



August 25, 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

"In showing himself to us, God is farther away than before."

Karl Barth

PRELUDE

*Wie Melodien*

Johannes Brahms

Owen Waldschmidt, cello, and Kecia Waldschmidt, piano

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Oh God, Come to us now!

**All: Awaken us! Be our Teacher!**

One: Console us! Be our Comforter!

**All: Give us wisdom and hope  
and the joy that comes from  
loving you! Amen.**

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

\* HYMN

*O God Beyond All Praising*



1. O\_\_ God be - yond all prais - ing, We wor - ship you to - day  
2. Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, Ac - cept the love we bring,  
3. The flower of earth - ly splen - dor, In time must sure - ly die,



And sing the love a - maz - ing That songs can - not re - pay;  
That we who know your fa - vor May serve you as our king;  
Its\_\_ fra - gile bloom sur - ren - der To you, the Lord most high;



For\_\_ we can on - ly won - der At\_\_ ev - 'ry gift you send,  
And wheth - er our to - mor - rows Be\_\_ filled with good or ill,  
But\_\_ hid - den from all na - ture The e - ter - nal seed is sown



At\_\_ bless - ings with - out num - ber And mer - cies with - out end:  
We'll tri - umph through our sor - rows And rise to bless you still:  
Though small in mor - tal sta - ture, To heav - ens gar - den grown;



We\_\_ lift our hearts be - fore\_\_ you And wait up - on your word,  
To\_\_ mar - vel at your beau - ty And glo - ry in your ways,  
For\_\_ Christ, your son, from hea - ven From death has set us free



We\_\_ hon - or and a - dore you, Our great and might - y Lord.  
And make a joy - ful du - ty Our sac - ri - fice of praise.  
And through him you have giv - en The fi - nal vic - to - ry!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**Lord our God,  
forgive our attempts to possess you.  
It is easier to trust things we can grab  
than to trust a mystery.  
Give us the humility to love you  
and the wisdom to realize  
that while we cannot know you fully,  
we can trust you absolutely.  
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

The *Angel's Words*  
The Sopranos & Altos  
St. Arbucks Quartet  
Kecia Waldschmidt, conductor

Pam Woll

The angel's gone. His towering words, now silent,  
Stand in the air like wind that cannot breathe.  
Still on your knees, and trembling in the half-light,  
You mumble prayers you scarcely dare believe.

A simple girl, a handmaid of the spirit,  
Content to serve, you have lived happily.  
How can this body be the one to bear Him—  
The brightest jewel the world will ever see?

**O, Maria, how do you pray?**

You have heard the angel's words. You must watch and wait.

**O, Maria, what do you say?**

All the old words fail you now. Everything has changed.

Two hands that cling together now in prayer,  
(Oh Lord, I pray. Oh Lord, I pray. Oh Lord, I don't know what to say...)  
They will enfold and hold Him from His birth.  
(Oh Lord, I pray. Oh Lord, I pray.)  
A mother's hands should be her child's protectors.  
Who protects the King of all the earth?

You ask your God to grant you grace and wisdom.  
(Oh Lord, I pray. Oh Lord, I pray. Oh Lord I, pray, please grant me grace...)  
You ask your God to make you brave and true.  
(...and wisdom, wisdom, Oh Lord, I pray. Oh Lord, I pray.)  
You dare not ask the question He won't answer—  
Why He chose a lowly soul like you.

**O, Maria, how do you pray? ...**

On silent feet that skim the rocks and pebbles,  
You climb the hills up to your cousin's home.  
What is this world, now shining just like heaven?  
Who is this girl whom God has called His own?

**O, Maria, how do you pray? ...**

*1 Kings 8:22-30*

The priests brought the Ark of the Covenant of God to its place in the Inner Sanctuary, the Holy of Holies, under the wings of the cherubim. The outspread wings of the cherubim stretched over the Chest and its poles. The poles were so long that their ends could be seen from the entrance to the Inner Sanctuary, but were not noticeable farther out. They're still there today. There was nothing in the Ark but the two stone tablets that Moses had placed there at Horeb where God made a covenant with Israel after bringing them up from Egypt.

When the priests left the Holy Place, a cloud filled The Temple of God. The priests couldn't carry out their priestly duties because of the cloud. The glory of the Lord filled the temple.

Then Solomon spoke:

"The Lord has told us that he dwells in thick darkness where no one can see him; I've built this splendid Temple, O God, to mark your invisible presence forever."

The king then turned to face the congregation and blessed them:

"O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants. The Lord has done what he said he would do: I have succeeded David my father and ruled over Israel just as God promised; and now I've built a Temple to honor God, and I've secured a place for the Ark that holds the covenant of God, the covenant that he made with our ancestors when he brought them up from the land of Egypt."

