

November 17, 2024

Baptism Sunday

New Member 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.*

PRELUDE *Prelude in E Flat Major* J.S. Bach
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

INTROIT *God Is Here! As We You People Meet*
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The spirit of the Lord God is upon us, because God has anointed us.

**All: God sends us to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives.**

One: To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor; to comfort all who mourn.

**All: To give to those who mourn a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
the oil of joy instead of mourning.**

One: A garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

All: May the Spirit of the Lord God be upon us.

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

* HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory



1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2. From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
3. Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4. Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
5. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace and glory, we confess our lack of trust in you.
We are captives of our insecurities and anxieties.
We are suspicious of our neighbors.
Rather than trust in you, we hide behind walls of self-defense.
We trust in the power of wealth and violence for our daily bread,
rather than in your grace and peace.
Free us, O God, from our fears.
Free us from empty comforts and false security.
Free us that we might live wisely and courageously,
as your forgiven and forgiving people.
Through the grace of Christ we pray,
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision

verses 1-2



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor life's emp - ty praise,



Nought be all else to me save that thou art,
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Moth - er and Fa - ther, thou art both to me,
Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing, thy child I shall be.
Rul - er of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF
Harper and Riley Beebe Ferroni

Pastor: Harper and Riley, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as children of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Harper and Riley are 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 children, Harper and Riley. Inspire their lives. May they sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for their 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.

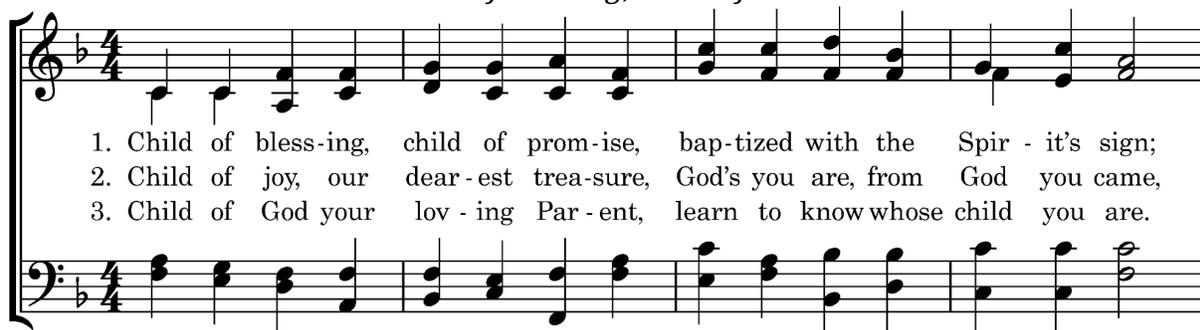
Pastor: Harper and Riley, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

All: Amen

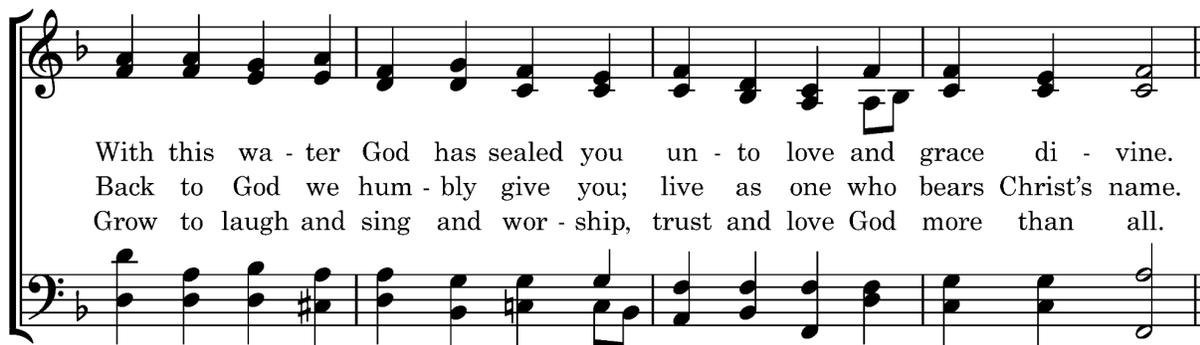
*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

RESPONSE

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise



1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir - it's sign;
2. Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came,
3. Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.



