

December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent

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.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

“Not everyone knows how to wait. Only the anxious and the restless and those who train their eyes toward a distant God know how to wait.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

PRELUDE

Variations on Morning Song
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Robert Grogan

INTROIT

Awake, Awake to Love and Work
Chancel Choir

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Candle of Hope Eithne & Micah McMenamin

WELCOME

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Matt Fitzgerald

One: Do not fear!

All: Behold I bring you good news of great joy!

One: A child shall be born unto us!

All: Christ, the light of the world!

One: Now is the time to wait together.

All: Help is on the way!

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

* HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
2. O come, thou Day - spring, come___ and cheer Our spir - its by thine
3. O come, thou Wis - dom from___ on high, And or - der all things,
4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples in one



Is - - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile___ here, Un -
ad - - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of___ night, And
far___ and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show, And
heart___ and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels___ cease; Fill



- til the Son of God___ a - pear.
death's dark shad - ows put___ to flight. *Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -*
cause us in her ways___ to go.
the whole world with heav - en's peace.



- man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el!

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Jeff Carlson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God,

**We confess that we ignore the Savior
you sent us.**

**We've kept the birth of Jesus confined to the Christmas season
and do not yearn for his arrival each moment of our lives.**

Forgive us for not opening our eyes.

Prepare us for His return.

Help us! Make us urgent.

Make us hopeful.

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 take part in communion.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

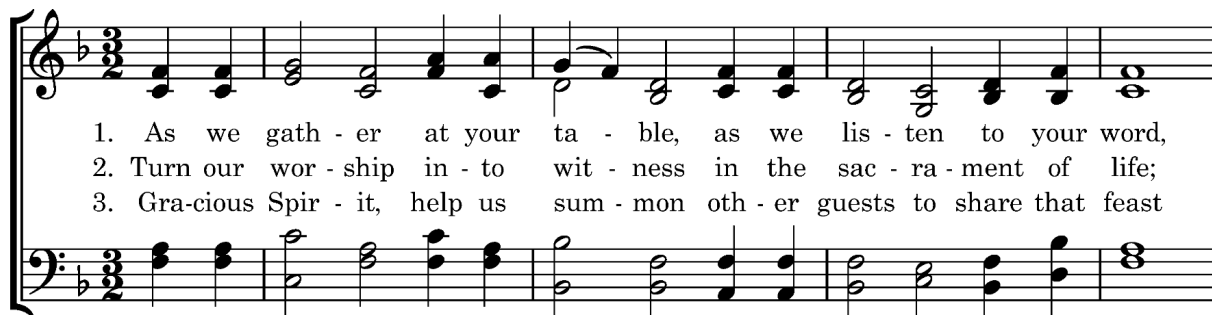
Jesus, bread of heaven, thank you for this bread and cup. Thank you for giving your very self for the sins of the world. We can never repay you, Lord, but we can follow you. Help us to feed and nourish others in our thoughts, in our words and in our deeds. Amen.

