

June 16, 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.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"There is nothing we can do. This does not mean nothing is being done."

H. Richard Niebuhr

PRELUDE

Truth
St. Arbucks Quartet

Kamasi Washington

I won't point any fingers
I won't say it was you
I let life take it's time
Any time you see the truth

See the truth

INTROIT

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Lord God, you are brilliance with no shadow!

All: You are the love that knows no coldness!

One: You are the life that defeats death!

All: We are glad to sing your praise today!

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

* HYMN

Sing Praise to God

1. Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sus - tains all cre -
 2. Praise God, our guard - ian, who lov - ing - ly of - fers cor -
 3. Sing praise to God, with sin - cere thanks for all your suc -
 4. Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high God com -

- a - tion! Sing praise, my soul, in pro - found and com -
 - rec - tion, Who, as on ea - gle's wings, saves us from
 - cess - es. Mer - ci - ful God ev - er loves to en -
 - mend - ing. All that have life and breath join you, their

- plete ad - o - ra - tion! Glad - some re - joice— or - gan and
 sin - ful de - jec - tion. Have you ob - served, how we are
 - cour - age and bless us. On - ly con - ceive, what god - ly
 notes sweet - ly blend - ing. God is your light! Soul, ev - er

trum - pet and voice— join - ing God's great con - gre - ga - tion.
 al - ways pre - served by God's pa - ren - tal af - fec - tion?
 strength can a - chieve: strength that would touch and car - ess us.
 keep this in sight: a - men, a - men nev - er end - ing.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

**Lord God,
rather than honoring you,
we bow before
the power of strength
the power of privilege
the power of shame
the power of self
the power of intellect
the power of nation
the power of wealth
the power of guilt.
We repent and turn to you,
the source of all,
the God of all.
Forgive us. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

We Worship You, God

vv. 1 - 3

1. We wor - ship you, God; your power and your love
2. We tell of your might, we sing of your grace,
3. The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
4. Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
5. Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

are bla - zoned a - broad, a - round, and a - bove:
whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old,
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

Our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
Your char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
Your mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
and broad is your path on the wings of the storm.
and round it you cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

SCRIPTURE

Mark Sancya

Mark 4:26-34

Then Jesus said, “God’s kingdom is like seed thrown on a field by a man who then goes to bed and forgets about it. The seed sprouts and grows—he has no idea how it happens. The earth does it all without his help: first a green stem of grass, then a bud, then the ripened grain. When the grain is fully formed, he goes in and reaps because the harvest has come.

“How can we picture God’s kingdom? What kind of story can we use? It’s like a mustard seed. When it lands on the ground it is quite small as seeds go, yet once it is planted it grows into a huge shrub with thick branches. Eagles nest in it.”

With many stories like these, he presented his message to them as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

* 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

We Worship You, God
See previous hymn

vv. 4 & 5

SERMON

“The Grace of Doing Nothing”

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation



1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2. In the just re - ward of la - bor; God's will is done.
3. For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For God's gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor; God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world-wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

OFFERTORY

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made the glowing colors,
He made the tiny wings.

Refrain:

The purple headed mountains,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;
The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one.

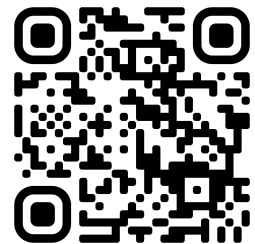
Refrain:

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

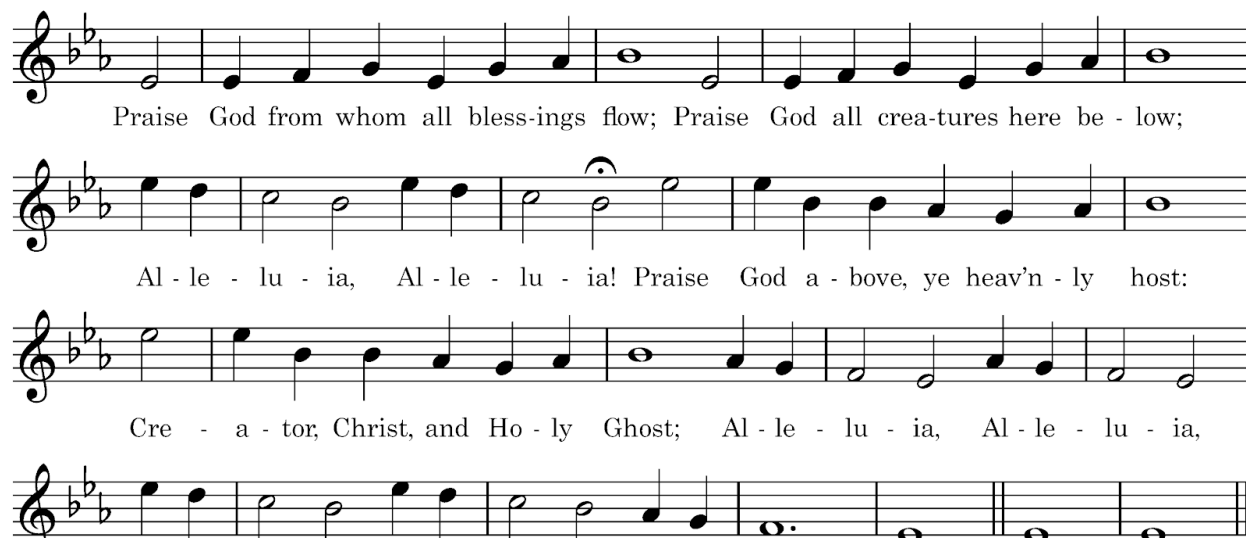
Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

