

December 29, 2024

No matter who you are,
No matter where you are
On life's journey,
You are welcome here.

Please silence cell phones.

*Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.
Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.
The Nursery and Toddler Room are open for children ages 0-5, from 10 to 11 a.m.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"This is where we come with our hopes, invisible before us,
untouched and still possible."

WS Merwin

PRELUDE

Divinum Mysterium
Scott Banjavcic, organ

Wilbur Held

INTROIT

Of That Birth Forever Blessed
Kurt R. Hansen, tenor

13th Century Plainsong

CHIMES

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Thank you, God, for the cold.

All: The heavy contemplative cold that heralds our People's jubilee!

One: The cold that stirs visions of the stable babe.

**All: The cold that inspires living things to congregate across flinty
landscapes.**

One: Thank you, God, for the cold!

All: For it is imprinted on me to listen in winter, *not spring*,
for the cry of birth! Amen.

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

* HYMN

O Come All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, —

come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven — a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee — be all glo - - ry given;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, — Christ, — the Lord!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among the children of God,
O God when we shirk from the task,
forgive us!
When we reduce Christmas to a sentiment,
forgive us!
Help us make your love real upon this earth!**
(based on *The Work of Christmas* by Howard Thurman)

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*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

What Child Is This

verse 1



1. What child is this, who laid to rest,___ On Mar - y's lap__ is sleep-ing?
2. Why lies the Child in man-ger bare__ where ox and ass__ are feed-ing?
3. Bring gifts of in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, join in ju - bi - la - tion;



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herdswatch are keep-ing?
 Give heed, draw near; for sin - ners here__ the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
 The Ho - ly Child, though meek and mild, has come with God's sal - va - tion.



This, this__ the an - gels sing,__ is Christ, God's ho - ly of - fer - ing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise__ the song on high,__ the moth - er sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child__ of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail__ the Word made flesh, the babe, the child__ of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy,__ for Christ is born,__ the babe, the child__ of Mar - y!

SCRIPTURE

Kevin O'Brien

Luke 2:41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

* 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

What Child Is This

verses 2 & 3

See previous hymn

SERMON

"God is Young"

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain



1. While shep-herds kept their watch - ing o'er sil - lent flocks by night,
2. The shep-herds feared and trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



Be - hold through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

OFFERTORY

What Songs Were Sung
Todd Coe, tenor

John Jacob Niles

We cannot tell
We do not know
What songs were sung
So long ago
When Mary birthed
Her own sweet Son
And peace and love
Became as one.

The Son of God
The Scripture said
Was virgin-born in a tiny shed
While lowly shepherds
Stood hard by
And heavenly sound
Filled up the sky.

Now let us then
Uncovered all
Before this creche and lowly stall
Where men and angels dignify
God's gift His Son
In humility.

We do not know
We cannot tell
What songs were sung
Or what starlight fell
Or where the holy mystery stand.
For so many years
And so many lands.

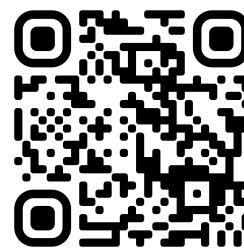
We cannot tell
We do not know
What songs were sung
So long ago
When Mary birthed
Her own sweet Son
And peace and love
Became as One.

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 be - low;

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Matt Fitzgerald

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

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice___ with heart and soul and voice;___
2. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice___ with heart and soul and voice;___
3. Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice___ with heart and soul and voice;___



now give heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now you know of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now you need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



Ox and ass be - fore him bow, a - sleep with - in the
God has o - pened heav - en's door, and you are blessed for -
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er -



man - ger now. Christ is born to - day,___ Christ is born to - day!
- ev - er - more. Christ was born for this,___ Christ was born for this!
- last - ing hall. Christ was born to save,___ Christ was born to save!

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - - o.

POSTLUDE

Christmas Is Coming

Vince Guaraldi

St. Arbucks Quartet

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. 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:, Matt Fitzgerald

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: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: 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 DECEMBER/JANUARY

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. 29 Jennifer Kohler, Mary Beth Canfield

Dec. 30 Aniston Hartanov, Deidre McGrath, Sally Fletcher

Dec. 31 Claire Nitzsche, Jess Parman, Justin Hartanov, Tyler
Harrington-Meinders

Jan 1, 2025 Addie Kohler, Dante Williams, Nathan Chamberlain, Philip Amerson

Jan. 3 Brian Earl, Susan Michod, Theresa Busker

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.