*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.*

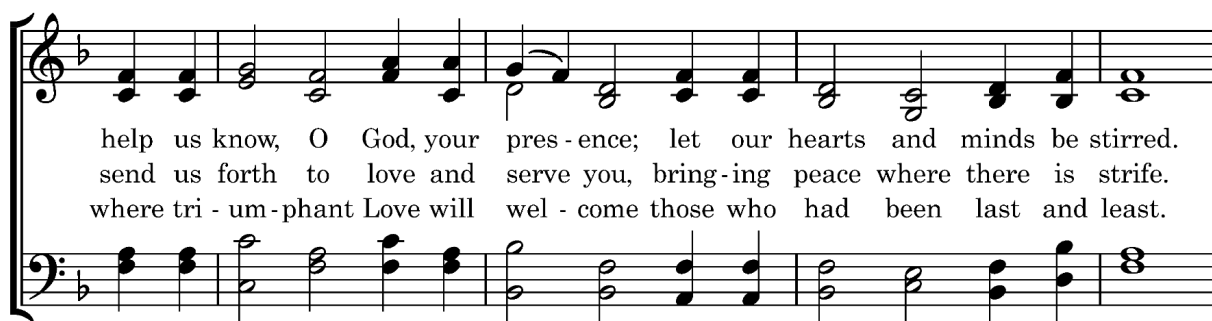
* RESPONSE

As We Gather at Your Table

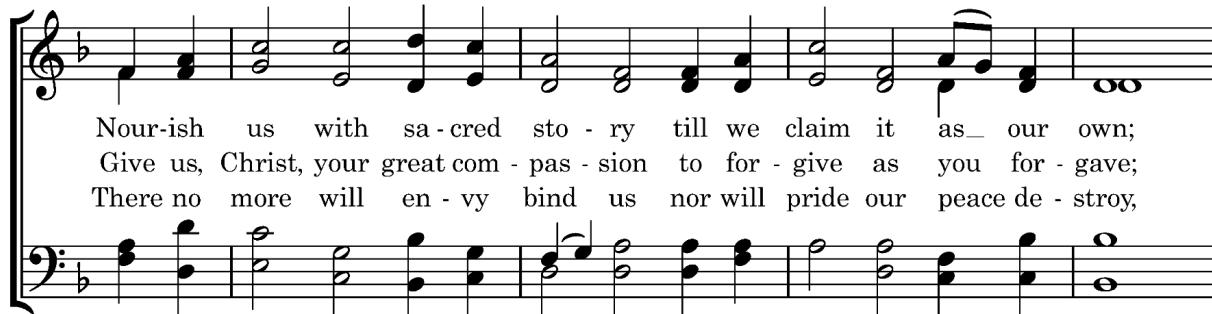
verses 1 & 2



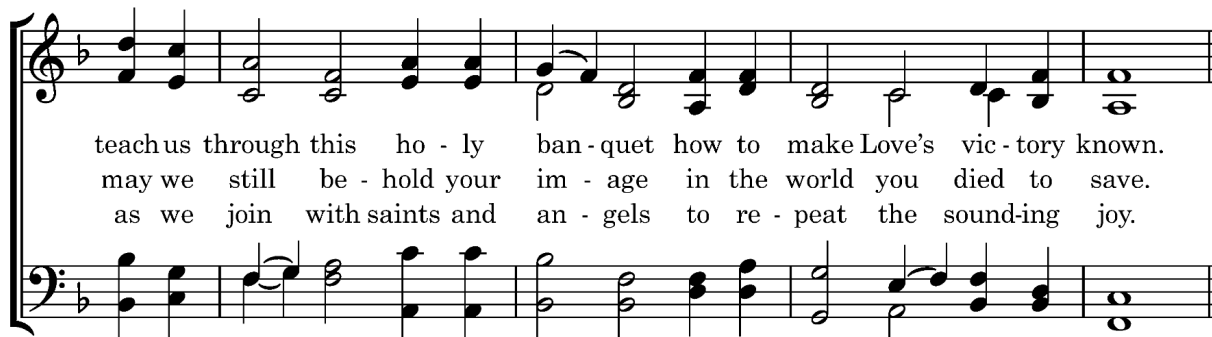
1. As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2. Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3. Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



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



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



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

SCRIPTURE

Kevin O'Brien

Matthew 24 selections

The Arrival of the Son of Man isn't something you go to see. He comes like swift lightning to you! Many will come in my name saying, "I am the Messiah!" And they will lead many astray. Whenever you see crowds gathering, think of carrion vultures circling, moving in, hovering over a rotting carcass. You can be quite sure that it's not the living Son of Man pulling in those crowds.

"Following those hard times,
Sun will fade out,
moon cloud over,
Stars fall out of the sky,
cosmic powers tremble."

Then, the Arrival of the Son of Man! It will fill the skies—no one will miss it. All the tribes of the earth will mourn as they watch the Son of Man blazing out of heaven. When you see all these things, you'll know he's at the door.

Stay awake, alert. You have no idea what day your Master will show up. But you do know this: if the homeowner had known what time of night the burglar would arrive, he would have been there with his dogs to prevent the break-in. Be vigilant just like that. You have no idea when the Son of Man is going to show up.

* 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

As We Gather at Your Table
See previous hymn

verse 3

SERMON

“Burgle King”

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep_ si - lence, And with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of___ Mar - y, As of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of___ heav - en Spreads its van - guard



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth he___ stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man_ ves - ture,
on the___ way, As the Light of light de - scend - eth



For with bless - ing in his_ hand, Christ our God to earth de -
In the bod - y and the_ blood. He will give to all the
From the realms of end - less_ day, That the powers of hell may



- scend - - eth, Our full hom - age to de - mand.
faith - - ful His own self for heav'n - ly___ food.
van - - ish As the dark - ness clears a - way.

