

September 1, 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

I do not know much about God and prayer, but I have come to believe over the last twenty-five years that there's something to be said about keeping prayer simple. Help, Thanks, Wow.

Anne Lamott

PRELUDE

*French Suite IV, BWV 815—Allemande*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. S. Bach

INTROIT

*Precious Lord*  
Nancy Pifer and Nadia Jimenez, soloists

Thomas Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand  
Lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light:  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

CHIMES

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come with joy as called by God, seen, known and free.

**All: We come to grow and participate in this new community.**

One: We come to pray and be reminded that God is beyond our greatest imagination yet as close as our own heart.

**All: We come to learn that we are a part of something much greater than ourselves and we each have an important role to play.**

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

\* HYMN

*I Come With Joy*



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. \_\_\_\_\_

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**Almighty God, you seem so distant, but yet you are so close. Help us to learn to pray so that we can know you, serve you, and love you. When life takes us in the wrong direction, help us to seek you and redirect us. Forgive our selfishness and conceit, oh Lord. Direct our steps and lead our paths. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

## RESPONSE

*O For a World*

vv. 1-3

1. O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
 2. O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
 3. We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
 4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.  
 5. O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

## SCRIPTURE

David Faulkner

*1 Samuel 2:1-10*

Hannah prayed and said, "My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. "There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world. "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might does one prevail. The Lord! His adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed.

\* 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

*O For a World*

vv. 4 & 5

See previous hymn

ANTHEM

*Be Still My Soul*

Jean Sibelius

Nancy Pifer and Nadia Jimenez, soloists

arr. Andrew Hawryluk

Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side;  
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.

Leave to thy God to order and provide;  
in every change He faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul; thy best, thy heav'nly Friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; thy God doth undertake  
to guide the future as He has the past.

Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on  
when we shall be forever with the Lord,  
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.

Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,  
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

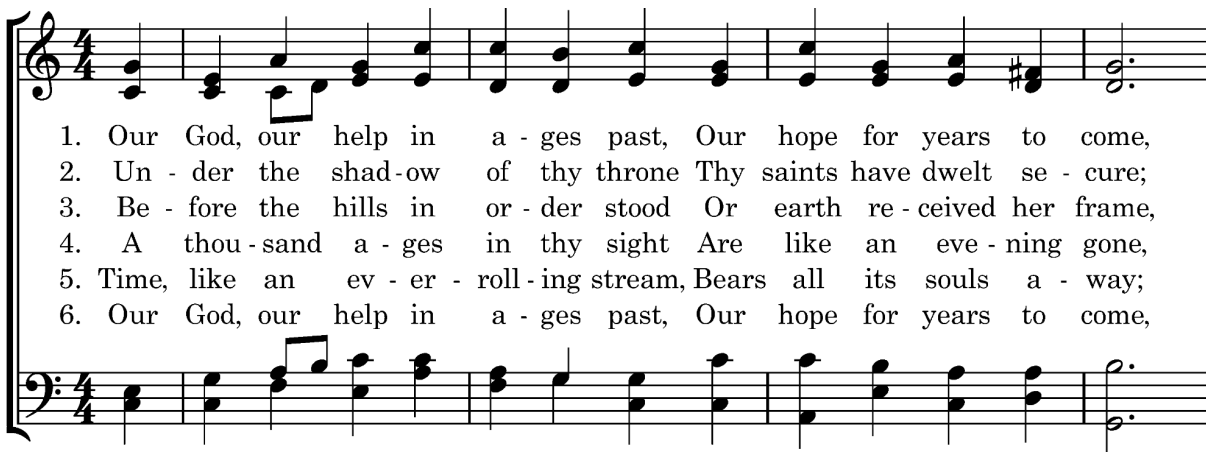
SERMON

“Help, Thanks, Wow!”