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



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;". The second staff continues: "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:". The third staff continues: "Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,". The fourth staff concludes: "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men." The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes) and rests, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

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

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

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

God Is Working His Purpose Out



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



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



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



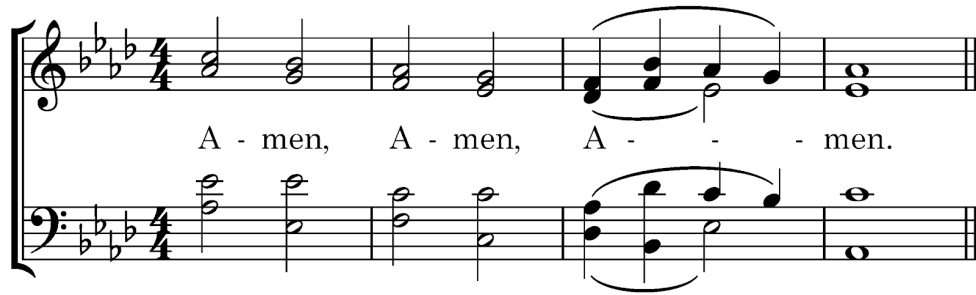
time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the
isles, give ear to me, That the earth may be filled with the
set their cap - tives free, That the earth may be filled with the
time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the



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

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Finale

Dan Gawthrop

Kevin Dzierzawski, 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, directly below the Sanctuary.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Jeff Carlson, Matt Fitzgerald

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, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

This week's altar flowers are given by David Baker.

BORN THIS WEEK IN JUNE

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.

June 16 Cheryl Kuba, Janice Keeler, Mary Hoffman, Sebastian Liabo

June 17 Andreas Hecht, Beverley Petrunich, Chuck Palm, Stella Crowley

June 18 Griffin Weil, Jones Brinkoetter, Spencer Weil

June 19 Chris Bettler, Jordan England, Thomas Jackson

June 20 Liz Kurman, Zoe Montgomery

June 21 Paul Kendall

June 22 Geoff Gist

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.
- High School Sunday School class meets on the first and third Sundays of the month. The last spring class is today, June 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

JUNE 18 AND 25 - 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 any time during that window.) If you have questions, call or text Steve Garrett at (312) 208-0636. To join us, visit: tinyurl.com/Tuesday-Pickleball.

JUNE 19 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - REVELATION - 12-12:45 p.m., Zoom

The last book of the Bible is one that many have found confusing or frightening. Some Christians completely ignore it. Others have been obsessed with it. We're looking at Revelation as a wake-up call, not a blueprint for the final apocalypse. Revelation spotlights corrupt human politics and nationalistic religion while celebrating the hopeful coming of Christ, the Lamb of God, into the world. In light of the renewed prominence of Christian Nationalism in our own time, Revelation will be a timely book. Led by Pastor Jeff every Wednesday. Sign up here: spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/bible-study

JUNE 25 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall

Program facilitated by Pastor Liz Nickerson. 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 if you wish: tinyurl.com/2p3w8jnf

JUNE 30 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL PRIDE COOKOUT - 2 p.m., Courtyard

Adults of all ages are invited to join St. Pauls Social and hosts Rick Peterson and Doug Heyboer for a cookout after the Pride Parade in the St. Pauls courtyard (or in the church in case of rain). Whether you're marching or not, you're invited to join this fun cookout. Please bring your own food and beverages. A grill will be provided for all to share. You may leave your food at the church during the march. RSVP here: tinyurl.com/w5k4bkjj

JUNE 30 - PRIDE PARADE

Four lucky members of St. Pauls will be walking in the parade this year along with others in the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches (CCWC). Because of new restrictions, each church is limited to only four representatives. If you're at the parade, look for them as they pass by!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITTLE LIGHTS SUMMER CAMP

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.

STEPHEN MINISTERS CARE

We are planning a training for new Stephen Ministers in July and August. Stephen Minister training is an engaging, interactive experience that fully equips you to provide high-quality, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. St. Pauls Stephen Leaders will use presentations, discussions, readings, videos, skill practices, and spiritual growth activities to equip and empower you with practical caregiving and relational skills. In addition, the training provides many opportunities for building Christian community and experiencing personal and spiritual growth. Stephen Ministers often say that their training is life-transforming – helping them to grow in faith and learn relationship principles and skills that deepen and enhance all the relationships in their life. Might God be calling you into this ministry of compassion? Contact Stephen Leader Marti Pechnyo to learn more at mpechnyo@gmail.com.

