

October 13, 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.*

PRELUDE

*Symbiosis*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Kris Hansen

INTROIT

*In the Midst of New Dimensions*  
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O God, run and rush into our midst!

**All: Give us courage!**

One: Seize our fear and envy. Take them from us.

**All: Give us good humor and strong spirit!**

One: Laughter and enchantment come from being loved.

**All: And we are your beloved children! 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. The flower of earth - ly splen - dor, In time must sure - ly die,  
3. Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, Ac - cept the love we bring,



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



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



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



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



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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**O God, forgive us into new lives.**

**When we love**

**old grudges,**

**forgive us into mercy.**

**When we cherish**

**old wounds,**

**forgive us into healing.**

**When we idolize the past**

**forgive us into your new day.**

**Amen.**

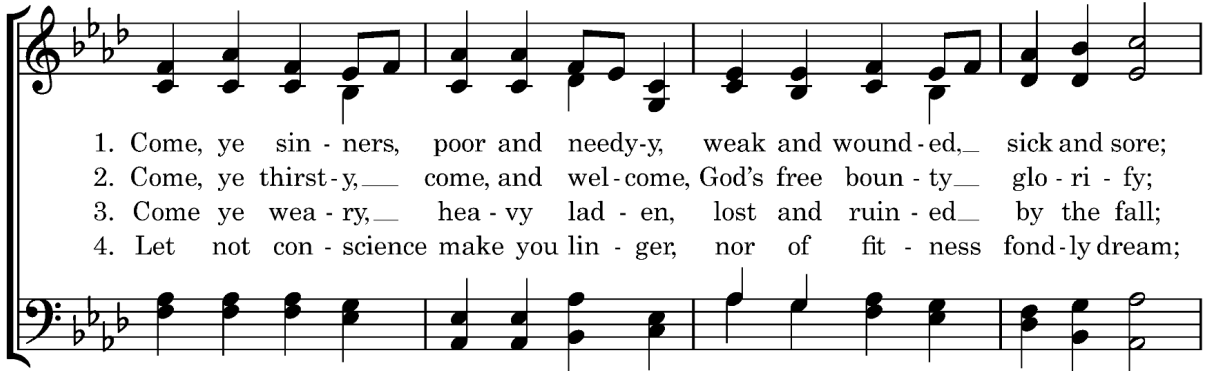
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