- Marcia Knudson as she begins treatment for lung cancer.
- Sabrina Brancaccio, sister-in-law of Terry Hansen, for cancer diagnosis.
- Char Damron asks for prayers for Vicki Kendall and her family following Vicki's recent surgery.
- Thank you for the prayers of resolution for Pat Kirby.
- Juanita Barlow being treated for health problems.
- David Faulkner at the death of his mother.
- 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.
- David Folkes's daughter, Sarah Philomena, who has entered hospice.
- Cheryl Kennedy at the death of Bill Kennedy. A service is being planned for January 11 at 1 p.m. at St. Pauls.
- Sally Acker, recovering from a fall.
- Jen Kew's father, Jim, diagnosed with a progressive lung disease.
- Jessica Ashley, recovering from breast cancer surgery.
- Dan Von Bargen, being treated for multiple myeloma.
- Nancy Bingaman's niece struggling with anxiety.
- Karen Johnson and Nancy Barnett's father, Len, recovering from a fall.
- Judy Johnson, friend of Bobbi Ganello, recuperating from cancer treatments.
- 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JAN 20, 2025 - MLK: A DAY OF HEALING AND REMEMBRANCE AT UCAN -

11 a.m.-1 p.m., UCAN Nichol's Center, 3605 W. Fillmore Street

Join Pastor Matt who will emcee a powerful program honoring the life and legacy of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Hear first-hand stories from families of victims of gun violence and how UCAN is making a difference and how to help. Lunch will be provided. ucanchicago.org/

JAN 26, 2025 - A POW PILGRIMAGE - 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room

Please join Music Director Kurt R. Hansen for a 30-minute presentation of a documentary about his pilgrimage last winter to Poland, Germany and France to follow the journey of his father, Kermit Hansen, as a German POW in 1944 and 1945. A Q & A time will follow.

JAN 29, 2025 - COOKIES FOR A CAUSE (BAKE YOUR FAVORITE COOKIES AT HOME NOW!) - 5:30 p.m., Kitchen

Join the St. Pauls cookie bakers for dinner, socializing, and cookie making on Wednesday, January 29. Meet us in the kitchen at 5:30 p.m. (or when you can). We eat dinner around 6:30 p.m. Cookies will be donated to A Just Harvest and the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. If you can't attend but want to contribute, drop off cookies labeled with your name and "MARCIA" at the church by Wednesday, January 29. To reserve a spot or find out what supplies are needed, contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com or (773) 307-6866, or Gloria Joseph at glrjoseph@yahoo.com.

FEB 2, 2025 SPORTS EQUIPMENT DRIVE - Oscar Mayer Room (before and after BOB performance)

In an effort to support UCAN's youth sports programs, we're collecting gently used sports equipment. Please sift through your closets and garages for sporting goods your family is no longer using - we'll take them! Most needed equipment: baseball, soccer, basketball, tennis, volleyball, kickball, and rugby. Organizer: Jill Lawrence jill_lawrence@yahoo.com, (773) 573-9306.

FEB 8, 2025 - SING ALONG SOUND OF MUSIC - 4 p.m., Youth Lounge

Join St. Pauls Adult Social and host Jen Luerksen for "Sing Along Sound of Music" in our own St. Pauls parlor. Bring your singing voice as we watch the movie and sing along with the bouncing ball. Bring a drink and snack to share. The movie will start at 4:30 p.m. with fellowship before and afterward. RSVP here: tinyurl.com/4hxjezm7.

FEB 9, 2025 - NEW MEMBER CLASS – 11 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room

Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for our next New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love for you to be part of the conversation! We'll meet after worship and childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in your registration). See other upcoming dates here: [spucc.org/new member classes](http://spucc.org/new_member_classes).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – THE NEW BOOK GROUP

Artificial Intelligence raises important questions for Christians. If you are interested in how faith and technology intersect, our new book group is for you. Join Pastor Matt, Helen Chang and others for two sessions to discuss *God, Human, Animal, Machine* by essayist Megan O'Gieblyn. The New York Times calls the book "A rigorously thoughtful collection of meditations on technology, humanity and religion, and crucially, a memoir." Meetings will be in late January and February, dates will be determined once registration is complete. Register here: tinyurl.com/ms5wuwma

