lu - ia!
Which you of - fer us by grace.
Seek - ing whole - ness at your side.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**Holy God, we confess our slowness to act in the face of wrongdoing.
We are often selfish, scared, and numb to the beauty of the world,
numb to the potential for love that is around us and within us.**

**We are preoccupied with our own lives and have failed to give our hearts to
you. Holy God, awaken us today, to all that becomes possible, because you
live. Forgive us and help us to see you in our midst. Amen.**

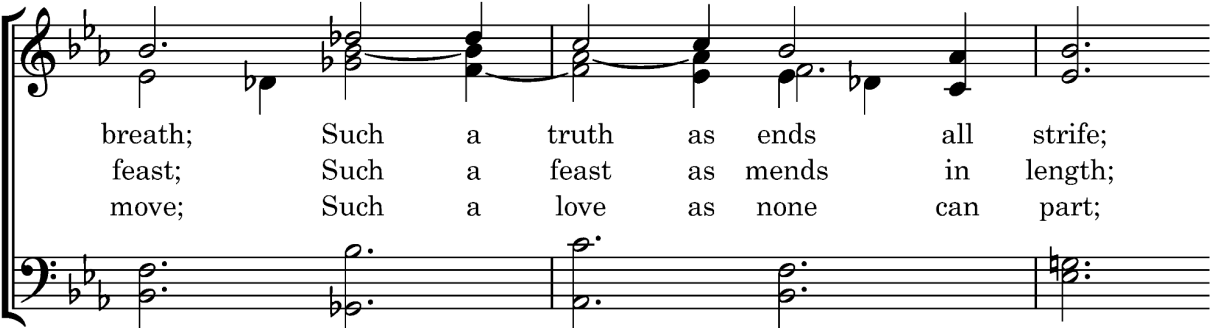
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

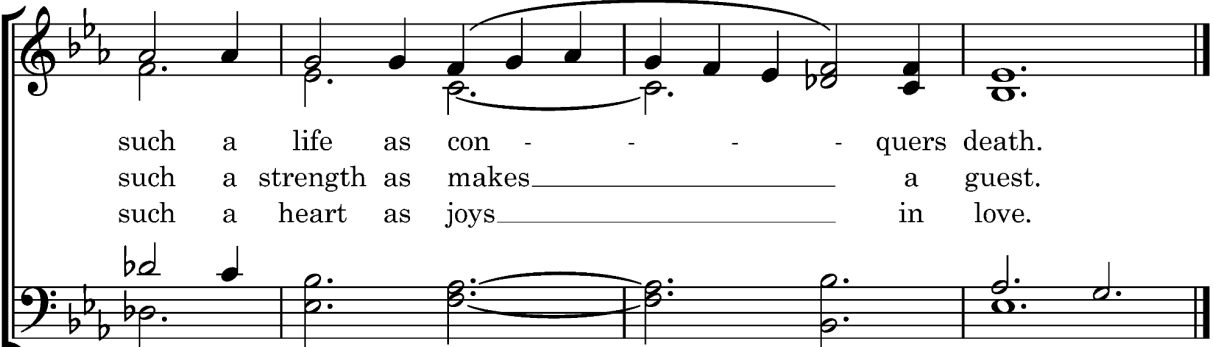
*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*



1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us
 2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a
 3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can



breath; Such a truth as ends all strife;
 feast; Such a feast as mends in length;
 move; Such a love as none can part;



such a life as con - - - quers death.
 such a strength as makes _____ a guest.
 such a heart as joys _____ in love.

SCRIPTURE

Marti Pechnyo

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

* STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to care for creation,
to seek justice and to resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

* RESPONSE

Come My Way, My Truth, My Life
See previous hymn

vv. 2 & 3

SERMON

“The Resurrected Jesus”

Liz Nickerson

* HYMN

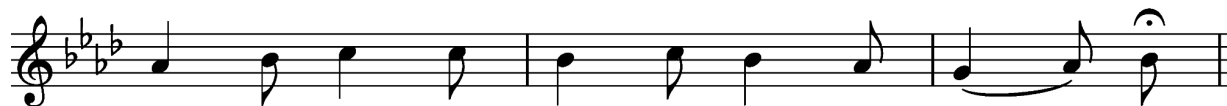
I Come to the Garden Alone



1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, ___ while the dew is
2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice ___ is so sweet the
3. I'd stay in the gar - den with him, ___ though the night a -



still on the ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing
birds hush their sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that he
-round me be fall - ing; But he bids me go; through the



on my ear, the Son of God dis - clos - es.
gave to me with - in my heart is ring - ing.
voice of woe his voice to me is call - ing.