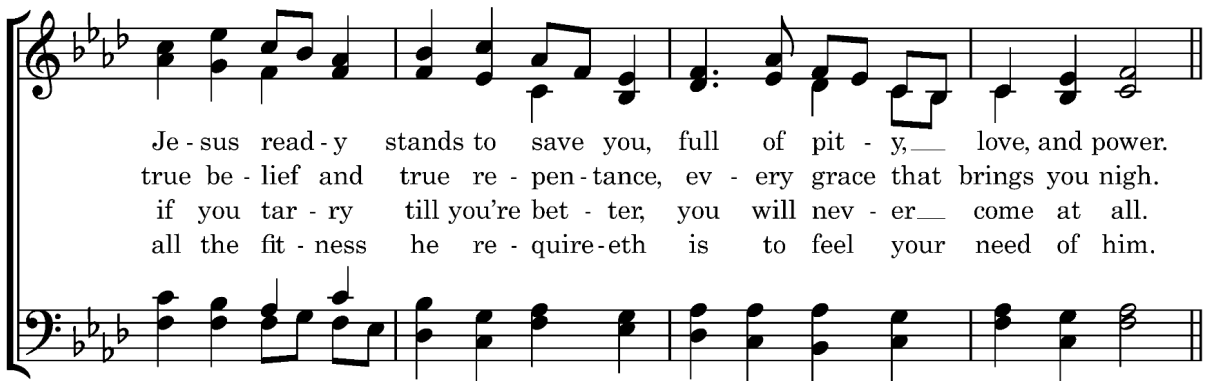
## RESPONSE

*Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy*

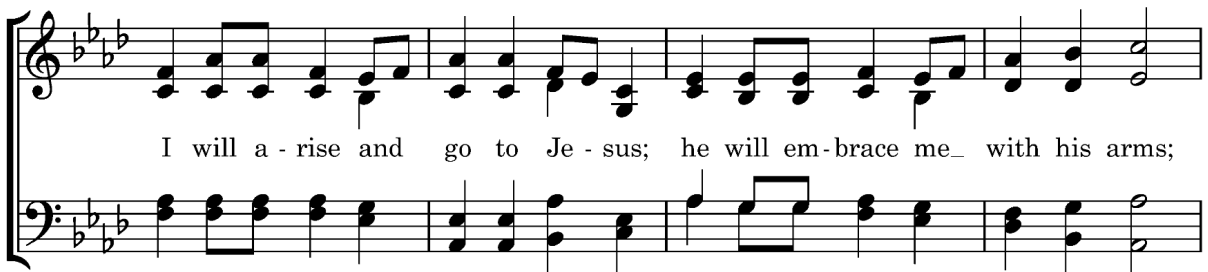
verses 1 &amp; 2



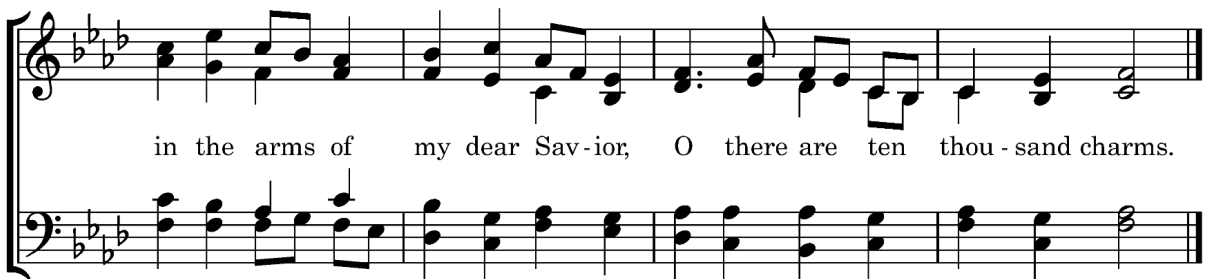
1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and needy-y, weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;  
2. Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel-come, God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy;  
3. Come ye wea - ry, hea - vy lad - en, lost and ruin - ed by the fall;  
4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond-ly dream;



Je - sus read - y stands to save you, full of pit - y, love, and power.  
true be - lief and true re - pen - tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.  
if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er come at all.  
all the fit - ness he re - quire-eth is to feel your need of him.



I will a - rise and go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me with his arms;



in the arms of my dear Sav-ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

## SCRIPTURE

Marti Pechnyo

*Hebrews 4:12-16*

The word of God is living and active, sharper than a surgeon's scalpel, piercing through doubt and defense, cutting joints from marrow; laying us open, able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

No one can resist God's word. We cannot evade or escape it.

Since then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, with ready access to God, let us not allow our faith in him slip through our fingers. We don't have a priest unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, out of touch with our reality. He has been through every weakness and test we have been through. He has experienced it all but the sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## \* 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

*Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy*  
See previous hymn

verses 3 & 4

SERMON

“Neither a Lickspittle, Nor a Little Dicky Dawkins” Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

*Refrain*



*There is a balm in Gil - e - ad To make the wound - ed whole,*



*There is a balm in Gil - e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul.*



1. Some-times I feel dis - cour - aged And think my work's in vain,
2. If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you can - not pray like Paul,
3. Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, For\_ Je - sus is your friend;



But\_ then the Ho - ly Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.  
you can tell the love of Je - sus, And say, "He died for all!"  
And\_ if you lack for knowl - edge He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

OFFERTORY

*Psalm 150*  
Chancel Choir

César Franck

Hallelujah.

O praise ye the Lord, In His sanctuary;  
Praise ye the Lord in the firmament of His power.

Praise ye Him for His mighty acts,  
Praise ye Him, according to His majesty.

Praise ye Him with the sound of the trumpet,  
Praise ye Him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise ye Him with the timbrel.

Praise ye Him with the dance,  
Praise Him with the organ and stringed instruments.

Praise ye Him upon the loud cymbals.

Praise ye Him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Let every thing that hath breath,

Praise the Lord in the firmament of His power.

Praise ye Him for his mighty acts.

Praise ye Him, according to His majesty.

Hallelujah!



*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 blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;

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

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

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

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**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

*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 - men, A - men, A - - - men.

POSTLUDE

*Fugue in G minor ("Little"), BWV 578*

J. S. Bach

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

### INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

- Today, there are no Sunday School classes. Activity "busy bags" are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service and children's Bibles are in the pews.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Clergy:** Matt Fitzgerald, Liz Nickerson

*Pastor Jeff is on vacation and will be back on October 20th.*

**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:** Marti Pechnyo

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Doug Clark, Tim Reed

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

Today's flowers are given by James Pellegrino in memory of Betty Pellegrino.