OFFERTORY

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come
Chancel Choir

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him, who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.
Sing holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!

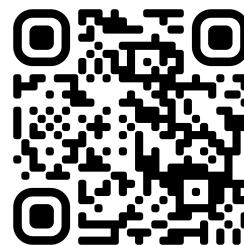
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon!
Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!
from Revelation 22

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

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



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Musical notation for the Festival Doxology, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

*HYMN

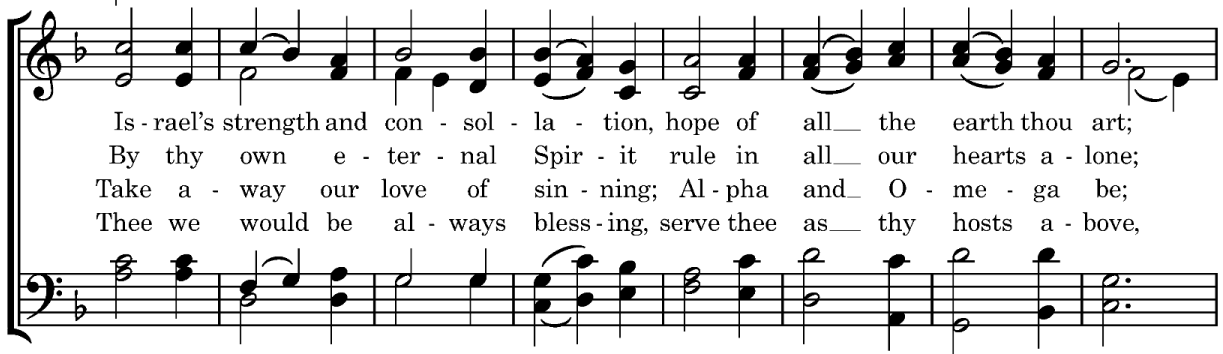
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus



1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet_ a king!
3. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to eve - ry trou - bled breast!
4. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life_ re - ceive;



From our fears_ and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.
Born to reign_ in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
Let us all_ in thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
Sud - den - ly_ re - turn and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.



Is - rael's strength and con - sol - la - tion, hope of all_ the earth thou art;
By thy own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all_ our hearts a - lone;
Take a - way our love of sin - ning; Al - pha and_ O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as_ thy hosts a - bove,



Dear de - sire_ of ev - ry na - tion, joy of ev - ry long - ing heart.
By_ thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to_ thy glor - ious throne.
End of faith, as its_ be - gin - ing, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
Pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in_ thy pre - cious love.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra - el!

POSTLUDE

Rejoice!
St. Arbucks Quartet

Richard Smallwood

ADVENT WREATH - Each week during Advent we light another candle in our Advent Wreath to anticipate the coming of Christ, the light of the world. These candles symbolize the gifts of hope, love, joy, and peace that Christ's coming brings. Today, we light the candle of Hope.

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.
- Sunday School and Confirmation classes are meeting today.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Kevin O'Brien

Acolytes: Toby Smedley, Lee Waldschmidt

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Greeter: Linda Loving

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 DECEMBER

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.

Dec. 1 Brooke Walvoord, Dodd Brown, John Reed, Leo Lawrence, Rex Lawrence

Dec. 2 Frank Mynard, Matthew Wallace, Richard Wu

Dec. 3 Jack Knight, Maximilian Blair Shirk Jones, Nadia J. Jiménez

Dec. 4 Katherine Schuller, Laura Van Zeyl, Mark Smith

Dec. 5 Chris McGuire, Joel Finkle

Dec. 6 Shannon Castle

Dec. 7 Mallory Schmitt

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.