With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
Back to God we hum - bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

SCRIPTURE

Holly Stovall

Mark 12:41-13:8, 37

Jesus sat down opposite the temple treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into it. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. What I say to you I say to all: be alert!"

RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision

verse 3

See previous hymn

SERMON

"Do Not Be Alarmed"

Jeff Carlson

* HYMN

My Life Flows on in Endless Song



1. My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
2. What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
3. When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
4. I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -



- ta - tion. I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
liv - ing. What though the shad - ow's gath - er 'round? A
ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
- bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since



hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes



and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All



finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?
Love com - mands both heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?
things are mine since I am Christ's—how can I keep from sing - ing?

GIVING MOMENT

Peg Wander

OFFERTORY

O How Amiable
Chancel Choir

Ralph Vaughan Williams

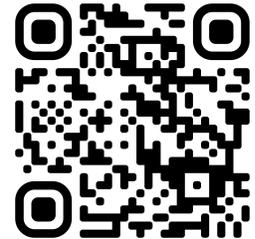
O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
Even they altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:
They will be always praising thee.
The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handy work,
O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.
Psalms 84 & 90

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.



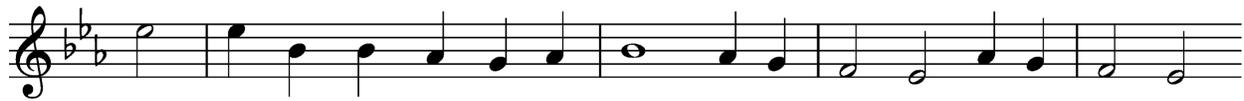
*** FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY**



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;



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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

A Dialogue on our Statement of Faith

Pastor Matt: Let us affirm together our faith as we receive these new members into our church.

Congregation: We believe in God who has created and is creating.

President: God has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new. God works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: We trust God. God calls us to be the church.

Pastor Liz: Will you promise to support this congregation with your time, talent and resources, participating regularly in the worship of Saint Pauls United Church of Christ and contributing to our life and ministry in the city?

New Members: We do promise. With you, we will celebrate God's presence, love and serve others, care for creation, seek justice and resist evil.

Pastor Jeff: With your love, God will love. With your hands, God will touch the city. With your lives, God will bring justice and compassion to the world.

Congregation: We promise you our love, support, and care.

All: Together we will 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!

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

How Firm a Foundation



1. How_ firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
5. "The_ soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,



by___ God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!
for___ I am your God, I will still give you aid;
the___ riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;
my___ grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
I___ will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



What more can God say than to you has been said,
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand
For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt you; for I have de - signed
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake.



to___ you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."
de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."
your_ soul to make pure just as gold is re - fined."
I'll___ nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E Flat Major (St. Anne)
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J.S. Bach

*Brendan Henry is taking some vacation days and
will return for worship on December 1st.*

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.
- There is no Sunday school today so that children can participate in the music during today's service. 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, Jeff Carlson, Liz Nickerson

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Holly Stovall

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Doug Clark, David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

BORN THIS WEEK IN NOVEMBER

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.

Nov. 17 Matt Leimann

Nov. 19 Laura Hochuli

Nov. 20 David Brown, Penelope Patton

Nov. 21 Aidan Ritchie, Ruth Bryant,

Nov. 22 Mitch Holzrichter

Nov. 23 Andrew Broderick, Cale Roschen, Tom Hanson

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, dealing with blood clots and bladder issues.
- Juliannis Pacheco and Jesus' daughter, Dafne, was born prematurely on November 6 and is in the NICU at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.
- David Folkes's daughter, Sarah Philomena, who has entered hospice.
- Cheryl Kennedy at the death of Bill Kennedy.
- 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.
- Bob Ball's brother, Phil, being treated for leukemia.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



My name is **Steve Hansen**. I grew up in Manhattan, Illinois, and currently live in Chicago with my two dogs, Kadin and Joey, who keep life fun and full of joy. Professionally, I work in customer service assurance, creating systems to improve client experiences and team efficiency. For fun, I love spending time outdoors, especially by the lake, where Kadin enjoys playing fetch while Joey supervises! Family and community mean a lot to me and I am grateful to be joining SPUCC where I look forward to building connections and growing in faith with everyone.



