

June 30, 2024
Pride Sunday

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

"Creation is divinity in drag."

Linn Marie Tonstad

PRELUDE

I Expect to See Him
St. Arbucks Quartet

Jessie Dixon

INTROIT

In the Midst of New Dimensions
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beautiful are the works of God!

All: Beautiful are all of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the mind of God!

All: Beautiful are the hopes of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the heart of God!

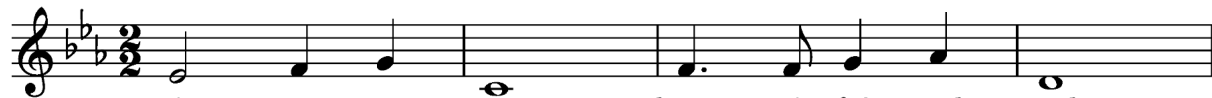
All: Beautiful are the souls of God's people!

To God be the glory for the things God has done!

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

* HYMN

Bring Many Names



1. Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good,
2. Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day,
3. Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - ery child,
4. Old, ach - ing God, grey with end - less care,
5. Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger, on the move,
6. Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,



cel - e - brate, in par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li -
plan - ning all the won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting
feel - ing all the strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing
calm - ly pierc - ing e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of
say - ing no to false - hood and un - kind - ness, cry - ing
joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing, clos - er



-ness in glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God.
each e - qua - tion, gen - i - us at play:
and for - giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled:
good sur - pris - es, wis - er than de - spair:
out for jus - tice, giv - ing all you have:
yet than breath - ing, ev - er - last - ing home:



Hail and Ho - san - na! bring man - y names!
Hail and Ho - san - na, strong moth - er God!
Hail and Ho - san - na, warm fa - ther God!
Hail and Ho - san - na, old, ach - ing God!
Hail and Ho - san - na, young, grow - ing God!
Hail and Ho - san - na,

great, liv - ing God!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**God, you know our hard hearts,
Our selfish thoughts and our casual cruelties.
You know who we are.
So who are we to come before you?
We cannot rely on ourselves.
We can only rely on your promise
that Jesus came into the world *for us*
He came to melt our hearts, free our minds
and destroy the power of death.
We seize hold of this promise today.
We know you can heal us!
For you can do what we cannot do!
You WILL do it!
We believe that you are doing it now!
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

I Come With Joy

vv. 1-3



1. I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3. As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4. And thus we meet, and bet - ter know the Pres - ence, ev - er
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, in friend - ship we will



free, _____ The life of Je - sus to re - call, in
fed, _____ The new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends, _____ The love that made_ us, makes us one, and
near, _____ And join our hearts and sing with joy that
stay, _____ And go with joy _____ to love the world and



love laid down for me, _____ in love laid down for me. _____
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, _____ in Christ's com - mu - nion bread. _____
strang - ers now_ are friends, and strang - ers now_ are friends.
Christ is ris - en here, _____ that Christ is ris - en here. _____
live the way_ we pray, _____ and live the way_ we pray. _____

Matthew 8:5-13

As Jesus entered the village of Capernaum, a Roman Centurion came up in a panic and said, “Master, my *pais* is sick. He can’t walk. He’s in terrible pain.”

Jesus said, “I’ll come and heal him.”

“Oh, no,” said the Centurion. “I don’t want to put you to all that trouble. Just give the order and my *pais* will be fine. I’m a man who takes orders and gives orders. I tell one soldier, ‘Go,’ and he goes; to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

Taken aback, Jesus said, “I’ve yet to come across this kind of simple trust in Israel, the very people who are supposed to know all about God and how he works. This man is the vanguard of many outsiders who will soon be coming from all directions—streaming in from the east, pouring in from the west, sitting down at God’s kingdom banquet alongside Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Then those who grew up ‘in the faith’ but had no faith will find themselves out in the cold, outsiders to grace and wondering what happened.”

Then Jesus turned to the captain and said, “Go. What you believed could happen has happened.” At that moment his *pais* became well.

