

July 7, 2024
Communion 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

"Although the Christian is thus free from all works, the Christian ought in this liberty to empty oneself, take the form of a servant... be found in human form, and to serve, help and in every way deal with his neighbor as he sees that God through Christ has dealt and still deals with him."

— Martin Luther, *On Christian Liberty*

PRELUDE

Prelude on Materna
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

C. Callahan

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Stand fast in the liberty by which Christ has made us free.

All: If Christ makes us free, we are free indeed. Let's rejoice as we gather together!

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

* HYMN

We Gather Together

1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask for God's bless - ing,
2. Be - side us, for - giv - ing, en - a - bling, sus - tain - ing,
3. All praise to the Spir - it, pro - vid - er, de - fend - er.

to live in com - mu - ni - ty, seek - ing God's will.
you call us, O Sav - ior, to life that is new.
You of - fer us free - dom, to fol - low or stray,

We come now, as sis - ters and broth - ers, con - fess - ing
You draw us a - way from self - cen - tered com - plain - ing.
Em - pow - er - ing all by the hope you en - gen - der.

the sins that di - vide and the wrong in us still.
You lead us and guide us in ways that are true.
Grant wis - dom and cour - age to fol - low your way.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Allen Heinemann

God of all creation,
You are the giver of liberty and life,
You call us to a life of freedom in Christ.
This freedom is different from freedom
for our own gain,
It is the freedom to serve others.
Forgive our selfishness, oh Lord,
Help us to repent and return to you,
For in doing your will,
We will find perfect freedom.

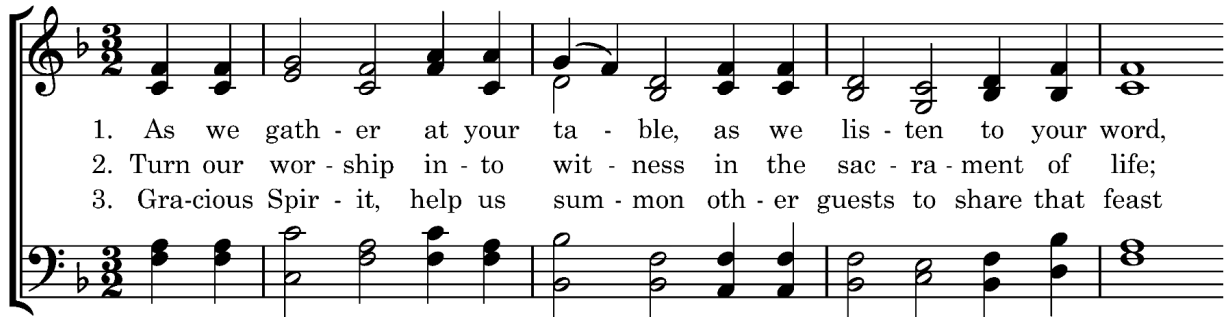
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