And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me



I am his own, ___ And the joy we share as we



tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er ___ known. ___

GIVING MOMENT

Tom Murray

OFFERTORY

Christians, We Have Met to Worship
Chancel Choir

David Ashley White

Christians, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the word?
Holy Spirit, Holy One comes down;
Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

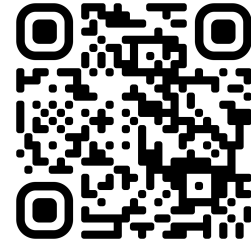
Let us love our God supremely, and us too;
Let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new.
Then we'll be called home to heaven, at his table we'll sit down;
Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

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



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;

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

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

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

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

The Day of Resurrection



1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion, Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil that we may see a - right
 3. Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth our song be - gin,



The Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God!
 The Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light
 Let all the world keep tri - umph, and all that is there - in.



From death to life e - ter - nal, from this world to the sky, —
 And, lis - tening to His ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes in glad - ness blend;



Our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 His own "All Hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 For Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

POSTLUDE

Keep Holding On
St. Arbucks Quartet

Danniebelle Hall

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.

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

Head Ushers: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Doug Clark, David Faulkner

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: David Mosley

This week's altar flowers are given by Lisa Donofrio.

BORN THIS WEEK IN 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.

April 14 Jay Abraham, Lisa Henry, Mark Huddle

April 15 Suzanne Mynard

April 16 Mark Lefens

April 17 Avery Vahey, Charlie Busker, Deon Fayhee, Eric Cittadine,
Linda Riportella

April 18 Grant Mutch, Jessica Ashley, Katie Alrutz, Nathaniel Weglarz,
Olivia Weglarz

April 19 Tom Scrivner

April 20 Andrea Reed, Daniel Nowack, Ella Javorcic, Sebestation Millard

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 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 16 and 23 - TUESDAY NIGHT PICKLEBALL – 5:30-8 p.m., Gym

Have you tried the growing sport of Pickleball yet? We hold regular adult pick-up games in the St. Pauls gym every Tuesday night, separate from the Young Adult group games on Monday nights. Sign up at the Church Center link below or just show up at the Church gym! All ages and skill levels are invited. Game Time: Tuesdays: 5:30-8 p.m. (Come anytime during that window.) If you have questions, call or text Steve Garrett at (312) 208-0636. To join us, visit: tinyurl.com/Tuesday-Pickleball.

APRIL 23 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall
“What Does Vinegar Have To Do With Creation Justice?” facilitated by Barbara Kaiser and Marcia Knudson. Adults of all ages are invited. Make new friends and connect with old ones with lunch (please bring your own), fellowship, fun, and faith. You may register here: tinyurl.com/2p3w8jnf. Remember, April is Earth Month! Earth Day is on April 22 and this year's theme is "Planet vs. Plastics." Let's all take action to protect our planet from plastic pollution.

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

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to join us for Rebuilding Together Day. The response has been wonderful. We are currently adding people to a waitlist. If you did not get a chance to join us, but you think that you might like to be involved next year, please email Gerald Wilk at gcjwilk@sbcglobal.net. We chose the house to work on in December and if we have enough interest, we might get a second house next year!

MAY 4 - WORLD LABYRINTH DAY - 12 -2 p.m., Gym

(Come any time to allow completion by 2 p.m.)

World Labyrinth Day takes place every first Saturday in May when thousands of people participate in meditation for world peace and a celebration of the labyrinth experience. Founded in 2009 by The Labyrinth Society (TLS), participants "Walk as One at 1" in their time zone, creating a rolling wave of peaceful energy passing from one time zone to the next. You can join the event at St. Pauls, where finger and floor labyrinths will be available. If you would like a short introduction to the labyrinth, join Pastor Liz Nickerson at noon in the Oscar Mayer Room. Invite someone to join you!

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

WINDY CITY WINDS CONCERT – FRIDAY MAY 17 – “THE GREAT OUTDOORS”

Windy City Winds, “Chicago’s Community Band,” invites you to our spring concert, “The Great Outdoors,” in the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening, May 17. The music will include Aaron Copland’s *An Outdoor Overture*, Ron Nelson’s *Rocky Point Holiday*, other works by Michael Daugherty and Cait Nishimura, and the world premiere of a new work written for Windy City Winds by Douglas Brandt (son of Jim and Nancy Brandt). Admission is free, and the concert will be livestreamed.

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 here: tinyurl.com/Little-Lights-Summer-Camp.

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-on-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 to 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 an 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.