- Wayne Bradley, recovering from surgery.
- The family of Don Johnson, beloved uncle of Jim Waldschmidt, who passed away after a long illness.
- Bob Ball's brother, Phill, being treated for complications associated with leukemia, and Jane, who is Phill's primary caregiver.
- Theresa Herlevsen at the death of her father.
- David Folkes's daughter, Sarah Philomena, who has entered hospice.
- Cheryl Kennedy at the death of Bill Kennedy. A memorial service is being planned for January 11 at 1 p.m.
- Sally Acker, recovering from a fall.
- Ginna Gentzen at the death of her mother.
- Jen Kew's father, Jim, diagnosed with a progressive lung disease.
- Jessica Ashley, recovering from breast cancer surgery.
- Diane Biegert, recovering from a hip replacement.
- Dan Von Barga, being treated for multiple myeloma.
- Kelly Jo Taylor's nephew, Stuart Ault, hospitalized for a motorcycle accident.
- Nancy Bingaman's niece struggling with anxiety.
- Pat Kirby, dealing with a housing crisis.
- Karen Johnson and Nancy Barnett's father, Len, recovering from a fall.
- Judy Johnson, friend of Bobbi Ganello, recuperating from cancer treatments.
- Mike Stensaas, dealing with health problems.
- David Baker's brother-in-law, Roger Robert, as he deals with the onset of Parkinson's disease.
- Prayers for peace - in our city, nation and world.
- 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.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS

- TODAY FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE*
10 a.m. - Worship
- WED, DEC 4 LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS SHOW
5 p.m. - Concert, Sanctuary
- SUN, DEC 8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE*
10 a.m. - Worship, Christmas Cantata
- SAT, DEC 14 COOKIES WITH SANTA
10 a.m. - Cookies, crafts and pictures with Santa, Gym
- SUN, DEC 15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY*
10 a.m. - Worship, Readings & Carols with youth choirs and brass
11:30 a.m. - Advent Market
- TUES, DEC 17 FOOD FOR THE SOUL
12 p.m. - Christmas Party
- THURS, DEC 19 TAIZÉ WINTER SOLSTICE[†]
7 p.m. - Service, Labyrinth Walk, Gym
- SUN, DEC 22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE*
10 a.m. - Worship
- TUES, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
5 p.m. - Family Service, Sanctuary
9 p.m. - Candlelight Service, Sanctuary
Christmas story, carols, candles, and choir

*Scan here for more
information about
Advent events*

[†]RSVP for childcare



UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 17 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall

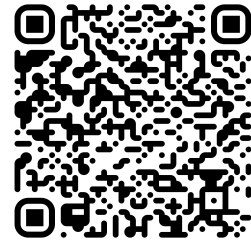
Bring your own sack lunch. We will approach Christmas with fellowship, snacks and desserts as well as Christmas music provided by Pastor Jeff Carlson. Adults of all ages are invited to make new friends and reconnect with old ones through lunch, fun and faith. Bring a friend or neighbor. Sponsored by St. Pauls Social.

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.

St. Pauls Activism and Advocacy Ministry has voted unanimously to donate \$500 of their Council allocated budget to UCC Hurricane Relief funds. This contribution will help fund the relief efforts of the UCC for victims of both Hurricane Helene and Milton. The Ministry is encouraging members to contribute to this effort as an act of our faith for those whose lives have been seriously impacted by this tragedy. Together we can make a difference! Donations can be made online by scanning the QR code or by check to the National UCC. Thank you for your support.



REBUILDING TOGETHER 2025

It's time! In early December, St. Pauls Rebuilding Together will commit to *one or two houses* on the last Saturday in April for our group. Are you in? Help us make this decision before the holidays. Sign up in Church Center, or email volunteer coordinator Pat Ruch (pmr.ruch@gmail.com). A more formal sign-up will be completed in spring 2025. Are you interested in working together? Let us know you're coming here: <https://tinyurl.com/nyxe9ha9>.

ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED

The Advent Market is on Sunday, December 15, and will help fund our outreach and benevolence for Three Angels in Haiti. We need new or gently used items such as jewelry, candles, frames, handmade items, Christmas decorations, toys, etc. (Please, no clothing unless it is holiday specific.) The drop-off dates are: **December 7:** 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; **December 8:** 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; **December 13:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; and **December 14:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m.. Questions, please text or email Carrie Bruggs at (773) 294-4446 or crbruggs@gmail.com.