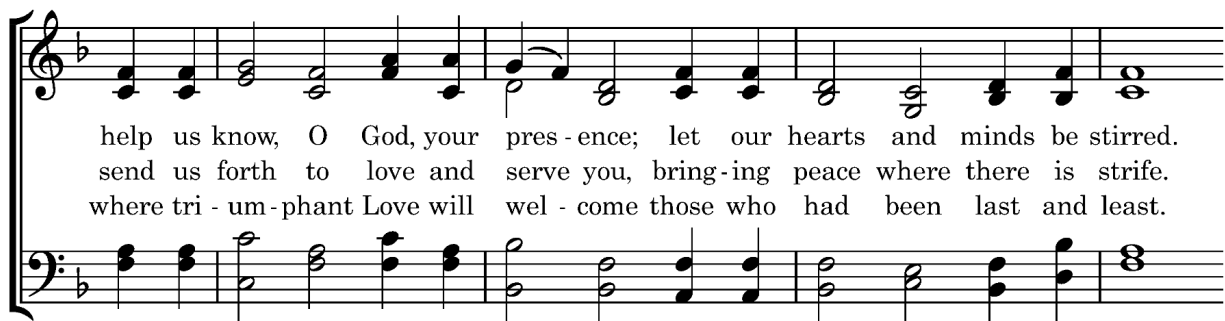
RESPONSE

As We Gather at Your Table

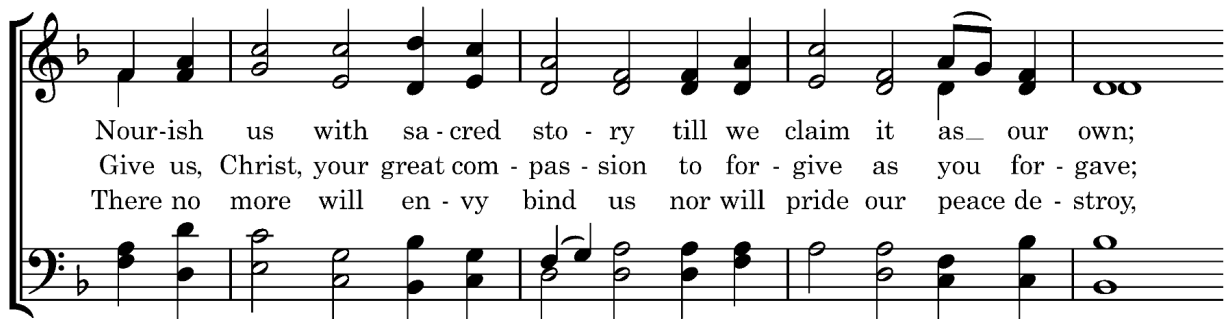
vv. 1 & 2



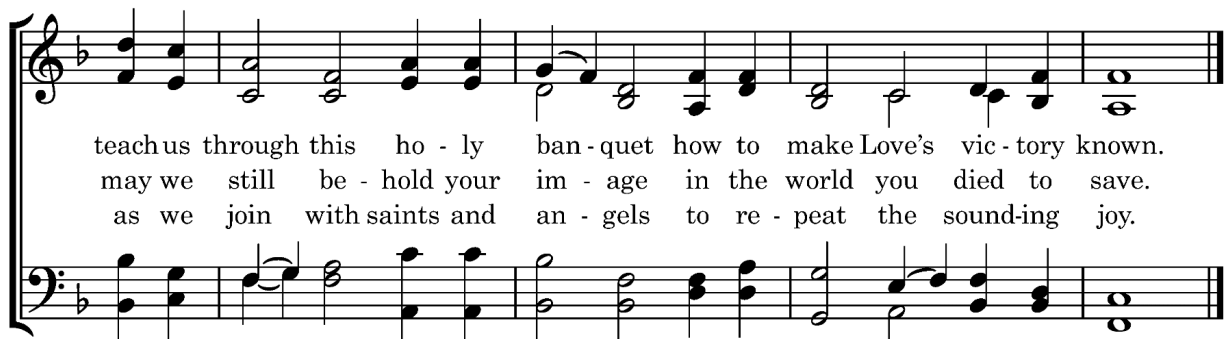
1. As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2. Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3. Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

SCRIPTURE

Allen Heinemann

1 Cor.10:23-24, 2 Cor. 3:17-18

You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is beneficial. Don’t be concerned for your own good but for the good of others.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into the Lord’s image with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

* STATEMENT OF FAITH

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

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

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

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

ANTHEM

Madre'n la puerta'o nino
Julian Jarzebowski, bass
Brendan Henry, piano

Spanish Folk Song

Madre'n la puerta'o nino
Mas bello que flor de lirio
Cubierto de blanco lino
Madre'n nino tiene frio
Que veng(a) a la lumbr(e) y
Se calentara
Ay que es-ta es ta tierra
Ya no'hay carida-ad
Ya no'hay caridad
Ay....
Ya no'hay caridad

Mother at the door, oh child
More beautiful than a lily flower
Covered in white linen
Mother, the child is cold
Let him come to the fire
And he will warm up
Oh, what is this land
There is no more charity
There is no more charity
Oh...
There is no more charity

SERMON

"Life and Liberty"

Liz Nickerson

* HYMN

God, You Have Set Us



1. God, you have set us in this time and place,
2. We ded - i - cate this work of hu - man hand;
3. Let doors and hearts pro - vide a wel - come here.
4. Call youth and age in - to these halls for praise.
5. So may the world, be - come our neigh - bor - hood,



Called us as stew - ards of your love and grace.
Built for your glo - ry, may it firm - ly stand.
Let walls and voic - es ring with songs of cheer.
Then send us out for ser - vice all our days,
Each wish - ing each the right, the true, the good,



O keep us faith - ful, set our souls a - fire,
Let truth be preached and jus - tice right - ly done.
Let win - dows speak of beau - ty and of light.
Your word of peace and chal - lenge here made real
Word, font, and ta - ble call - ing us to be



And by your Spir - it all our work in - spire.
In Christ our Sav - ior make us tru - ly one.
Let smile and ges - ture show your love a - right.
Spurs us to act with en - er - gy and zeal.
Bound up in Christ, in Christ set bold - ly free.