Holly Stovall and **Tom Sadler** are professors with two grown children, Maya and Mathew. Tom was born in Chicago and grew up in Macomb, Illinois. Holly was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, and grew up in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas. For fun, we walk or run on the lake path and go out for coffee. We like neighborhood theater and Chicago sports teams, such as the Chicago Sky.



Max and **Mindy** live in Avondale with their 4-year-old son, Jackson, and dog Hank. They travel often and love exploring new places and visiting family and friends. They have been coming to St. Pauls sporadically for a few years and are excited to make it their church home. They especially love that St. Pauls practices what they preach and they feel that everyone truly is welcome here.

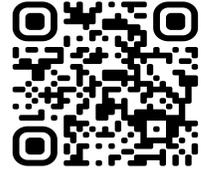


My name is **Eva Skye**. I was born here in Chicago. I'm a retired personal trainer. I love to wiggle and giggle and the performing arts.

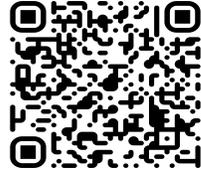
UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY - ADD YOUR PROFILE PICTURE TO CHURCH CENTER - 11 a.m., Social Hall

Add your photo to the mobile app! Help us all put more faces to names in the directory. Stop by the table in the Social Hall after worship for help.



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



NOV 19 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL LUNCH GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall
Bring your own sack lunch at 12 p.m. for a time of fellowship. From 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., we will have a reflection and discussion on the theme "Thanksgiving/Blessings," led by Doug Clark. Adults of all ages are invited to make new friends and reconnect with old ones through lunch, fun, and faith. Sponsored by St. Pauls Social.

NOV 19 - RETIREMENT GROUP MEETING – 10 a.m., Parlor
Join us to discuss transition paths, how we arrived here, what's meaningful, and what's next—whether or not we have planned health, funds, or companionship. For more info, contact Marcia Knudson: marciaknudson@gmail.com.

NOV 24 - TOTENFEST MEMORIALS

Totenfest is Sunday, November 24. During worship, we'll honor members and friends who died during the past year. Totenfest, meaning "Festival of the Dead," offers an opportunity to make a memorial gift. Submit your gift and dedication for the bulletin **by tomorrow, Monday, November 18.**, via info@spucc.org or via tinyurl.com/52jwyhpz.

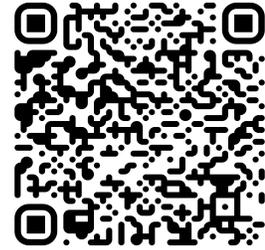
NOV 25 & 26 - THANKSGIVING BREAK PLAY DAYS - 9 a.m.-12 p.m., LL Classrooms & Gym

No school? No problem! We've got you covered. Little Lights teachers are hosting Play Days on Monday and Tuesday mornings during Thanksgiving break. Open to the community: siblings, alumni, friends, etc. \$55/day, snack provided, 10% sibling discount. Advanced registration required. Registration closes this Wednesday, November 20. For more details and to register, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/2h8p2umk>.

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.

WINDY CITY WINDS – FALL CONCERT NOVEMBER 22

Celebrating the start of our 10th season, Windy City Winds will perform their fall concert here at St. Pauls Church on Friday evening, November 22, at 7:30 p.m. The theme of our concert is "By Request: Music Suggested by Band Members." The concert will feature music by Edward Elgar, Frank Ticheli, Eric Whitacre, Ryan George, Claude Smith, and Julius Fucik – plus the Midwest premiere of a new work by Aaron Perrine. Admission is free and the concert will be live streamed at www.spucc.org/streaming. Come hear "Chicago's Community Band"!

PECAN PIES FOR THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Pecan pie sales are back! Our pecan pie sales will support the Youth Mission Trip. Pies are wonderful fresh but can be frozen (still wonderful)! Order and pay by credit card online **by next Sunday, November 24**. Cost is \$30/pie, limit two pies per person. You can also order a pie to be donated to UCAN's residential home kitchen. Pickup: November 25, 2-6 p.m.; or November 26, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Questions/concerns, please contact Mary Brown, doddbrown@sbcglobal.net, or 847-989-5966. Purchase your pies here: <https://tinyurl.com/37cdbj9f>.