But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there.'"

**\* 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

*Over My Head*



1. O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear mu - sic in the air. \_\_\_\_\_
2. O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear sing - ing the in air. \_\_\_\_\_
3. O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see trou - ble in the air. \_\_\_\_\_
4. O - er my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see Je - sus in the air. \_\_\_\_\_



- O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear mu - sic in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear sing - ing in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see trou - ble in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see Je - sus in the air. \_\_\_\_\_



- O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear mu - sic in the air, \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear sing - ing in the air, \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see trou - ble in the air, \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see Je - sus in the air, \_\_\_\_\_



there must be a God some - where. \_\_\_\_\_



SERMON

“To Mark the Invisible”

Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

*Take My Gifts*



1. Take my gifts and let me love\_ you, God who first of all loved me,  
2. Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your Spir - it sowed,  
3. Take what - ev - er I can of - fer— gifts that I have yet\_ to find,



gave me light and food and shel - ter, gave me life and set me free,  
har - vest of your own com - pas - sion, juice that makes the wine of God,  
skills that I am slow to sharp - en, — tal - ents of the hand and mind,



now be - cause your love has touched me, I have love to give a - way,  
spiced with hu - mor, laced with laugh - ter— fla - vor of the Je - sus life,  
things made beau - ti - ful for oth - ers in the place where I must be:



now the bread of love is ris - ing, loaves of love to mul - ti - ply!  
tang of risk and new ad - ven - ture, taste and zest be - yond be - lief.  
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.



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

*I Will Lift the Cloud of Night*



1. I will lift the cloud of night be - fore you, what is  
2. With an ev - er - last - ing love I'll love you, though with  
3. Al - though Sa - tan in a rage would tear you, and with  
4. I will lift the cloud of night be - fore you, I will



wrong I'll make it right be - fore you, all your bat - tles I will  
tri - als I will test and prove you, still there's noth - ing that can  
ev - ery win - ning art would snare you, yet from youth to your old  
make the crook - ed straight be - fore you, I will spread my wings pro -



fight be - fore you, and the high place I'll bring down.  
hurt or move you; and the high place I'll bring down.  
age I'll bear you and the high place I'll bring down.  
-tect - ing o'er you; and the high place I'll bring down.

*Refrain*



When you walk and lose the way I'll lead you; on the



pro - duce of the land I'll feed you; And a home with - in my heart I'll



deed you; and the high place I'll bring down.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*In Peace*  
The Sopranos

B.K. Riha

In peace I lay me down to sleep,  
For you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.  
For you bless the righteous, Lord.  
For you surround them, Lord, with your shield of love.  
*Psalm 4:8, 5:12*

POSTLUDE

*Fanfare*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. Lemmens

**We welcome The Sopranos and Altos** of our Chancel Choir who lead us musically in this worship service. We are also grateful to Owen Waldschmidt for playing the cello for both the Prelude and Offertory. Owen's mom, Kecia Waldschmidt, conducts the choral music today, plays piano for our Prelude, and also leads Pauls People.

### **INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES**

Childcare is available for babies through 5-year-olds from 10 to 11 a.m. downstairs in the Nursery and Toddler Room. Activity "busy bags" for children to use during the service are available in the Narthex and children's Bibles are in the pews.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Clergy:** Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

**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:** Gay Kelly

**Head Ushers:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, David Faulkner

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

*Today's flowers are from Jim Brandt and his children to celebrate the 73rd wedding anniversary of Nancy and Jim, August 25, 1951, in Louisville, KY. "We had 68 wonderful years together."*

## BORN THIS WEEK IN AUGUST

*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.*

- August 25 Ainslie Razeghi, Clark Baurer, Kurt Hansen, Maureen Reilly, Paul Berghoff
- August 26 Landon Roark
- August 27 Brooke Gentzen, Holden Lechtenberg, Matthew Razeghi, Maureen Grunst, Todd Smith
- August 28 Grace Ashley-McGraw, Kathryn Mussatt, Katie Kobak, Nolan Dierks, Pat Mayer, Roxana Vieira, Theo Bultemeier
- August 29 Karen Schmidt-Hein, Laura Nowack, Nathaniel Weldon, Steve Patton, Theresa Broderick
- August 30 Ashley Pensinger-Sok, Audrey Bettner, Ed Keller, Greg Clemons, Jessica Seaton
- August 31 Cecilia Badanes, Riley Conway