OFFERTORY

Drum sing ich mit meinem Liede Felix Mendelssohn
from *Lobgesang, Symphony No. 2, Op. 52 in B flat Major*
(Sung in German)
Breanna and Todd Coe, soloists

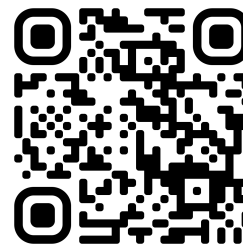
*Drum sing' ich mit meinem Liede ewig, dein Lob, du treuer Gott.
Und danke dir für alles Gute, das du an mir getan!
Und wandel ich in Nacht und tiefem Dunkel
und die Feinde umher stellen mir nach;
so rufe ich an den Namen des Herrn,
und er errettet mich nach seinen Güte.*

My song shall alway be Thy mercy, singing Thy praise, Thou only God,
my tongue ever speaks the goodness Thou hast done unto me.

I wander in night and foulest darkness,
and mine enemies stand threatening around;
yet called I upon the name of the Lord,
and He redeemed me with watchful goodness.
from Psalms 28, 31, and 103

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

Musical notation for the Festival Doxology, featuring a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Please come forward for communion.
Take the bread and eat it. Then take the cup and drink.
Deposit the cups in the baskets on the way back to your seat.
The outer ring of cups contains grape juice. The inner rings contain wine.
A gluten-free bread option is wrapped and available on a separate tray.
Return to your seat by the side aisles.
All are welcome to participate in communion.*

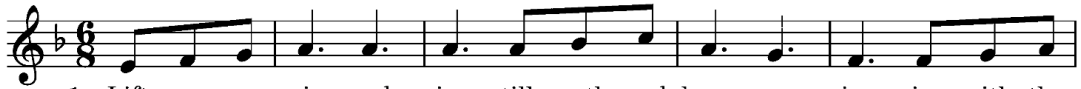
COMMUNION MUSIC *Intermezzo in A Major Op. 118 No. 2* Johannes Brahms
Jeff Wagner, piano

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord, we have gathered at your table. We have listened to your word, help us to know your presence, so that our minds and hearts are stirred. Stirred to use our freedom, for your will and not our own. Fed through this meal to feed others, giving praise to you alone. Amen.

* HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing



1. Lift ev - ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the
2. Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod, felt in the
3. God of our wea - ry years, god of our si - lent tears, God who has



har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing
days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y
brought us thus far on the way; God who by your



rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the
beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our
might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the



roll - - ing sea. Sing a song full of the
peo - - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a
path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the



faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the
way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our
plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the



hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the
path through the blood of the slaugh - tered, Out from the
wine of the world, for - get you; Shad - owed be -



ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march
gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white
- neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our



on till vic - to - ry is won.
gleam of our bright star is cast.
God, true to our na - - - tive land.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Keep Holding On
St. Arbucks Quartet

Danniebelle Hall

Our Music Director, Kurt R. Hansen, is out of town with his wife, Terry. He is singing a short recital on Rock Island in Door County, Wisconsin, and then joining the board of directors for Friends of Rock Island that helps maintain the Pottawatomie Lighthouse, the Boathouse, and camping sites. They will return next Sunday.

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: 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

Scripture Reader: Allen Heinemann

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Doug Clark, Mary Hoffman, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.

This week's altar flowers are given by Barb Kaiser.

BORN THIS WEEK IN 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.

July 7 Drew Lumm, Hilary Schmitz, Nancy Mayer

July 8 Eithne McMenamin, Erika Block, Kaili Emmrich, Micah McMenamin

July 9 Barb Kaiser, Dana Leo, Devin Abraham, Michael Dunham, Sandi Weiskirch,
Sophia Miller

July 10 Andrew Patton, Gianna Provenzano, Michael McGuire, Smith Beeson

July 11 Hayden McGuire

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

JULY 9 AND 16 - 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 10 - 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 TRAINING

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

“The Dirty Dozen” – The Environmental Working Group (EWG) just published its list of the “Dirty Dozen,” i.e., fruit and vegetables with the most pesticide residue: strawberries, spinach, kale, collards and mustard greens, peaches, pears, nectarines, apples, grapes, bell and hot peppers, cherries, and blueberries. If organics are not affordable or available, the pesticide residue can be mostly washed off by running water from thirty seconds to a minute. Produce with skins can be brushed and washed. For lettuce and cabbages, remove the outer leaves because they will have higher residues. When finished, do not forget to wash down the brush and sink.