UCAN GIFT DRIVE

This holiday season, the Activism and Advocacy committee is preparing to help St. Pauls participate in UCAN's gift train for another year. Please stop by our table during social hour and sign up to shop a wish list. This year, we have requests for gift cards only. These will be due at church **by this Sunday, December 1.**

In addition, we would like to provide virtual and long-distance members with an opportunity to participate. If you would like to donate a gift card for a youth at UCAN, please email Lovely Carter (carterlovely@yahoo.com) or Pauline Taylor (paulinetaylor933@gmail.com) and we will send you a gift train form. You can mail the gift card to St. Pauls United Church of Christ, 2335 N. Orchard St., Chicago, IL 60614. These also need to be at the church **by this Sunday, December 1.**

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

November is Native American Heritage Month and this year's theme is "Recognizing 100 Years of Citizenship and the Fight for the Right to Vote: 1924-2024". What are the unique and deeply troubling challenges that our society and government have imposed on our indigenous siblings to suppress their voices historically and to this day? Learn more at <https://tinyurl.com/26ww624a> and <https://tinyurl.com/3mkf58hh>.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS

Our Stephen Ministers are here for you if you are going through a tough time. Extensively trained in compassionate Christian caregiving, Stephen Ministers are matched confidentially with someone in our congregation who is going through a crisis, such as the death of a loved one, a diagnosis, a divorce, a job loss, etc. They meet with you once a week for an hour to offer support through listening, companionship and prayer. If you wonder whether having a Stephen Minister might be helpful for you, please speak with Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org. Every one of us could benefit from a Stephen Minister at some point in our lives.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send announcements for St. Pauls-sponsored events to info@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, for publication in the Friday email and next Sunday bulletin. You are welcome to share personal announcements and other event invitations in our Facebook Group, St. Pauls Together.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

St. Pauls UCC
Giving Campaign 2025
October 27, 2024 - January 14, 2025

\$1,000,000
\$950,000
\$900,000
\$800,000
\$700,000
\$600,000
\$500,000
\$400,000
\$300,000
\$200,000
\$100,000

Embrace, Nurture, Inspire

WELCOME TO ST. 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

Variations on Morning Song-Finale was composed by Robert Grogan. He was the Carillonneur and Organist at The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. An "occasional" composer for organ, carillon and the liturgy, his intention in the present set of variations was to base all treatments of the tune (harmonic and modal usage, figuration types, and contrapuntal applications) directly upon inherent characteristics of the tune itself.

The text for ***Awake, Awake to Love and Work*** was composed in 1921 by Geoffrey Anketel Studdert Kennedy (1883-1929), who was an Anglican minister of proud Irish descent. He spent his life working in deprived surroundings. The tune, MORNING SONG, is from another great early American shape-note hymnal, *Kentucky Harmony*. The melody is based on the English folk song *Old King Cole*.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel is thought of as a Christmas carol, but its text definitely references the anticipation of Advent. The original Latin, VENI EMMANUEL, was translated in 1851 by J. M. Neale (1818-1866). He was a member of the British clergy, and struggled with ill-health his entire life. Neale also composed the texts for many other hymns, including *All Glory Laud and Honor*, and translated many other Latin texts, such as *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*.

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence employs a French carol melody, PICARDY, from the 17th century that was harmonized in 1906 by the great 20th century English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). The words are a translation and paraphrase of a hymn from the Greek Liturgy of St. James.

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come was composed by Paul Manz (1919-2009) in 1953. He composed this anthem while in a hospital waiting room awaiting results of the surgery on his child who had been injured in an automobile accident. His son survived. It has been performed widely, including for *Lessons and Carols* at King's College Cambridge in England. He was a graduate of Concordia College in River Forest and Northwestern University.

The text for ***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*** was written by the great English hymn writer, Charles Wesley (1707–1788). He wrote more than 6,500 hymn texts. The composer of HYFRYDOL, Roland Hugh Prichard (1811–1887), was from Wales and was only 19 when he composed this piece.

Rejoice! - Richard Smallwood (b. 1948) is one of the top composers and performers of Gospel music. His group, The Richard Smallwood Singers, has toured the world. He is a graduate of Howard University, which also counts Vice President Kamala Harris and so many other luminaries as alumni. He was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 2006.

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, during the past 180 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership
Please visit www.spucc.org/contact

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

Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
at the Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2316 N. Lincoln Ave.
Parking validation is available in the Narthex.



WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

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

Welcome to our first time guests and
our longtime members.

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

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to LGBTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

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