## 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.*

- Dobmeyer Huber family following the sudden loss of a loved one.
- Pat Kirby, dealing with a housing crisis.
- Karen Johnson and Nancy Barnett's father, Len, recovering from a fall.
- Deon Fayhee at the death of his father, Michael Ray.
- Bill Kennedy in therapy following a series of strokes.
- Diane Massie and family at the death of her brother, Ira.
- Loved ones and friends of Dave Verduin at his death.
- Mike Stensaas, dealing with health problems.
- Scott Hibbard at the death of his father, John.
- 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.
- Rose Stone, relative of Juanita Barlow.
- 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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **TODAY - GREEN TEAM LPCS DINNER**

The Green Team is putting together a LPCS dinner for 35 on Sunday, August 25. The meal will emphasize vegetable-rich summer dishes and also include some type of BBQ. Costs, recipes and friendship will be shared. Three additional volunteers are needed. For additional information, please contact Ninon Freeman of the Green Team at [nlanda05@yahoo.com](mailto:nlanda05@yahoo.com) or Jen Kew at [jenniferkew@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferkew@gmail.com).

### **AUG 27 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall**

Jenny Benefield will facilitate a conversation about prayer. Adults of all ages are invited. Make new friends and connect with old ones with lunch (please bring your own), fellowship, fun and faith. Please join us.

### **AUG 27 - 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](http://tinyurl.com/Tuesday-Pickleball).

### **AUG 28 - COOKIES FOR A CAUSE (BAKE YOU FAVORITE COOKIES AT HOME NOW!)- 5:30 p.m., Kitchen**

Join the St. Pauls cookie bakers for dinner, socializing and cookie making this Wednesday, August 28. Meet us in the kitchen at 5:30 p.m. or whenever you can make it. We eat around 6:30. Cookies go to A Just Harvest and the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. If you can't join us, but would like to participate, you may drop off cookies, with your name on them and marked MARCIA, at the church on or before Wednesday. Please get in touch with Marcia Volk to reserve a spot and she will let you know what dinner/baking supplies are still needed. Contact Marcia at [marcia@volkonline.com](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com) or (773) 307-6866.

### **SEPT 8 - KICKOFF SUNDAY**

Our church year kicks off on Sunday, September 8. Church School begins, the Chancel Choir returns. Don't miss this powerful Sunday!



**SEPT 15 - COURTYARD PICNIC - 5 p.m.**

For adults of all ages, join St. Pauls Social and host Jen Luerssen for a courtyard picnic in the St. Pauls front courtyard. Bring your own chair, food and drink and enjoy fellowship with others. The church will be open to use the restrooms if needed. Please RSVP using this link: [tinyurl.com/3hhrk633](https://tinyurl.com/3hhrk633).

**SEPT 28 - ST. PAULS OKTOBERFEST - 1-8 p.m., Courtyard**

It's Munich meets Chicago as St. Pauls hosts its annual Oktoberfest in celebration of its German heritage! What better way to tap into the excitement of this Bavarian tradition than with authentic German food, local Oktoberfest beers, live music and dancing, a jumpy-house, and games for all ages? This year's live entertainment will once again include acclaimed children's entertainer, Laura Doherty (1:30-3 p.m.), and the Midwest's premier oompah band, Die Musikmeisters (3:30-7:30 p.m.). This free event is open to the public and is family-friendly, so invite your neighbors and friends and join us at the corner of Fullerton and Orchard. In the case of inclement weather, the event will be held in our gymnasium. Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities in the coming weeks.



**SEPT 29 - VACCINATION CLINIC BY MARIANO'S PHARMACY- 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Gym**  
Vaccinations will be provided by Mariano's pharmacy, including Covid boosters, shingles, pneumonia, and flu shots. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please remember to bring your Covid vaccine card and your Medicare card or insurance card. Registration begins next week.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEW MEMBER CLASS**

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 childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in your registration). See upcoming dates here: [spucc.org/new\\_member\\_classes](https://spucc.org/new_member_classes).

**PALESTINE STUDY GROUP**

Broaden your understanding of the Israel-Palestine conflict in this thoughtful and supportive group. All are welcome. Contact David Burnett at [burnett.db@gmail.com](mailto: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](https://tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support). We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. Age 18+ only, 30 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](https://tinyurl.com/wuphf495).

### **JOIN THE MOVEMENT** - provided by SPARC

Do you know someone who has not voted in a while, or someone who has lost faith in the democratic process? Someone who has recently moved, or a new college student? Sending a postcard encouraging someone you know to vote in the November 5 election is an easy and effective way to increase voter turnout. On Sunday, September 22, SPARC will host a nonpartisan "Get Out the Vote" postcard-writing party during coffee hour after church. Postcards, stamps, pens, and sample messages will be provided. All you need to bring are addresses. Please plan to join us!