* 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

I Come With Joy
See previous hymn

vv. 4 & 5

SERMON

“Pais Be With You”

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

All Are Welcome



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly__
2. Let us build a house where pro - phets speak, and words are strong and
3. Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
4. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vis - ions



live, a__ place where saints and chil - dren tell how hearts learn
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to__ seek to__ dream God's
stone to__ heal and strength-en, serve and teach, and live the
heard and loved and treas - ured, taught and claimed as__ words with -



to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as
Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the strang - er bear the
-in the Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace: here the love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
im - age of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
faith and songs of grace, let this house pro - claim from floor to raf - ter:



All are wel-come, all are wel-come, all are wel-come in this place.__

OFFERTORY

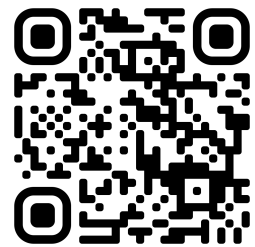
Let Their Celestial Concerts All Unite
from *Samson*
Chancel Choir
Breanna Coe, conductor

G.F. Handel

Let their celestial concerts all unite,
Ever to sound his praise in endless morn of light.

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

*Scan this code with your cell phone camera,
Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,
PayPal at spucc.org/paypal, or Zelle to giving@spucc.org.*



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

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

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

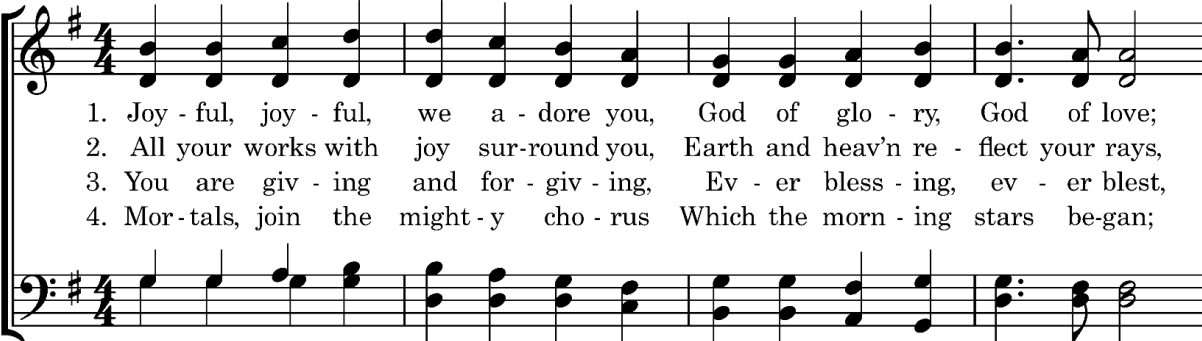
Liz Nickerson

THE LORD'S PRAYER

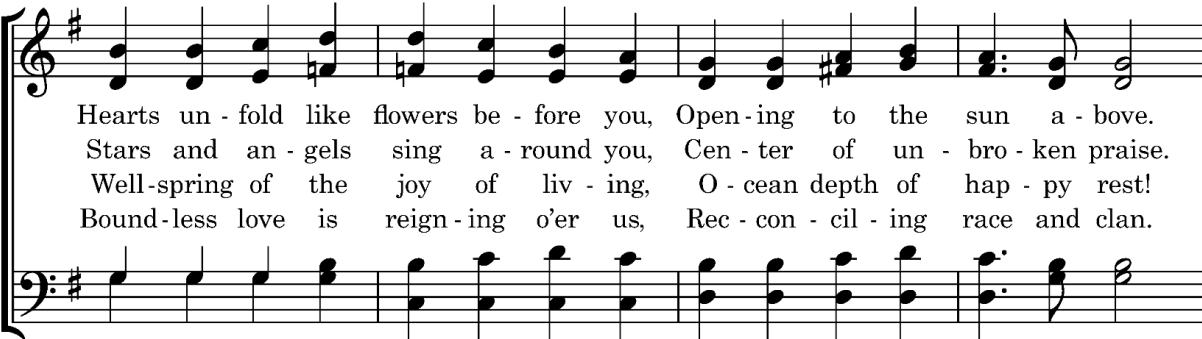
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,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

* HYMN

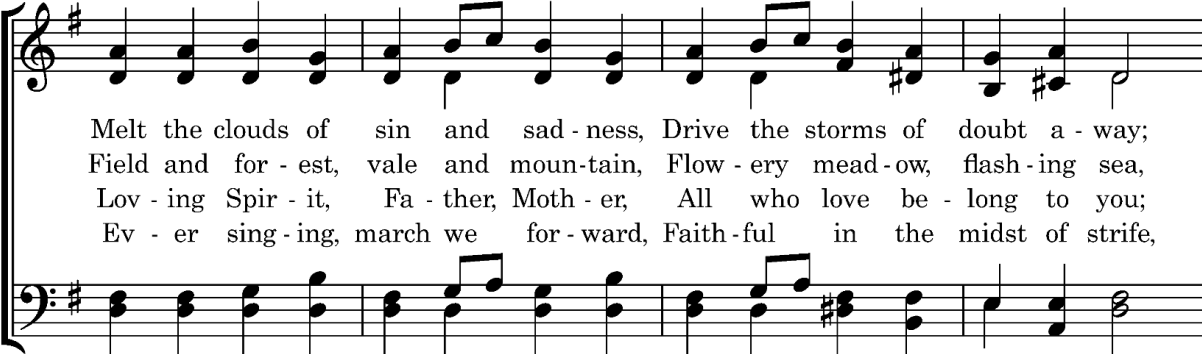
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You