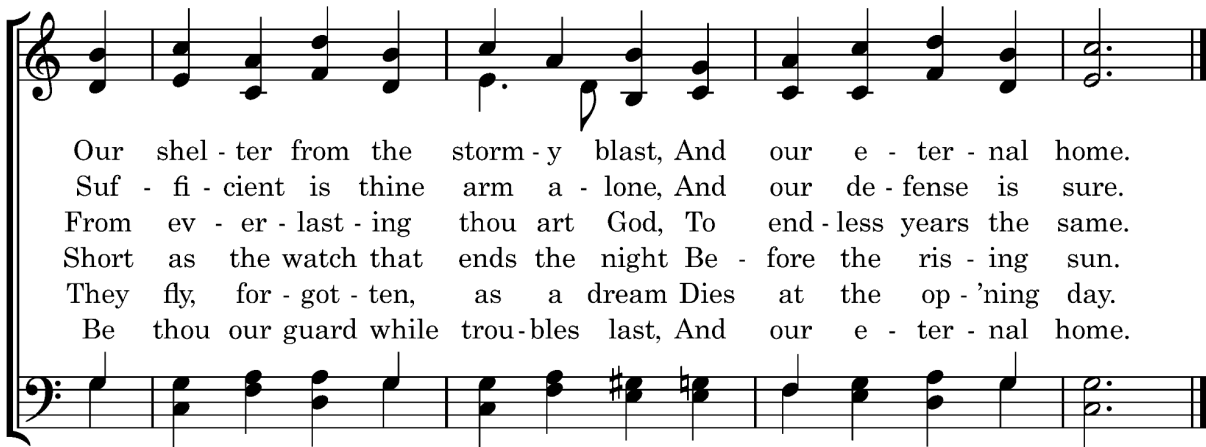
Liz Nickerson

\*HYMN

*Our God Our Help in Ages Past*



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
2. Un - der the shad-ow of thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,  
4. A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,  
5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Bears all its souls a - way;  
6. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home.  
Suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
From ev - er - last - ing thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
They fly, for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the op - 'ning day.  
Be thou our guard while trou - bles last, And our e - ter - nal home.

OFFERTORY

*Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten*

J.S. Bach

(Sung in German)

from *Jesu, der du meine Seele*, BWV 78

Nancy Pifer and Nadia Jimenez, soloists

Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

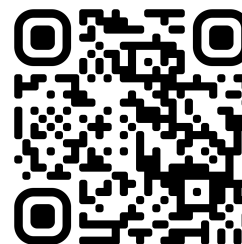
We hurry with feeble yet eager steps,  
O Jesus, O master, to you to help.  
You faithfully look for the sick and straying.  
Ah hear us, as we raise our voices to pray for help!  
May your gracious countenance give us joy!

*You can give to St. Pauls electronically:*

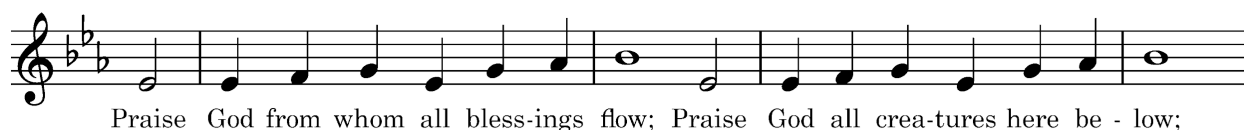
*Scan this code with your cell phone camera,*

*Church Center at [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),*

*PayPal at [spucc.org/paypal](http://spucc.org/paypal), or Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto: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.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Jeff Carlson

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 take part in communion.*

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Liz Nickerson

**We give you thanks dear Lord for coming to us in the bread and cup.  
We, though many, are one in you. Be known to us in the breaking of  
the bread, in the silence of our prayers, and in the faces of each other.  
In deep gratitude for your power and mystery. Amen**



\* HYMN

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

1. I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun - tains rise,  
2. I sing the good - ness of our God that filled the earth with food;  
3. On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known,

That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.  
God formed the crea - tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.  
The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;  
Oh, how your won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye:  
All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

The moon shines full at God's com - mand, and all the stars o - bey.  
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!  
Wher - ev - er peo - ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres - ent there.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A musical score for a vocal response. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, starting with a whole note chord of G3, B-flat3, and D4. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - - - men.' are written below the treble staff. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

POSTLUDE

*I Saw the Light*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Hank Williams

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Clergy:** Jeff Carlson, 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:** David Faulkner