URBAN POVERTY IN PITTSBURGH – JUNE 15-21

2025 Youth Mission Trip Special Meeting January 26th

Teens and parents, please attend a special meeting after worship on Sunday, January 26, in the High School Room. Come learn more about this year's trip, travel plans, cost, fundraising efforts, and more. We are excited to invite our youth on the summer 2025 trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 15-21. Youth will work with activists and church leaders from the Christian Church of Wilkinsburg, a dynamic interracial congregation in the heart of the community. We will stay at the church, joining youth and young adults from the Wilkinsburg Church in a weeklong effort called "Project Peace." We will do carpentry, urban gardening, and other projects in the neighborhood. Lessons learned will be brought home and put to work at St. Pauls and in Chicago. If you are already planning to join the adventure, you can register here: tinyurl.com/mrxmed3c

ADVENT MARKET THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Advent Market. We raised more than \$4,000 to send to Three Angels Children's Relief in Haiti! Many thanks to Carrie Bruggers and her team of elves who organized the market.

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to our annual gift drive for the youth at UCAN. Because of your generosity, St. Pauls donated 113 gifts this year! A special shoutout to the Activism and Advocacy Ministry for organizing this effort as part of their outreach mission. We also want to recognize Lovely Carter and Pauline Taylor for their amazing work coordinating the drive. Your dedication makes a real difference—thank you!

NEW SMALL GROUPS! SHORT CIRCLES: REGISTER TODAY

Short Circles are small groups for people who want to experience growth in their spiritual lives. In circles of 6-8 people, we will connect to God and one another. We will meet for 50-60 minutes once a week for six weeks beginning in early February. Each week, your Short Circle will focus on a few short verses of scripture using the ancient method of "lectio divina" or "spiritual reading." The aim is for you to discover what God is calling you to do or to become in 2025. Upon registration, you will indicate whether you prefer to meet in person or via Zoom, along with your day/evening preferences. Register here: tinyurl.com/mry4acbf

BIBLE OFF BROADWAY 2025 IS COMING!

Get your kids aged 3 to 18 ready to shine, because our in-service production of "*SHE-roes of the Bible*" will start rehearsals on Sunday, January 5, and run each Sunday through January 26, all in preparation for the always-inspiring February 2 annual BOB service. Whether your kids want to sing, dance, or play an instrument on stage or work behind the scenes, we hope all will participate.

Watch for a parent survey in the coming week to capture your kids' interest in participating.

JOIN OUR INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA

Do you play an orchestral string, woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument? If so, please join the St. Pauls UCC Intergenerational Orchestra as we prepare to perform in worship on Sunday, March 16. Orchestra members range in age from 10 to 100! Rehearsals are immediately after church for about an hour in the Oscar Mayer Room on February 23, March 2 and March 9. If you are interested, please contact our conductor Mark Mosley at (773) 732-0625 or mwmosley@gmail.com. Please join us as together we "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!"

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.

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

**UPDATE ON 2025 PHASE II CONSTRUCTION PLANS
TO “EXPAND AND ELEVATE SAINT PAULS’ OPENNESS”**

On October 20, our members unanimously and joyfully approved moving forward with Phase II of our long-awaited capital construction project. In disciplined planning and thoughtful review since 2016, the endorsed final work phase will make our entire public building complex more welcoming and fully accessible through the installation of a five-stop elevator and a beautiful open-air courtyard with a new north-end building access ramp.

Project general contractor Bulley & Andrews, St. Pauls owner’s rep Lorne Frank, and architect Larry Kearns have met regularly to lay out a work plan for 2025. To maximize efficiency and minimize costs, work on the exterior and interior will happen concurrently from March through early November. The planned schedule for the phases of work is summarized in the following table:

“CAMPAIGN TO EXPAND AND ELEVATE OUR OPENNESS”		
PHASE II CONSTRUCTION GENERAL WORK PLAN/APPROXIMATE TIMETABLE*		
MONTH OF 2025	INTERIOR WORK (NORTH END)	EXTERIOR WORK (COURTYARD)
January – March	Equipment and materials procurement Pre-construction asbestos abatement	
April	Interior site preparation North stairwell partial removal	Site preparation Current site demolition
May	Elevator shaft preparation Roof preparation for elevator top Masonry and roofing Elevator installation	Install tree bases Electrical Ramp construction Handrail installation
June	North interior structural steel and deck work	
July	North stairwell construction North interior frame-out	Pour and finish plaza base Landscape bed preparation
August		Install plaza pavers Install plaza steps
September		Plantings Asphalt patching, finishing Final site clean-up
October	Interior flooring, tile, millwork, painting, and finishing	(Exterior complete)
November	(Project completion if any delays in planned schedule)	
<p align="center">*IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER: As with any construction project of any size, timetables are approximations and subject to change/delay.</p>		