UCAN GIFT DRIVE

This holiday season, the Activism and Advocacy Ministry is preparing to help St. Pauls participate in UCAN's gift train for another year. Beginning November 3, 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 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 December 1.

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 Bruggers at (773) 294-4446 or crbruggs@gmail.com.

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.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

Leaving the Leaves (adapted from the New York Times, October 20, 2023)

A pile of autumn leaves is home to an entire ecosystem, such as invisible fungi and microbes, and is particularly important in the life cycle of pollinators, such as moths and butterflies, who may rely on the leaf layer to over-winter and emerge in the spring. The organic matter from the decomposed leaves amends Chicago's poor soil without needing to use fertilizers. It also helps increase water absorption and naturally abate run off. Leave the leaves on the lawn in a natural carpet, if possible. Short of that, distribute them under trees or elsewhere in the garden in a thin carpet.

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.

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



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!

TODAY'S MUSIC

The ***Prelude and Fugue in E Flat Major*** BWV 552 “bookends” this service and also serves the same opening and closing to Johann Sebastian Bach’s (1685-1750) incredible collection, *Clavier-Übung III*. It is a monumental work of music for liturgical services. The *Fugue* is often called “St. Anne,” because the first subject of the fugue sounds exactly like the tune for *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*. Bach had no knowledge of that tune and it is really an interesting coincidence that it sounds like our beloved English hymn. The fugue can also be considered a “Trinity fugue,” because it is in three parts, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.

The text for ***God Is Here! As We Your People Meet*** was written in 1971 by Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000). Born in Liverpool, he was one of the most prominent hymnodists in Britain and became a Methodist minister. The tune, ABBOT'S LEIGH, was composed in 1941 by Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1992). Taylor was both a musician and a priest in the Church of England. He composed 20 hymns and edited a number of hymnals.

God of Grace and God of Glory has, for us, the unusual Welsh tune name CWM RHONDDA. The text we know is by the famous American author and Baptist clergyman, Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969). He wrote this text in 1930. The well-known tune was composed in 1905 by John Hughes (1873-1932). He had very little formal education and became a deacon and precentor, lay minister positions, in his Baptist church. He wrote this tune for a Welsh Baptist choral festival.

Be Thou My Vision is a lovely Irish folk tune, SLANE. The translation was made in 1905 from the original Gaelic by Mary E. Bryne (1880-1931), who was born in Ireland. She was a respected university level academic in Dublin.

The text for ***Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*** was written in 1981 by a UCC pastor and teacher of theology, Ronald Cole-Turner (b. 1948). The tune, STUTTGART, was composed in 1715 by Christian Friederich Witt (1660-1716). Witt completed a huge hymnal, *Psalmodia Sacra*, the year before his death. Of the 774 hymns (!!!), he composed nearly 100. He was Kapellmeister of the Gotha court in Stuttgart at the same time that Bach was in Leipzig, just 300 miles north. An interesting side note is that Nathan Laube, world renowned organist and friend of St. Pauls, was until recently on the organ faculty at the Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart. He has since returned to the faculty at the Eastman School of Music.

My Life Flows on in Endless Song was composed, both the text and the tune, ENDLESS SONG, by Robert Lowry (1826-1899). Lowry was a preacher and scholar with a musical background from his childhood.

O How Amiable was composed in 1934 by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1871-1958). It is a wonderful example of an English form of church music called a “verse anthem.” The first well-known composer of this form was Gustav Holst (1874-1934), a contemporary of Vaughan Williams . In general, the verse anthem is a simpler church anthem based on a familiar hymn tune with additional musical variations.

How Firm a Foundation, although of anonymous origin, is a true American hymn first published in Funk’s *Genuine Church Music* in 1832. That hymnal is part of what is often referred to as the Sacred Harp, or shape-note hymnal, tradition in our country which began in the early 19th century. These treasures gained a rebirth during the bicentennial celebrations in 1976. Did you know that before the revival of this tune, FOUNDATION, this text was most often sung to the tune *Adeste Fideles (O Come All Ye Faithful)*? The text is also unattributed, but first discovered by John Rippon (1751–1836), who was an English Baptist clergyman. He noted the author as “K.”

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 181 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 LGPTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

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