**Communion Coordinator:** Jana O'Brien

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Doug Clark, David Faulkner

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

*Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.*

*Today's flowers are from Larry Damron.*

## **BORN THIS WEEK IN SEPTEMBER**

*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.*

Sept 1 Brent Castensen, Jill Lawrence

Sept 2 Gretchen Althen, Mary Train

Sept 3 Erika Keegan, Natalie Mutch

Sept 4 Beatrix Kompare, Doug Hamilton, Gerald Saltarelli, Jake Saltarelli

Sept 5 Brent Brunch, Hayley Leaf, Isaiah Fitzgerald, Tom Stephenson

Sept 6 Bob Wild, Brian Butler, Greg Pine

## 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.
- Jayla Williams, relative of Aubraea Cleveland, as she continues chemo treatment for leukemia.
- 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.
- 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

### **SEPT 3 & 10 - 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).

### **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 Luerksen 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](http://tinyurl.com/3hhrk633).

### **SEPT 24 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP** - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall

Pastor Jeff Carlson will discuss selected aspects of St. Pauls history and what it might mean for today. Adults of all ages are invited. Make new friends and connect with old ones with lunch (please bring your own), fellowship, fun and faith.

### **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.



**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.

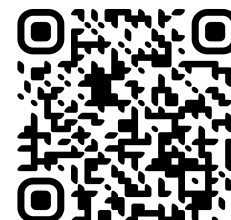
## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **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](http://spucc.org/new_member_classes).

### **CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Please register your K-6<sup>th</sup> Sunday School students, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation students, and High School class members by scanning this QR code.



### **VOLUNTEER FOR OKTOBERFEST**

St. Pauls' Oktoberfest is just a few weeks away, and we are looking forward to tapping into the excitement of this Bavarian tradition with authentic German food, local Oktoberfest beers, live music and dancing, a jumpy-house, and other fun activities. This year's live entertainment will once again include acclaimed children's entertainer, *Laura Doherty* (1:30 PM – 3:00 PM), and the Midwest's premier oompah band, *Die Musikmeisters* (3:30 PM – 7:30 PM). It takes over 100 volunteers to pour 700 beers, serve 500 brats and hot dogs, and run kids' activities for seven hours. Can we count on you to join our team? As a volunteer, you will work a 2-hour shift and receive a free food/drink ticket. You will also enjoy the opportunity to meet new friends and to support St. Pauls' neighborhood outreach efforts. Please sign up at [tinyurl.com/4b4j2dr6](http://tinyurl.com/4b4j2dr6).

### **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

**The UCC's "Voting with Love" campaign has officially begun.** As people of faith, it is our duty to “speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy” (Proverbs 31:8-9). Let’s use our vote to protect and provide for those around us. During coffee hour on Sunday, **September 15, join our non-partisan Get Out the Vote table** to register to vote online, apply online for a mail-in ballot, learn about Illinois election laws, confirm your polling location, and much more.

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

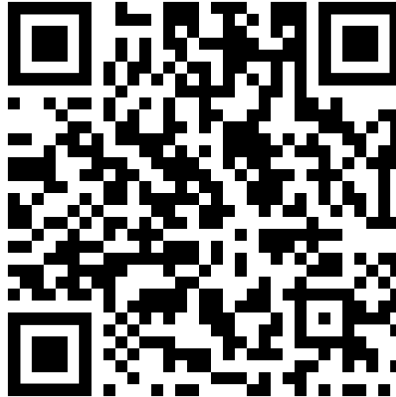
#### **Crops Also Have Excessive Sweating Days**

The excessive heat and humidity which ended last night, drove the Midwest indoors and forced animals to seek cover, was also accompanied by “corn sweat,” which itself contributed to the high humidity— a reminder that we are part of a great chain of being.

“The heat [was] accompanied by two sources: moist air streaming from the Gulf of Mexico and “corn sweat”: The latter happens when corn, soybeans and other crops release moisture as temperatures climb.” We are surrounded by millions of acres of soy, corn, sorghum and wheat, whose own adaptation to climate change exacerbated the problem! (Andrea Thompson, The Scientific American, August 36, 2024).

**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

The ***Allemande*** from the *French Suite No. 4 in E Flat Major*, BWV 815 was composed sometime between 1722 and 1725 by Johann Sebastian Bach (165-1750) while he was the court musician in Köthen. The suites were composed for his students as a way to build their technique. The original was in the book that was given to Bach's second wife, Anna Magdalena. Allemande is a lyric slow Baroque dance form, and it is the first movement of six in this suite.