### **CREATION CORNER** - provided by Green Team

The Climate Crisis, Mental Health and Youth

This is the time of the year when youngsters return to college. For the student, it is a time of anxiety as well as anticipation: “Will I be able to keep up with my schoolwork?” Or maybe, “Can I keep my own hours?” These thoughts are on a substrate of unregulated social media, political uncertainty, and a climate crisis which will not abate— and they are all sources of anxiety. (*The Guardian*, August 14, 2024). It is for us as parents, friends and parishioners to keep in touch and be aware that the situation is much more complex for youth at college. For students returning to schools in the Southwest, let us pray that the heat dome disappears before the grid collapses!

**WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS!**

Thank you for coming to worship with us today! Help us get to know you better by scanning the QR code below.



**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

Scan the QR codes to discover ways to connect with others.

**JOIN A GROUP**



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



## TODAY'S MUSIC

**A bit of history** - Today is the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Paris from the Nazis on August 25, 1944.

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) is remembered primarily as a symphonist. In addition to works for piano, chamber music, and choir, he composed 200 songs. **Wie Melodien** (Like a melody) is part of Opus 105, No. 1 and dates from 1886. It is a love song that compares the beloved to a constant melody flowing through life.

**O God Beyond All Praising** is by Gustav Holst (1874–1934). The tune is called THAXTED, which is the main theme of the Jupiter movement from Holst's *The Planets*. It is truly a majestic hymn. Thaxted is the village where Holst grew up. Ralph Vaughan Williams adapted *Thaxted* as a hymn. The author of our text is Michael A. Perry (1942–1996). He began studies as a physicist and changed to theology.

Pam Woll, a member of our Chancel Choir and longtime member of St. Pauls, composed both the music and text of **The Angel's Words** in 2023. Today is its first performance. *The Angel's Words* is a wild guess at Mary's thoughts, prayers and perceptions right after the Angel has dropped the Annunciation on her and flown off to his next assignment. Asked about *The Angel's Words*, composer Pam Woll wrote, "I figured somebody should write a song that reaches out to that scared teenager who's just found out she's going to give birth to a helpless, vulnerable baby—a baby who will eventually be tasked with the salvation of the world. It portrays her as an essentially humble young person struggling to get her head around an enormous sense of destiny and purpose."

**Over My Head** is another text and melody from the great wealth of spirituals. Its present version was arranged in 1981 by Verolga Nix (1933-2014), a world class pianist and graduate of Oberlin Conservatory, and J. Jefferson Cleveland (1937-1986), one of the most important scholars of African American spirituals. Cleveland and Nix collaborated on a seminal work about African American music, *Songs of Zion*. It is actually a shortened version that includes only the very catchy refrain of a longer song.

***Take My Gifts*** is a relatively new text (1998) penned by Shirley Erena Murray (1931- 2020). She lived her entire life in New Zealand, wrote numerous hymn texts, married a Presbyterian minister, and was committed to both inclusive language and the use of Maori language in some texts. TALAVERA TERRACE was composed by another New Zealander, Colin Gibson (b. 1933). He wrote many hymns, both texts and music, collaborated often with Murray, and was a professor in a theater department at a university in his homeland.

***O Love*** was composed in 2016 by contemporary composer, Elaine Hagenberg. She has won composition competitions from the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and is sought after as a choral clinician. She chose to set the poetry of George Matheson (1842-1906), who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and lost his sight in his youth. Still, he graduated from the University of Edinburgh, became a parish minister and wrote numerous hymn texts. Many of us know this text to the hymn tune, ST. MARGARET, composed in 1884 by an English contemporary of Matheson, Albert L. Peace (1844-1912).

***I Will Lift the Cloud of Night*** was composed and written by Charles P. Jones (1865–1949) in 1910. The tune is the composer's last name, JONES. The Reverend Jones was an African American and founder of the Church of Christ. He composed more than 1,000 gospel hymns, both music and texts.

***In Peace*** was composed by B.K. Riha, a contemporary composer, music educator, vocalist, conductor, live looper, and arranger who specializes in pop a cappella vocal music for treble ensembles. She received her Masters of Music in Choral Conducting at Kent State University and is currently on the faculty of Tiffin University.

## **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](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org)

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership  
Please visit [www.spucc.org/contact](http://www.spucc.org/contact)

**St. Pauls United Church of Christ**  
**2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614**  
**(773) 348-3829 [www.spucc.org](http://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.