## BORN THIS WEEK IN OCTOBER

*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.*

Oct 13 Julia Brizzolara, Julian Rodriguez

Oct 14 Kendra Bultemeier, Trevor Hafner

Oct 15 Alicia Braun, Andrew Malley, Bennett Roark, Elizabeth Raterman, Sarah Moulton, Thea Mack, Trevor Sidewand, Wynne Emmrich

Oct 16 Hannah Barton, Logan Alain Velazco Navarro, Lucille Miller, Lydia Richardson

Oct 17 Tilly Wilhoite

Oct 19 Bob Ball

## 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.*

- Diane Biegert, who will undergo a hip replacement on October 14th.
- Annie Johnson's uncle, Rick, diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- Kelly Jo Taylor's nephew Stuart Ault hospitalized for a motorcycle accident.
- Bob Ball's brother, Phil, being treated for leukemia.
- Nancy Bingaman's niece struggling with anxiety.
- 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.
- Bill Kennedy in therapy following a series of strokes.
- Judy Johnson, friend of Bobbi Ganello, recuperating from cancer treatments.
- 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.
- The family of Rose Stone, who passed away, a 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

### **OCT 15 & 22 - 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](https://tinyurl.com/Tuesday-Pickleball).

### **OCT 15 - RETIREMENT GROUP MEETING** – 10 a.m., Parlor

Please join us to discuss our transition paths, ways we found ourselves here, what's meaningful, and what's next with or without planned health, funds or companionship. For more information, contact Marcia Knudson: [marciaknudson@gmail.com](mailto:marciaknudson@gmail.com).

### **OCT 20 - SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: PHASE II VOTE** - 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary & Zoom

Please plan to attend a Special Congregational Meeting next Sunday, October 20, immediately after the 10 a.m. worship service. The congregation will vote to approve the financing and construction scope for the Phase II Capital Campaign construction that will “Expand and Elevate Our Openness” by installing a multi-stop elevator and creating an open-air courtyard plaza. This would complete the Phase I work that was begun during the church Covid shutdown in 2020. If you cannot attend in person, details will be provided on how to vote remotely.

*A final post-worship informational and Q&A meeting will be held after worship today, October 13, in the Oscar Mayer Room to review the final Phase II design plan and financial proposal and answer any members' questions.*

### **OCT 20 – LGBTQ-RELIGIOUS ARCHIVES NETWORK (RAN) GALA CELEBRATION** – 5:00 p.m., virtual

All are invited to participate in the 2024 Virtual Gala Celebration of LGBTQ-Religious Archive Network. The theme of 2024 Virtual Gala is “Passionate Prophets.” It will be a festive and inspiring celebration of LGBTQ religious history which will honor six outstanding leaders and activists from our past and present who have inspired us with their passionate prophecy for justice, love and equity. LGBTQ-RAN helps to preserve the history of and encourages scholarly study of LGBTQ religious movements around the world. St Pauls is a sponsor of the 2024 Virtual Gala Celebration and St Pauls member Rick Peterson is Treasurer of the LGBTQ-Ran Board of Directors. Attendance at the Virtual Gala is free, but registration is required. To register and see more at <https://lgbtqreligiousarchives.org/gala-2024>.

**OCT 22 - 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.

**OCT 27 – SAVE THE PLANTS! SPUCC PLANT MOVING** – 11:15 a.m. (after worship)  
Assuming the Congregation votes to move forward with plans regarding “Expand and Elevate Our Openness” campaign and that construction will begin before Spring 2025, the area to the west of the church building will be made into a lovely, accessible pedestrian plaza – and any plants and gardens currently there will need to be moved before winter. The Buildings and Grounds Ministry and the Green Team would like to enlist your support to help in this project. Please join us after church on October 27 as we transplant plants from the front (west facing side) of the church building to Fullerton Ave.(north) and Kemper Place (south) sides of the church building. Bring your gloves, trowels, and shovels – and feel free to wear your “work clothes” to church! Many hands make light work!

**OCT 27 – PLANT EXCHANGE** – 11:15 a.m. (after worship)  
The Green Team invites St Pauls Members and Friends to exchange outdoor or indoor plants after worship on October 27. If you are interested, please bring plants you wish to share and take home samplings from others’ gardens or window boxes.