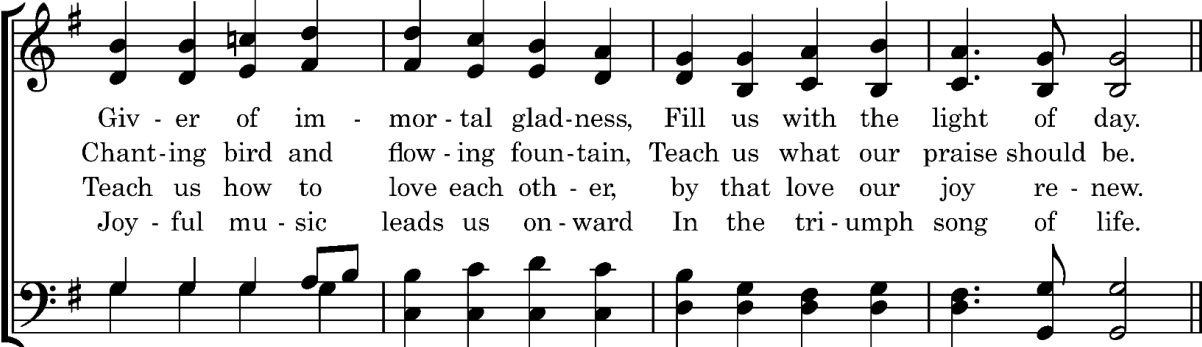
1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2. All your works with joy sur-round you, Earth and heav'n re - flect your rays,
3. You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
4. Mor-tals, join the might-y cho - rus Which the morn - ing stars be-gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean depth of hap - py rest!
Bound-less love is reign - ing o'er us, Rec - con - cil - ing race and clan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the storms of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, All who love be - long to you;
Ev - er sing - ing, march we for - ward, Faith-ful in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird and flow - ing foun-tain, Teach us what our praise should be.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward In the tri - umph song of life.

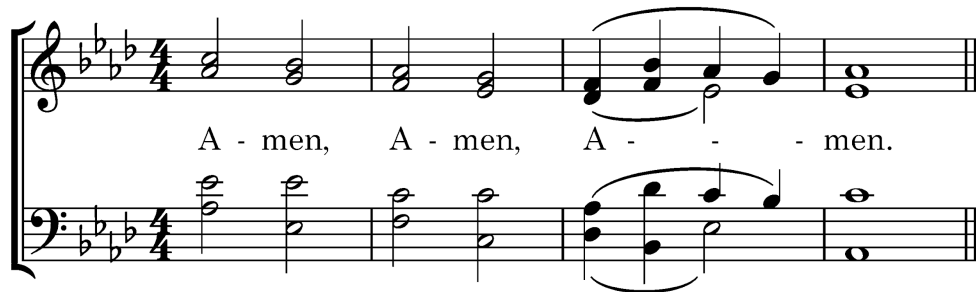
* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars, pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.



POSTLUDE

Toccata in F

Dietrich Buxtehude

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

We are very grateful for Breanna Coe's leadership of our Chancel Choir today. Our Music Director, Kurt R. Hansen, is out of town today with his wife, Terry, at the National Association of Teachers of Singing convention. Terry is one of the presenters at the convention.

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: 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: John Balevic, David Faulkner, Mary Hoffman

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

BORN THIS WEEK IN JUNE/JULY

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 30 Mark Grosshans

July 1 Billy Mooney, Elaine Filus, Grace Smith, Kathy Berghoff, Will Ritchie

July 2 Tate Saltarelli

July 3 John Miller, Marcia Volk

July 4 Christina Cruz Cedeño-Smedley, Ian Cata

July 5 Charlotte Clarke, Charlotte Malley, Cullen Clarke, Laura Clifford,
Sean Heffernan

July 6 Betsey Melton, Jan Exworthy, Lisa Montague, Vicki Kendall

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Childcare is available during worship for babies and toddlers up to age 5 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY - ST. PAULS SOCIAL/PRIDE PARADE 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/w5k4bkji

TODAY - PRIDE PARADE

Four lucky members of St. Pauls will be walking in the parade today along with others in the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches (CCWC). Because of new City of Chicago restrictions, each church is limited to only four representatives. Our folks are: Bob Ball, Ramiro Gonzalez, Mark Roschen and Solveig Roverud. If you're at the parade, look for them as they pass by!