***Precious Lord*** was composed by Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993). Dorsey's likeness was recently added to our music windows on the south aisle along with J.S. Bach and Mahalia Jackson (1911-1972). He began his career as a blues pianist and songwriter. Later he became a church choir director here in Chicago at Pilgrim Baptist Church and was a co-founder of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses. Widely known as the "father of the gospel song," he played an important role in the development of African American gospel music. This is his best-known song and was composed following the tragic double death of his first wife, Nettie, and their newborn son in 1932. It was a great comfort to Mr. Dorsey in his grief, as well as countless others who have sung it. Among those who sang it with Dorsey was Mahalia Jackson.

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.

***O For a World*** is a paraphrase of the 1739 hymn text, *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* by the famous Methodist hymnist and theologian Charles Wesley (1707-1788). This text was written in 1982 by Mirian Therese Winter (b. 1938) for the Presbyterian Women's Triennial Conference. She is a Medical Mission Sister, having served in Africa and in this hemisphere. The tune, AZMON, was composed in 1828 by C. G. Glaser (1781-1829) and was later adapted to the melody we know by Lowell Mason (1792-1872). Glaser was a German composer who was educated at St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, the home church of and in the generation following the death of Bach. Dr. Mason was considered the "Father of American Church Music." He was born and educated in New York.

***Be Still My Soul*** is a familiar hymn tune to us. The melody was composed by Jean Sibelius (1865–1957) as part of his famous tone poem ***Finlandia*** that honored his homeland. The original German text is by Kathrina von Schlegel (1697–17??) and it was translated into English by Scottish Jane Borthwick (1813–1897), who translated and composed many hymn texts. This duet arrangement is by Canadian Andrew Hawryluk, who in addition to composing and arranging music, has a “day job” in mechanical engineering focusing on fluid mechanics.

Issac Watts (1674-1748) penned the text for ***Our God Our Help in Ages Past*** in 1719. It is a poetic setting of Psalm 90. We sing Watts' setting of Psalm 23 before and as part of the Offertory Anthem. The tune, ST. ANNE, was likely composed in 1708 by William Croft (1677-1727) in London. He became the organist at Westminster Cathedral. As a side note, Bach's famous *Prelude and Fugue in E Flat Major* BWV 552 (1735-36) is often referred to as “St. Anne” because Bach seems to quote that tune in the final theme of the “triple fugue.” There is no way Bach would have heard or known that tune, but it certainly is an interesting apocryphal story.

The duet, ***Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten***, (We hurry with feeble yet eager footsteps) follows the brilliant opening chorus of the cantata *Jesu, du meine Seele* (Jesus, thou my soul) BWV 78, composed in 1724 by J.S. Bach (1685-1750) for Thomaskirche in Leipzig. The cantata is one of three surviving cantatas Bach composed for the 14th Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost in the modern liturgical calendar), which would be from the middle to the end of August. Bach cantatas had to follow the lessons in the Lutheran lectionary. Cantatas were designed as teaching tools, similar to musical sermons, based on the bible. This duet relates to one of the assigned lessons for that Sunday from the epistle Galatians 5: 16-24, where the believer is admonished to “walk in the Spirit.” Here, the two soloists ask Jesus to help them hurry to follow him with joy even when they are “feeble” both physically and in faith.

***I Sing the Mighty Power of God*** is another great text by Issac Watts (1674-1848), the eminent English poet, who set the entire books of Psalms as poetry, including Psalm 90, *Our God Our Help in Ages Past*. His poetry has inspired many composers. The tune, ELLACOMBE, is unattributed and of German origin, first published in a hymnal in 1784. In the 19th century, the tune was named for a village in Devonshire.

***I Saw the Light*** was composed and recorded in 1952 by Hank Williams (1923-1953). He was a beloved country music singer and composer. In his all-too-short life, he recorded 35 singles, 11 of which reached No. 1 on the Country & Western charts.

## **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, over the past 179 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.

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Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
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## **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 LGPTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are blessed by your presence and  
we are glad you are here.