**OCT 30 – NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS** – 12-12:45 p.m., Zoom  
We’re going to study the oldest book in the New Testament, *1st Thessalonians*. Paul wrote this letter to a group of early Christians. Paul’s writing is buoyant, warm and hopeful as he encourages this first generation of followers of Jesus to live lives of love and endurance as a minority group within a powerful empire. Meets five Wednesdays over Zoom. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/3kixu9sp>. Questions? Email Jeff at [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**OCT 30 - COOKIES FOR A CAUSE (BAKE YOUR FAVORITE COOKIES AT HOME NOW!)** - 5:30 p.m., Kitchen  
Join the St. Pauls cookie bakers for dinner, socializing and cookie making on Wednesday, October 30. 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, October 30. 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. You may also contact Gloria Joseph at [glrjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:glrjoseph@yahoo.com)

## **OCT 31 - NOV 2 – UCC ILLINOIS CONFERENCE 2024 ANNUAL CELEBRATION**

First Congregational Church UCC of Western Springs: The Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ is holding its 2024 annual Celebration/Meeting in Western Springs. The theme is “Embrace God’s Imagination” and keynote speaker is Rev. Rhina Ramos, an ordained UCC minister leading Ministerio Latino, a Spanish-speaking ONA, primarily LGBTQ Latinx immigrant congregation she founded in 2011. In addition to compelling worship services and educational workshops, the business meeting will consider and vote upon controversial proposed Revised Constitution and Bylaws, which will become effective after the 2025 Annual Meeting. A proposed budget and a status report on the search for a new Conference Minister will also be considered. The former Conference Minister, Rev. Molly Carlson, tendered her resignation in the summer. For questions, contact Rick Peterson, St Pauls representative to the Chicago Metropolitan Association (CMA) and the Illinois Conference of the UCC.

### **NOV 1 - WINE TASTING - 6:30 p.m., Parlor**

Join St. Pauls Social and host, SPUCC Member Joel Chaiken, for an evening in Tuscany with a wine tasting in the St. Pauls Parlor. Joel will walk the group through a variety of wines from this celebrated and historic Italian wine region. Event limited to the first 20 to RSVP. You can RSVP at [tinyurl.com/mussa9w4](https://tinyurl.com/mussa9w4). Joel will be donating the wine but has asked for a minimum donation of \$15 per person to support the General Church Fund. Please also bring a snack to share.

### **NOV 3 - SENIOR LUNCHEON - 11:15 a.m., Social Hall**

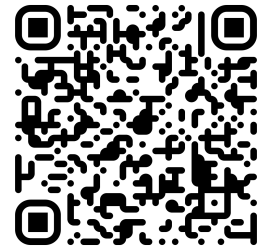
All St. Pauls members age 70 and over along with their spouses/partners, are invited to join us at the Senior Luncheon on Sunday, November 3rd immediately following the church service in the social hall. This is a fun opportunity to socialize with your peers. Transportation is available for those who may otherwise be unable to get to the church. RSVP is needed so we can have enough food for all. Please call Sue Finkle 847-989-2635 to RSVP.

### **NOV 10 - NEW MEMBER CLASS - 11 a.m., Youth Lounge - Room 016**

Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for the next 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 other upcoming dates here: [spucc.org/new\\_member\\_classes](https://spucc.org/new_member_classes).



**NOV 17 - BLOOD DRIVE** - 8 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room and Gym  
This Halloween, skip the vampire and *give blood* on Sunday, November 17, during the St. Pauls Blood Drive, 8 a.m.–2 p.m. Sign up early via the QR code to secure your preferred time or go to [tinyurl.com/SPUCC-blood-drive](https://tinyurl.com/SPUCC-blood-drive). You may also visit [Redcrossblood.org](https://Redcrossblood.org) for your eligibility questions; a lot has changed in the past few years. The need for blood donors is critical. Organizer: Sally Fletcher, [sfletcher1443@gmail.com](mailto:sfletcher1443@gmail.com)

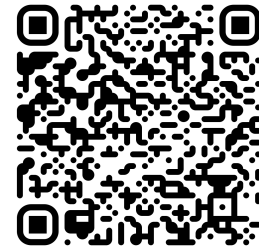


## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF EFFORTS - UCC RESPONSE

The United Church of Christ is responding to the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, which has left more than 200 dead, millions without power, and damages exceeding \$140 billion. Several UCC congregations have suffered severe flood and wind damage.

Please consider donating to the Hurricane Helene Recovery Appeal to help rebuild homes and restore communities. Your generosity will provide crucial aid during these challenging times. Donations can be made online by scanning the QR code or by check to the National UCC. Thank you for your support.