JOIN A GROUP



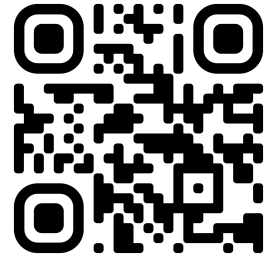
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



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

We Gather Together is an anonymous Dutch text from 1625 translated by renowned musicologist and hymnodist, Theodore Baker (1851-1934). Baker was born in New York City, was educated in Leipzig, Germany, and wrote seminal books about classical composers, the music of the Seneca tribe, and a psalter hymnal. He also translated *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* from the original German. The tune, KREMSEER, is also Dutch in origin and dates from the 16th century.

Madre'n la puerta'o niño is an unattributed Spanish Carol. It may seem odd to include a Christmas carol in worship in the heat of July, but it is worth remembering at this time in our country that Christ took on the suffering of this world as a poor child. There are so many instances now that should cause us to remember that Jesus said, "Whatever you did to the least of these, you did to me."

The text for ***As We Gather at Your Table*** was written in 1989 by Carl P. Daw Jr. (b. 1944). Daw is the son of a Baptist minister, has a Ph.D. in English literature and has penned a number of hymn texts. The tune, BEACH SPRING, is attributed to Benjamin F. White (1800-1879), and is first found in the great American shape-note hymnal, *The Sacred Harp*, which dates from 1844.

The text for ***God You Have Set Us*** was written in 1984 and revised in 1993 by Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008). She was one of the most prolific and forward thinking hymnodists of the last half of the 20th century, having authored more than 30 hymns. Our *New Century Hymnal* includes ten of her hymn texts, and we regularly sing *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*, one of her contributions to our hymnal. She advocated for women in her Presbyterian Church (USA) denomination, and in 2002, received its Woman of Faith Award. The tune NATIONAL HYMN was composed in 1876 by George Willian Warren (1928-1902). He was a largely self-trained musician born in Albany, New York, and became the organist at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in New York City. The very nationalistic and militaristic text many of us associate with this stirring hymn, *God of Our Fathers*, was authored in 1876, the same year as the hymn tune by Daniel C. Roberts (1841-1897). It was written in celebration of our nation's centennial. He served in the Union Army in the Civil War before becoming an Episcopalian priest.

Drum sing' ich mit meinem Liede ewig (My song shall always be Thy mercy) is the ninth of ten movements of *Lobgesang* composed in 1840 by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847). This larger work is often referred to as *Symphony No. 2*, although Mendelssohn never gave it that title. Mendelssohn chose texts mostly from the Psalms, but also included other texts from the Hebrew Bible in addition to two from the Christian Bible. The text for this duet combines verses from Psalms 28, 31 and 103. The singers extoll and praise God even in the midst of enemies and wandering in darkness.

Intermezzo in A Major, from Six Pieces for Piano, Opus 118, No. 2 is a late work composed in 1893 by Johannes Brahms (1833-1897). Brahms was a great light not only in German Romantic music, but the entirety of Romantic music. He is often grouped with the "3 B's," Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. His music was championed early in his career by Robert Schumann and Brahms maintained a lifelong friendship with Clara Schumann after Robert died. After a long absence from composing music for solo piano, Brahms composed this and other piano solo works. His gift for both beauty and effortless counterpoint are obvious.

Lift Every Voice and Sing includes the joyous refrain that our Chancel Choir often sings as an Introit. The longer hymn is considered the unofficial anthem of black churches and the civil rights movement. J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954), the composer, and James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938), the poet, were brothers who crafted this wonderful hymn together. They also wrote Broadway musicals and edited song collections as a team. This text reflects both the struggles for civil rights and optimism about the future.

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

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.

- Scott Hibbard at the death of his father, John.
- Prayers for Lynn Dykstra Davis and her family as they mourn the death of her aunt, Marlene.
- Maureen Reilly at the death of her mother, Rita.
- 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.
- 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.