PALESTINE STUDY GROUP

Join us for a discussion on *"Hundred Years' War on Palestine: A History of Settler Colonialism and Resistance, 1917–2017"* by Rashid Khalidi. All are welcome! Connect with us through tinyurl.com/Palestine-Study-Group or contact David Burnett at burnett.db@gmail.com.

"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: 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.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Chicago School Board Elections

The Chicago Board of Education, the governing board that oversees the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), is undergoing a historic transition from being a seven-member board appointed by the mayor to a much larger board elected by the citizens of Chicago. Starting January 2025, the Board of Education will consist of 21 members, elected from 10 districts within Chicago with one elected board member and one board member appointed by the mayor in each district, and one additional board member appointed by the mayor. The elected Board of Education members will be selected in the November 5, 2024 general election. Individuals seeking election to the Board of Education must submit nominating petitions with the signatures of at least 1,000 voters living within their election district by June 24, 2024. Some candidates have already filed paperwork with the Illinois State Board of Elections. For more information, see www.cpsboe.org and www.chalkbeat.org.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

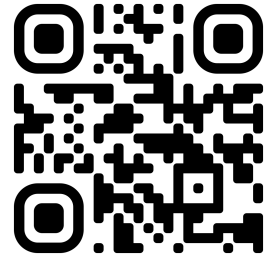
Glass, Aluminum or Plastic

A cold drink on a hot day is a snapshot of summer. What is the best packaging for that cold drink? No packaging is best, but for those drinks that cannot be made at home, glass and aluminum are preferred. Although initially they have a greater footprint, glass and aluminum are infinitely recyclable. Plastic melts on recycling and needs to be used for other purposes or “down cycled.”

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 Allen Heinemann 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 are 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 '24-'25 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!

TODAY'S MUSIC

Truth is the opening song on the 2017 EP, *Harmony of Difference*, by Kamasi Washington (b.1981). Mr. Washington is a jazz saxophonist born and raised in Los Angeles. He studied in the UCLA Department of Ethnomusicology. As a student, he was invited to play with a faculty quartet. In addition to his solo career, he has collaborated with musicians in jazz, hip-hop and pop music.

The tune, ROYAL OAK, adapted for the text ***All Things Bright and Beautiful***, is an English folk song, probably from the 17th century. It is a part of a long church tradition of adapting secular songs for sacred or liturgical purposes; in this case, a patriotic song extolling King Charles II. The text is by Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). She began composing poetry and hymn texts in childhood. The wife of the Anglican prelate of Ireland, she devoted herself to service of the poor and sick.

Sing Praise to God is another great hymn from our German heritage. The tune, LOBE DEN HERRN, is the first line of the first stanza of the German text. First published in a hymnal in 1668, the composer is unknown. The original text was written by Joachim Neander (1650-1680). Although he was reported to have spent a “riotous youth,” he became the first important hymn writer of the German Reform Church. This updated translation was made in 1993 for our *New Century Hymnal* by Madeleine Forell Marshall (b. 1946).

For the Fruit of All Creation is a slightly updated version of the original 1970 Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000) text. Born in Liverpool, he was one of the most prominent hymnodists in Britain and became a Methodist minister. AR HYD Y NOS is a traditional Welsh melody first found in musical relics, *Of the Welsh Bands*, published in Dublin in 1784.

We Worship You, God uses the tune LYONS which was originally ascribed to Haydn, but more recent research indicates that the composer was Joseph Martin Kraus (1756–1792), a German who resided in Sweden. The English text is by Robert Grant (1779–1838). He was of Scottish descent, but lived his entire life in India. He was deeply influenced by the poetic rendering of Psalms.

The well known Victorian text for ***All Things Bright and Beautiful*** was composed in 1848 by Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). She spent her entire life in Ireland and, after marrying an Anglican priest, devoted herself to the service of the disadvantaged. She and her sister also founded a school for the deaf. John Rutter (b. 1945) wrote this anthem in 1983. It was commissioned by Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

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

Our postlude today, ***Finale***, was composed by Daniel E. Gawthrop (b. 1949). He was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and is known for his output of compositions for choirs and also the organ. He has been the recipient of more than 100 commissions. He attended both Michigan State University and Brigham Young University and currently resides in southern Idaho with his wife.

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.

- Alex Doty at the death of her mother, Nancy Jane Woolley.
- Juanita Barlow's brother-in-law, Jerry, has health problems.
- Karen L. Johnson at the death of her husband, Leroy Johnson. A memorial service will be held on June 29 at 11 a.m.
- Creighton Hartanov and family at the death of her grandfather.
- Luis Velez and Tim Ward at the death of Luis's mother.
- David Baker's brother-in-law, Roger Robert, as he deals with the onset of Parkinson's disease.
- Pastor Liz's high school friend, Joe, who has ALS.
- Gloria Joseph's dear friend, Betsy, as she begins a rigorous treatment program for a new cancer diagnosis.
- Prayers for peace - in our city, nation and world.
- Donn Schimp and his family as Donn continues cancer treatment.
- Betty Voice being treated for sepsis.
- 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.