### SHRED AND RECYCLE EVENT

On October 20th there will be a shredding and recycling event sponsored by Alderman Tim Knudsen's Office:

Date and time: October 20th, 10 am to 1 pm

Place: Notebaert Museum, 2430 Cannon Drive

Items Accepted:

- paper for shredding
- electronics for recycling
- prescription drugs take back

### LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES (LPCS) TASTE OF FALL - NOVEMBER 7

Join Lincoln Park Community Services (LPCS) as they kick off their 40th year of making a difference in the lives of homeless individuals with Taste of Fall, Thursday, November 7, from 6-10 p.m. at Ovation Chicago, 2324 W. Fulton. The event will feature food and fun for a great cause. For further details, visit [www.lpcschicago.org](http://www.lpcschicago.org). St. Pauls is one of four LPCS founding churches.

## **CARDS FOR A CAUSE - LITTLE LIGHTS FUNDRAISER**

Choose between five greeting card boxes with 30-50 greeting cards each for \$30, and Little Lights will receive 43% back in funding for our programs! The cards are beautifully embellished, come with coordinating envelopes, and the box itself is sturdy and attractive enough to use for future storage needs. Samples of boxes will be available to view during coffee hour. Place your order here now through next Sunday, October 20: <https://tinyurl.com/3uacbxyk>.

## **REFUGEEONE WINTER COAT AND BOOT DRIVE IS BACK!**

Given our warm weather lately, winter may seem years away, but RefugeeOne is already making plans to help their clients with warm winter clothes. There is an [Amazon gift registry](https://tinyurl.com/3hx7crny) that lists the items RefugeeOne is looking for. If you're interested in participating, please use this list and have the items shipped directly to RefugeeOne by selecting the *RefugeeOne (Winter Coat Drive)'s Gift Registry Address* when you checkout. You can access the registry at <https://tinyurl.com/3hx7crny> or by scanning the QR code. *Please order your items by TODAY, October 13*, so that RefugeeOne will receive them in time for distribution. Thank you!



## **GENERAL ELECTION FOR CHICAGO AND SUBURBS - NOVEMBER 5**

Please don't ignore this critical election! On November 5, voters will elect the President, Vice President and local candidates. Early voting began October 3 at 191 N. Clark Street and 69 W. Washington Street and early voting in all Chicago wards begins October 21. Mail-in ballots were sent starting September 26 for those who requested them. All voting sites are ADA compliant. For more information on races, voter registration, mail-in ballots, and voting locations, scan the QR code.



## **WINDY CITY WINDS SEASON 10 – SAVE THE DATES!**

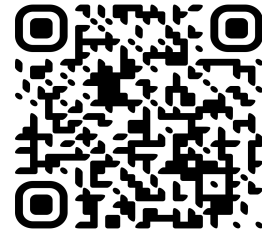
Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band," announces their Season 10 concerts:

- Friday, November 22, 2024, 7:30 p.m. – "By Request: Music Suggested by Band Members"
- Friday, March 14, 2025, 7:30 p.m. – "Looking Upward: Music Inspired by Stars and Planets"
  - With guest conductor Dr. Kevin Gerald, Director of Bands, University of Illinois
- Friday, May 16, 2025, 7:30 p.m. – "Looking Back: Favorite Music From Our First Three Seasons"

Each concert will be in the St. Pauls Sanctuary, admission is free and each will be livestreamed. Come help us celebrate this milestone season!

## **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.



## **CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

Youth Choirs are in session! Any musically inclined kids, please join us! Kinderchapel Singers (*Preschool*) Sundays 9:50-10 a.m. in the Social Hall with Tom Clancy; Children's Choir (*grades K-3*): Sundays 9:30-9:55 a.m. in the Chapel with Breanna Coe; Paul's People (*grades 4-8*): Sundays 9:30-9:55 a.m. in the Parlor with Kecia Waldschmidt.

## **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](http://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](http://tinyurl.com/wuphf495).

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

**Open House Chicago - Oct 19-20.** Challenge: For one afternoon, visit a neighborhood you have never been to in an area you might be hesitant to go to because of "what you've heard." Never been to Austin, Little Village, Pilsen, Englewood, Roseland, Hermosa, or even north of Belmont? The Chicago Architecture Center (CAC) annually sponsors Open House Chicago with more than 170 free locations in 20+ neighborhoods. Pick one annually to expand your own experience in another culture or ethnic group. For details, look for Open House Chicago online or on app. Plan now. Explore!

**CREATION CORNER** - provided by Green Team

Lights Out Chicago!

Chicago sits on a major bird migratory route called the Mississippi Flyway.