JULY 2 AND 9 - 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.

JULY 3 - 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 is a timely book. Led by Pastor Jeff every Wednesday. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/45rv6kfm>

JULY 21 - JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE SPEAKER - 11:15 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room

The Palestine Study Group welcomes longtime peace and justice activist, Bekah Levin, of the Chicago area Jewish Voice for Peace. Bekah will be discussing the historical background and current conditions in the Gaza conflict. Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/5b8zfra8> Questions: burnett.db@gmail.com

JULY 23 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall
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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION'S FIFTH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER

As a proud member congregation of Lighthouse Foundation's Coalition of Accomplices for Racial Equity (CARE), we're excited to support Lighthouse Foundation's Fifth Anniversary Fundraiser on July 13! Join us at Meeting House Tavern, 5025 N. Clark Street, from 12-2 p.m. to honor a Black LGBTQ+ founded and led organization that provides healing and liberation at the intersection of Blackness and Queerness. Enjoy dynamic entertainment and joyful community. Enjoy Drag Bingo (\$20 a card), dazzling drag performances by Kenya J. Sanchez and Olaysia, and inspiring keynote speeches. Let's celebrate Lighthouse Foundation's remarkable work over the past five years and join their ongoing efforts to empower Black LGBTQ+ individuals in Chicago. See you there! Tickets start at \$35 for entry. [Visit bit.ly/LF5Fund](http://bit.ly/LF5Fund).

WINDY CITY WINDS SUMMER CONCERTS

Come hear Windy City Winds outdoors this summer performing music of POP STARS – FROM SOUSA TO TAYLOR SWIFT, plus The Beatles, Paul Simon, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Chicago!, as well as "Chicago's Community Band" with guest stars from the St. Pauls Chancel Choir! Two more performances: Saturday evening, July 13 at 7 p.m. at Churchill Field for the Bucktown Garden Walk (1825 N. Damen), and Saturday afternoon, July 20 at 3 p.m. at Washington Square Park (Clark and Walton). Clap, sing and dance along with us!

WOMEN'S FARM/STARVED ROCK WEEKEND AT MARCIA VOLK'S FARM

Please join us at the Volk farm the weekend of July 27-28! Come for Saturday only or the weekend. Carpool to farm (about two hours southwest) and spend Saturday hiking at Starved Rock and/or enjoy the farm trails, pick wildflowers, or ride in our 4-wheeler and zip line. On Saturday night we'll have a potluck dinner and bonfire. On Sunday, we'll attend Marcia's summer Congregational church in Lacon (optional.) Breakfast and lunch are at the farm Sunday. Please bring \$10 for expenses, if possible. First 12 people who respond get the beds, two to a bed. All beds require the ability to climb stairs. For more information, contact Marcia Volk (773) 307-6866 or marcia@volkonline.com.

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. Join us for water games, arts & crafts, music, sports, and more! Register here: tinyurl.com/Little-Lights-Summer-Camp.

STEPHEN MINISTERS CARE

We are planning 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 Ministers 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

Petition Drive: Special Meeting of the CCPSA (Community Commission for Public Safety) on Pretextual Traffic Stops

Each day, the Chicago Police Department makes more than 1,000 traffic stops, with more than 44 percent of these stops involving minor traffic offenses (e.g., expired registration, an unlit headlight) rather than moving violations, such as speeding or driving under the influence. Officers use such stops as pretexts to investigate non-traffic-related criminal activity. However, contraband such as narcotics, weapons, guns, and alcohol are recovered in less than 1 percent of the stops. Please consider signing a petition sponsored by the Community Renewal Society and the Free2Move Coalition asking the CCPSA to hold a special meeting regarding pretextual traffic stops. If you would like to sign the petition and learn more about the issue, please seek out SPARC members who can point out Julia Ehrhardt, petition coordinator. She will be available after church in the Narthex and at coffee hour during June and July.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

How Much Plastic Are We Using?

In 2022, Jan Dell, founder of Last Beach Cleanup, stated, "...the rate of plastic recycling in the U.S. has been about four to five percent...we do not have a lot of factories to do it. It's also very water intensive."

