

October 6, 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

"We arrive at the highest pitch of our perfection when we become suited to God
through being nothing ourselves." - Soren Kierkegaard

PRELUDE

My Tribute
St. Arbucks

Andraé Crouch

To God be the glory...
For the things He has done
With His blood He has saved me
With His pow'r He has raised me
To God be the glory...

INTROIT

Deck Thyself, My Soul, in Gladness
Chancel Choir

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Lord our God, thank you for gathering us together.

All: Come to us now! Awaken us! Give us your light!

One: Be our Teacher and our Comforter! Speak to each one of us!

All: Give us hope and energy, clear minds, joyful hearts!

One: Let us use this hour well.

All: Amen! Amen!

** 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. _____

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Felix Goddard De Haan

Pastor Liz: Felix, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as a child of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Felix is now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Felix. Inspire his life. May he sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for his parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with this family as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.

Pastor Liz: Felix, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

All: Amen

1. Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
 2. Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,
 3. Je - sus loves me! Still to - day, walk - ing with me on my way,

Lit - tle ones to him be - long; they are weak, but he is strong.
 Tak - ing chil - dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."
 Want - ing as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Dear God,
We are made to praise
You.
But sin let's
devotion go sideways
and we worship
strength, skin, self,
intellect, regret, wealth.
Redirect us!
Reform us!
Remake us!
Let your love roll
through us
like a river.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

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

COMMUNION MUSIC

Traumerei (Dreaming)
from *Kinderszenen* (Scenes from Childhood) Op.15, No. 7

Robert Schumann

Prelude No. 2 in A Minor

Alexandr Scriabin

Prelude No 4 in E Minor

from Op. 11

Karina Kontorovitch, piano

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, we thank you for feeding us at your table, and for changing our lives with the feast. Amen.

*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

*RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me

vv 2 & 3

See previous hymn

SCRIPTURE

Liz Kurman

Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your siblings. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out. And don't forget to pray for me. Pray that I will know what to say and have the courage to say it at the right time, telling the mystery of the Gospel to one and all, the message that I, jailbird preacher that I am, am responsible for proclaiming.

* 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

vv 1 & 2



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 “Jesus Does Not Give You a Sharper Sword” Matt Fitzgerald

* RESPONSE *Over My Head* vv 3 & 4
See previous hymn

OFFERTORY *Psalm 150* Louis Lewandowski

Karina Kontorovitch, piano
Chancel Choir

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 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 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 everything that hath breath,
Praise the Lord.

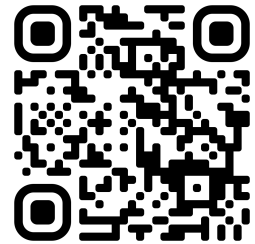
O praise ye the Lord,
In His sanctuary;
O praise ye the Lord
In the firmament of His power.
Praise ye Him for His mighty acts.
Praise ye Him according to His Majesty.
Hallelujah!

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

PayPal at spucc.org/paypal, or Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



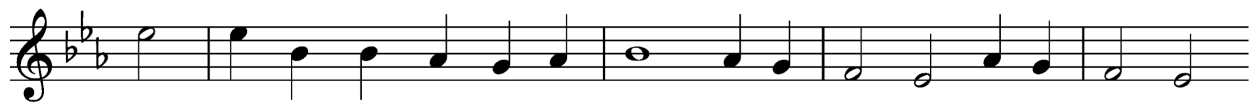
*** FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY**



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



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



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



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

* HYMN

What a Covenant

1. What a cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing
2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing

on the ev - er - last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness,
on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path
on the ev - er - last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace

what a peace is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;

lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

The image shows a musical score for a benediction response. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - - - men.' are written below the treble staff. The first two phrases 'A - men, A - men,' are followed by a long dash, and the final phrase 'A - - - men.' is also followed by a long dash, indicating a long note or a sustained sound.

POSTLUDE

Walk All Over God's Heaven
St. Arbucks

Mahalia Jackson

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

- Childcare is available for babies and toddlers up to age 5 during worship from 10-11 a.m. in the Nursery and Toddler Room downstairs. Activity “busy bags” are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service and children’s Bibles are in the pews.
- REGULAR SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION CLASSES are in session. Confirmation class meets at 10 a.m. in the downstairs High School Room. Elementary-age students are dismissed with their teachers during the worship service and parents pick up children after the service in their classrooms.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald

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

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Scott Banjavcic

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Liz Kurman

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Communion Servers: Annie Johnson, Jeff Johnson

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, David Faulkner

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.