Hundreds of species fly over our city. Unfortunately, thousands of birds perish due to collisions with all sizes of buildings. "Birds navigate using natural light emitted from the sun, moon and stars," but species navigating at night are disoriented by artificial light and may run into buildings. The Lights Out Chicago program was created to keep birds on their natural trajectory by encouraging building owners to dim or turn off the lights at night, thereby preventing collisions. Do your bit: if you see dead birds where you frequent, speak to management, or dim your own lights if you see them around your house. -Adapted from *Bird Migration Through the Windy City*, Peggy Notebaert Museum, April 20, 2021.

**WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS!**

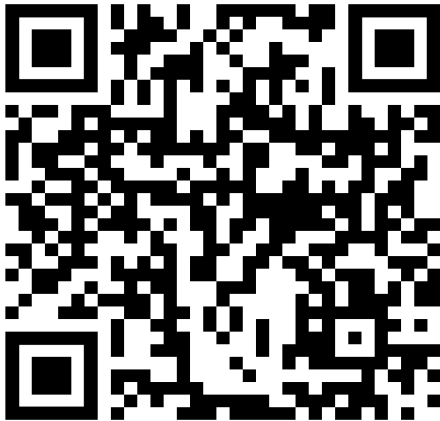
Thank you for coming to worship with us today! Help us get to know you better by scanning the QR code below.



**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

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

**JOIN A GROUP**



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



## TODAY'S MUSIC

***Symbiosis*** was composed in 2023 by Kris Hansen (b. 1995). The music expresses a collective experience of support. Kris, a member of our St. Arbucks Quartet, was raised, baptized, and confirmed at St. Pauls. He is an active singer, music producer, composer, trumpet player, and keyboard player in his own group, Semi-Cycle. He also performs regularly with other bands, including: The Walters, Kweku Collins, and Othersides.

***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 to the covenant after the flood in the Hebrew Bible, but also the rainbow of acceptance and pride we celebrate as an Open and Affirming congregation and during Pride Month.

***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. It was Ralph Vaughan Williams that 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.

***Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy***, to the tune RESTORATION, is mined from the wonderful early 19th century American shape-note hymnals, including *Southern Harmony*. Its composer and lyricist are unknown, but it was first published in 1835. The melody is characterized by a folk-like swing.

***There Is a Balm in Gilead*** is a Black Spiritual. In the Hebrew Bible, Gilead was the name of the mountainous region east of the Jordan River. This region was known for having skilled physicians and an ointment made from the gum of a tree particular to that area. Many believed that this balm had miraculous powers to heal the body. In the book of Jeremiah, God tells the people of Israel that though many believe in the mysterious healing power of this balm, they can't trust in those powers for spiritual healing or as a relief of their oppression. For slaves in our country, crossing the Jordan River was code for escaping their bondage by escaping to the North, traversing such rivers as the Potomac and Ohio.

César Franck (1822-1890), the composer of this setting of ***Psalm 150***, was born in Belgium the son of a German mother, studied at Paris Conservatory and settled in Paris in 1844. He was also an organist (eventually at the church of Ste. Clotilde, Paris) and noted teacher. Among his students were Henri Duparc, Charles Tournemire, and Louis Vièrne. He composed chamber music, piano and organ works, many songs, religious cantatas, and four operas.

***I Sing the Mighty Power of God*** is a 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.

***Fugue in G minor "Little"*** BWV 578 was composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Bach is the acknowledged master of fugue composition. A fugue is a complex version of a round usually involving four to five layered voices using the same theme, but entering at different times and starting on different pitches.

# Special Music Theme for 2024-2025

## HEAR Ye! + Bach

Enjoy another year of special music during worship services.

**H** - Hebrew

**E** - English

**A** - Austrian

**R** - Russian

**November 3, 2024 - Reformation Sunday - *Lobet den Herrn* - Bach**

**December 8, 2024 - Christmas Cantata (Hebrew & English)**

*Nachamu, nachamu ami* - Max Janowski (*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*)

*Fantasia on Christmas Carols* - Ralph Vaughan Williams

with guest artist William Buchman, from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

**February 16, 2025 - Northwestern University Chapel Choir – Guest choir in worship**

**March 9, 2025 - *Komm, Jesu, komm* - Bach**

**April 6, 2025 - (Austria) - *Requiem* - Mozart**

**May 18, 2025 - (Russian) - *Symphony of Psalms* - Stravinsky/Shostakovich**

Mark these dates in your calendar!







## **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 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 LGPTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

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