Our project team has met with St. Pauls, Lighthouse Church, and Little Lights program staff members to ensure that all are aware of and can plan for/around the implications of all phases of the construction.

Watch for an all-congregation email containing a link to an inspirational virtual tour of the Phase II outcome.

We continue to be grateful for the faithful and generous support of the entire St. Pauls congregation that made Phase I and II of this bold project possible. Generations to come will benefit and thank you!

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

The tune, **DIVINUM MISTERIUM**, translates as “divine mystery,” which certainly describes how God chose to come to be with us. Wilbur Held (1914-2015), who arranged the setting, has a deep Chicago connection. He was born in Des Plaines, studied at the American Conservatory with Leo Sowerby, and became Sowerby’s assistant for seven years at St. James Cathedral in the Loop. In addition to having been an active composer, he was also very involved in the American Guild of Organists and was also Professor of Organ Studies at Ohio State University for more than 30 years.

Of That Birth Forever Blessed is a chant melody from the 13th century. The tune, DIVINUM MISTERIUM, is the same as the theme for our Prelude. The author of the Latin was Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410), a Spanish poet, devout believer, and lawyer. The translations were made by John M. Neale (1818-1866), who was born into an English evangelical home, but developed great sympathies with Catholicism, and Sir Henry William Baker (1821-1877), an Anglican priest who wrote a number of hymn text, among them is *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*.

O Come, All Ye Faithful, known by the Latin tune title ADESTE FIDELES, is definitely a carol that we sing on Christmas Eve, BUT how appropriate the words are to celebrate the joy of our community, *O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant. . . .* The words and music are attributed to John Francis Wade (1711-1786), who wrote the text originally in Latin. He left England in 1745 because of the persecution of Catholics. The English text was added by Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880), an Anglican priest, in the mid-19th century.

The poetry for ***What Child Is This*** was written by W. Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). He composed many hymn texts, but unlike most hymnodists, Dix was a businessman, not clergy. GREENSLEEVES is an English ballad of unknown origin from the 16th century.

Go Tell It on the Mountain music is unattributed, however John W. Work (1872-1925) “curated” this and many other Black American spirituals and folk songs. Work was a graduate of the Historically Black College, Fisk University in Nashville. He returned to his alma mater to direct the world famous Fisk Jubilee Singers. This song was inspired and sung for many years by St. Pauls member and Chancel Choir alto section leader Muzette Morgan.

What Songs Were Sung is an American folk song curated and arranged by John Jacob Niles (1892-1980). Niles is often referred to as the “Dean of American Balladeers.” He was at the heart of the American folk song revival in the 1950s and ‘60s along with such luminaries as Pete Seeger; Joan Baez; Peter, Paul and Mary; and Bob Dylan. He was born in Kentucky and became a serious student of Appalachian folk music. He transcribed melodies and words shared with him as part of the oral tradition. *What Songs Were Sung* is one of the songs Niles transcribed. After serving in the Army Air Corps in World War II, he remained in France to study music and then returned to America to continue his studies at the Cincinnati Conservatory.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice is a translation of the original Latin by John Mason Neale (1818-1886). He was born into an evangelical home, became an Anglican clergyman, but had real sympathies for Catholicism. IN DULCI JUBILO, which means “in sweet rejoicing,” is an early undated folk dance.

Angels We Have Heard on High is originally an 18th century French Noël (carol) freely translated by James Chadwick (1813-1882), an Irish Catholic priest. GLORIA is from the text of the joyfully cascading Latin refrain, which we sing as a Benediction Response after Christmas and during Epiphany.

Christmas Is Coming was composed by Vince Guaraldi (1928-1976) and is a musical part of the made-for-TV movie *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (1965). He also created music for other animated features including *Linus and Lucy*. He also won a Grammy in 1963 for Best Original Jazz Composition.

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
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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 main office.



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.