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 place and time is TBD. 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/bdcqvdy](https://open.spotify.com/album/1bdcqvdy) and Apple Music [tinyurl.com/39skfy9k](https://music.apple.com/album/1bdcqvdy). Share the links with your friends; no account needed to listen.

USE OF CHURCH REVENUE TASK FORCE

We are looking to increase the revenue the church receives from building rentals and user 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

You are invited to UCAN's "Caring Artfully Exhibit" on Wednesday, April 17, from 5:30-7 p.m. Youth from across UCAN's programs will showcase their talents in the visual and performing arts and proceeds from the sale of artwork will go directly to the artist. This is a community celebration of beauty and healing. Learn more about how you can participate at <https://ucanchicago.org/ucanartshow>.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

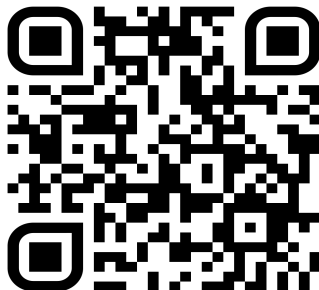
Be part of the solution!

The Great Lakes is part of an immense ecosystem. Its waters are like ocean waters and are being affected equally by plastic litter coming from industry and human settlements. Plastics are the most persistent marine litter, accounting for 85% of marine waste. Plastic bags are particularly mobile and have been found in the deepest and remotest waters. Eleven million tons of plastic currently enter oceans and lakes, a statistic that will triple in the next twenty years. Be part of the solution and refuse to buy single-use plastic products, including food with plastic wrap, plastic bottles, shopping bags, and straws.



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 one 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!

TODAY'S MUSIC

Our Introit ***Alleluia*** is by Henry Purcell (1659-1695). Purcell, one of the great English Baroque composers, spent his entire short life in London. His father was a musician and singer in the King's court. After his father's death, Henry was raised and encouraged musically by his uncle. Among his famous works is the opera *Dido and Aeneas*. His music is used in film scores and his most popular work is his *Canon in C*.

Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise is a hymn text composed in 1739 by Charles Wesley (1707-1788), who was the youngest of 18 (!) children. He was popularly known as "The Bard of Methodism," and wrote no fewer than 6,500 hymns! The tune LLANFAIR was composed in 1817 by Robert Williams (1782-1821). Williams was a blind basket weaver with innate musical talent. It was said that he could write down a tune having heard it only once.

Come My Way, My Truth, My Life is a text by George Herbert (1593-1633). He bears the title "Shakespeare of the Church." Herbert was a contemporary of "The Bard" (1564-1616), and like Shakespeare, his poetry lifted common religious practice to the spiritually sublime. THE CALL was composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) as part of a cycle for baritone, choir and orchestra, *Five Mystical Songs*, composed between 1906 and 1911 and using Herbert's poetry. Vaughan Williams then adapted THE CALL as a congregational hymn.

Christians, We Have Met to Worship is a hymn anthem based on the tune HOLY MANNA. The tune is attributed to Willian Moore and is from the rich early 19th century American singing tradition often referred to as Sacred Harp, which is the title of the most popular of hymnals of that time. David Ashley White (b. 1944) was the chosen winner of our Sesquicentennial Composition Competition in 1993. Mr. White is director and professor of Composition and Theory at the University of Houston Moore School of Music. He wrote and dedicated this anthem to St. Pauls in 1994.

Both the text and tune, GARDEN, for ***I Come to the Garden Alone*** were composed in 1913 by C. Austin Miles (1868-1946). He was an American pharmacist from Pennsylvania, but abandoned that career to compose gospel songs. He composed hundreds of them and eventually owned a publishing company that printed song books.

The original text of *The Day of Resurrection* was in Greek and attributed to St. John of Damascus (675-754). One of his many accomplishments was codifying Byzantine chant. The translation we sing was made by J.M. Neale (1818-1866), who authored many hymn texts, was a member of the British clergy, and struggled with ill health his entire life. The tune, LANCASHIRE, was composed in 1836 by Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879). Smart was largely self taught, but composed many fine hymn tunes in addition to teaching himself to play the organ.

Danielbelle Hall (1938-2000) was a deeply committed Gospel artist who sought to evangelize through her singing and composing. She formed her own group, The Danielbelles, and was also a member of Andraé Crouch's gospel group The Disciples. She recorded several solo albums and toured around the world. *Keep Holding On* was composed and recorded in the 1980s.

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.

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 Willie Porter diagnosed with throat cancer.
- Prayers for the family and friends of Ron McCowan at his death.
- Prayers for an enriching sabbatical for Pastor Jeff, away until May 19.
- 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.

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.