Eighty-five percent of plastic ends up in landfills and the rest is incinerated; yet plastic waste in the U.S. has increased by 263 percent since 1980, from 60 pounds per person to 218 pounds per person by 2021. This estimate is based on data gathered by Beyond Plastics and the Last Beach Cleanup.

JOIN A GROUP



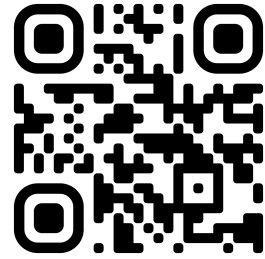
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



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

TODAY'S MUSIC

In the Midst of New Dimensions is a newer hymn (1985) with both music and text composed by Julian Rush (b. 1936) in a traditional Protestant hymn style. The Reverend Rush is an openly gay minister ordained in the United Methodist Church. His book, *Julian Rush-Facing The Music: A Gay Methodist Minister's Story*, details his trials within his denomination after coming out after many closeted years. The text of the refrain, "God of rainbow ..." is appropriate not only because of its reference in *The Hebrew Bible* to the covenant after the flood, but also the rainbow of acceptance and pride that we, as an Open and Affirming congregation, celebrate during Pride Month.

The text for ***Bring Many Names*** was written by Brian A. Wren (b. 1936). A major British contributor to contemporary hymn writing, he was a pastor of a Congregational Church in Essex. **WESTCHASE** was composed in 1989 by Carlton R. Young (b.1926). He served in World War II and became a teacher, editor, composer and conductor. He edited two editions of the *United Methodist Hymnal*.

The text of ***I Come With Joy*** was written by Brian Wren (b. 1936), a pastor in the Congregational Church in England. He wrote the hymn as a summary of a series of sermons on the meaning of communion. The tune is an old American hymn, DOVE OF PEACE, from the *Southern Harmony* hymnal, part of the Sacred Harp tradition. It was arranged by Austin Lovelace (1919-2010), who was organist and choirmaster for a number of years at First United Methodist Church in Evanston.

All Are Welcome is a recently composed hymn and one of our favorites from a past hymnfest. The tune is TWO OAKS. Dating from 1994, the words and music were both created by Marty Haugen (b. 1950), an American composer of numerous hymns and liturgical music. This hymn was shared with Kurt R. Hansen by a college friend, Alisa Kasmir, and has quickly become an anthem of St. Pauls' Open and Affirming ministry.

Samson was composed in 1741, the same year as George Friderick Handel (1685-1759) penned *Messiah*, but was first performed in 1743 in London, a year following *Messiah's* debut in Dublin. *Samson* is, of course, the story of the rise and fall of the Hebrew Bible hero Samson. The text is based on the expansion of the Biblical story by John Milton (1608-1674). ***Let Their Celestial Concerts All Unite*** is the final chorus of that oratorio. It imagines the angelic celebration in heaven at the assent of Samson.

The music for ***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*** (ODE TO JOY) was composed by Beethoven (1770-1827) and is the chorale melody from the final movement of his *Ninth Symphony* (1824). The original German text (1785) was by the famous poet and dramatist Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805), and the English text was composed in 1907 by Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Van Dyke was an American author and clergyman. He was appointed ambassador to the Netherlands by President Woodrow Wilson prior to the outbreak of World War I.

A Gaelic Blessing was composed in (1978) by John Rutter (b.1945). The text is from an old Gaelic rune. It is another work that was commissioned by Mel Olson, who was the church choir director with whom Kurt R. Hansen grew up in Omaha. Mr. Olson was largely responsible for introducing John Rutter and his music to this country. Earlier this month, John Rutter was knighted by King Charles, an honor he richly deserves.

I Expect to See Him is by Jessy Dixon (1938-2011), another gospel artist and composer with deep roots in Chicago. His music was beloved outside his own community, having received seven Grammy nominations in his career. He toured the world with Paul Simon after Mr. Simon heard him and the Jessy Dixon Singers at a concert at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. He also wrote music for artists as varied as Diana Ross and Cher.

The ***Toccata in F Major*** BuxWV 147, was composed by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637?-1707). Buxtehude's music and his skill as an organist had a profound effect on Bach. A true story is that Bach, at age 20, walked (!) nearly 250 miles from Arnstadt to Lübeck just to hear and work with Buxtehude. That would be like walking from St. Pauls to Toledo, Ohio.

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.

- Maureen Reilly at the death of her mother, Rita Reilly.
- Jessica Ashley's client and her young son as they grieve the loss of three-year-old, Sarah.
- 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
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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.