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 6 Eric Simonton, Karen E. Johnson

Oct 7 Anya Kompare, David Shu, Lisa Donofrio

Oct 8 Alicia Garten, Karin Magnuson

Oct 9 Emily Cittadine, Michael Hotz, Nancy Bingaman, Roger Miller,
Ruby Teague

Oct 10 Alec Valadez, Meg Tazelaar

Oct 11 Catalina Smedley, Christine Weil, Flynn Lechternberg, Mike Stensaas,
Rachel Barton Pine

Oct 12 Everett Hamm, Shelley Keller, Steve Herrin

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 7th.
- Dave Faulkner's mom, Kathy Faulkner, currently in rehabilitation for lower body strength.
- Matt Fitzgerald recovering from a concussion and stitches.
- Annie Johnson's uncle, Rick, diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- Bob Ball's brother, Phil, being treated for leukemia.
- Nancy Bingaman's niece struggling with anxiety.
- 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.
- 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 8 & 15 - 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.

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 info, contact Marcia Knudson: marciaknudson@gmail.com.

OCT 20 - SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: PHASE II VOTE - 11: 30 a.m., Sanctuary & Zoom

Please plan to attend a Special Congregational Meeting on 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.

Post-worship informational and Q&A meetings will be held after worship on two Sundays, October 6 and 13, in the Oscar Mayer Room to review the final Phase II design plan and financial proposal and answer any members’ questions.

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 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/3kjxu9sp>. Questions? Email Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org.

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

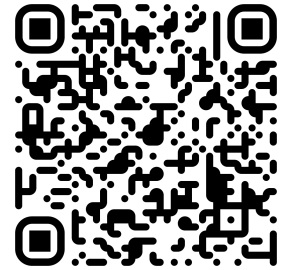
Join the St. Pauls cookie bakers for dinner, socializing and cookie making on Wednesday, October 30. Meet us in the kitchen at 5:30 p.m. or whenever you can make it. We eat around 6:30. Cookies go to A Just Harvest and the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. If you can't join us, but would like to participate, 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 or (773) 307-6866.

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

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.

NOV 17 - BLOOD DRIVE - 8 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room and Gym

This Halloween, skip the vampire, *give blood* 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. You may also visit 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

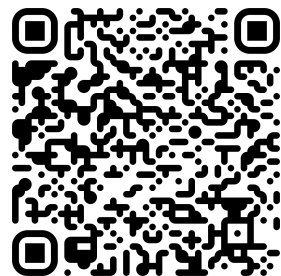


ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



CARDS FOR A CAUSE - LITTLE LIGHTS FUNDRAISER

Choose between 5 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 and 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, Oct. 20th: <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](#) 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 next Sunday, 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 very important election! On November 5, voters will elect the President, Vice President and local candidates. Early voting starts October 3 at 191 N. Clark Street and 69 W. Washington Street. 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!

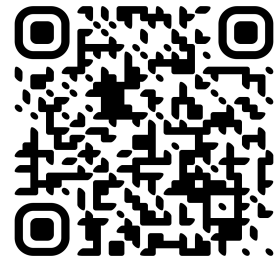
Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band," announces their Season 10 concerts:

- 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-6th Sunday School students, 7th and 8th 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.

"HEALING HEARTS" PET SUPPORT GROUP: ST. PAULS PET LOSS COMMUNITY

Are you struggling with losing a beloved furry friend/companion/animal assistant? Losing a pet can be one of the most heart-wrenching experiences in life. At St. Pauls, we understand the deep bond you shared with your beloved pet/family member and we're here to offer support, understanding and a virtual shoulder to lean on. To join, visit tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. Age 18+ only, 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.

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 over 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

Take the Climate Hope Voter Pledge!

Regardless of your political beliefs, it is important to vote. This election year, the United Church of Christ is asking congregants throughout the United States to “Take the Climate Hope Voter Pledge.”

By taking this pledge, congregants are “making a sacred commitment to a more just and equitable world for people of all ages, races and walks of life.” Please stop by the Green Team’s table to fill out a pledge card.

In the struggle for environmentally sound policies, it is uplifting to remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s reflection: We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.

WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS!

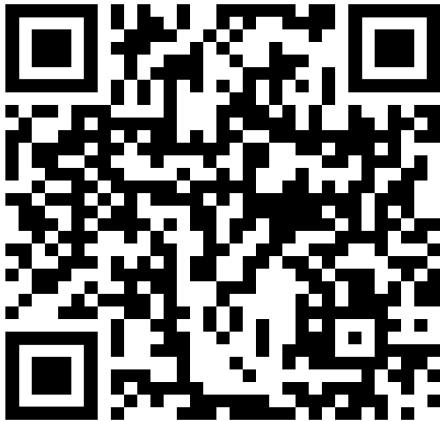
Thank you for coming to worship with us today! Help us get to know you better by scanning the QR code below.



WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

JOIN A GROUP



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



TODAY'S MUSIC

Andraé Crouch (1942-2015) wrote both the text and tune for ***How Can I Say Thanks***, MY TRIBUTE, in 1971. Crouch is among the greatest gospel composers and performers. Both his mother and father were pastors, and he first began playing at services for his father's church at age 11. The opening lines of the refrain, *To God be the glory*, pays homage to Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) by quoting her famous hymn text.

Deck Thyself My Soul With Gladness is one of the great German communion hymns. It is often referred to by church musicians as "the queen of communion chorales." SCHMÜCKE DICH (*Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness*) was composed by Johann Crüger (1598-1662). This hymn, which is also the subject of our Prelude, was set for organ by Bach (1685-1750) and many other German composers. Crüger also composed *Nun danket alle Gott* (*Now Thank We All Our God*).

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 for several years was Organist and Choirmaster at First United Methodist Church in Evanston.

Traumerei from *Kinderszenen* Op.15, No. 7 was composed in 1838 by Robert Schumann (1810-1856). It is arguably his most recognised work for piano. It was composed when Robert and his future wife, Clara, were courting. The melody is simple, lyric and very touching.

Alexandr Scriabin (1887-1915) composed the Op. 11 ***Preludes*** between 1888 and 1896. *No. 2 in A Minor* was composed in 1887 and *No. 4 in E Minor* in 1889. His compositions straddled the transition from Romanticism to 20th century modernity. Early works were influenced by Chopin and later ones by Schoenberg. Influenced by metaphysics and Russian symbolism, he was recognised for his innovation as a composer. Leo Tolstoy called his music a "sincere expression of genius."

Jesus Loves Me This I Know is one of the first hymns many children learn. The words are both simple and profound. They were written in 1859 by Anna Bartlett Warner (1824-1915). Born in New York City, she wrote many hymn texts and collaborated with her sister Sarah on novels. The composer of the tune, JESUS LOVES ME, was William Bradbury (1816-1868). He penned this sweet melody in 1861, and also composed the famous hymn *Just As I Am*.

Over My Head is another text and melody from the great wealth of spirituals. Its current 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, including only the very catchy refrain of a longer song.

Psalm 150 was set in 1871 by Louis Lewandowski (1821-1894). Originally, the text was in Hebrew. Born in Poland, he moved to Berlin after his mother's death because of the family's extreme poverty. He was aided by Alexander Mendelssohn, cousin of Felix. He was the first Jew admitted to the Berlin Academy of the Arts. After recovering from serious health problems, he decided to devote his life to composing music for the synagogue. He was in the forefront of the growth of Reform Judaism. In 1882, he wrote the first complete setting of the Jewish Sabbath liturgy for cantor, four part choir, and organ.

E.A. Hoffman (1839-1929) wrote the text for ***What a Covenant*** in 1877. Many of us learned that hymn as *What a Fellowship*. He was an ordained minister and wrote more than 2,000 gospel songs in his lifetime. The tune bears two names, LEANING, which is the first word of the refrain, and SHOWALTER in honor of the composer, A. J. Showalter (1858-1924). He actually began teaching shape-note singing at age 14. He attended a number of private Christian music programs to learn his craft.

Walk All Over God's Heaven, is more of a new creation than an arrangement by Mahalia Jackson (1911-1972), who took inspiration from the old hymn ***I Got a Robe, You Got a Robe***. Ms. Jackson has a direct connection to St. Pauls. Brendan Henry grew up so loving her music and her deep spiritual commitment that his daughter is named after her. While Ms. Jackson was born in Mississippi, her connection to Chicago was long and deep. She had a profound commitment to the civil rights movement and was behind the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as he spoke at the Lincoln Monument. In recordings of that event, you can hear her shouting, "Tell them about The Dream, Martin!" Although she toured the world, she called Chicago her home and came back during her final illness. Studs Terkel was among her biggest fans and champions. She is now memorialized, along with her equally famous colleague, Thomas A. Dorsey, in our sanctuary music windows on the south aisle.

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
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership
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Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
at the Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2316 N. Lincoln Ave.
Parking validation is available in the Narthex.



WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,
grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to LGPTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

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