

January 26, 2025
Third Sunday after Epiphany

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

Please silence cell phones.

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"We have freedom now, because Christ made us free. So stand strong in that freedom. Don't go back into slavery again." Galatians 5:1

PRELUDE

O Happy Day!
St. Arbucks Quartet

Edwin Hawkins

Oh happy day
When Jesus washed
He washed my sins away!
Oh happy day ...

INTROIT

O Day of Radiant Gladness
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: For freedom, Christ has set us free

All: Free from being a slave to social media, to fashion, to the false claims of advertising, and society's unrealistic expectations.

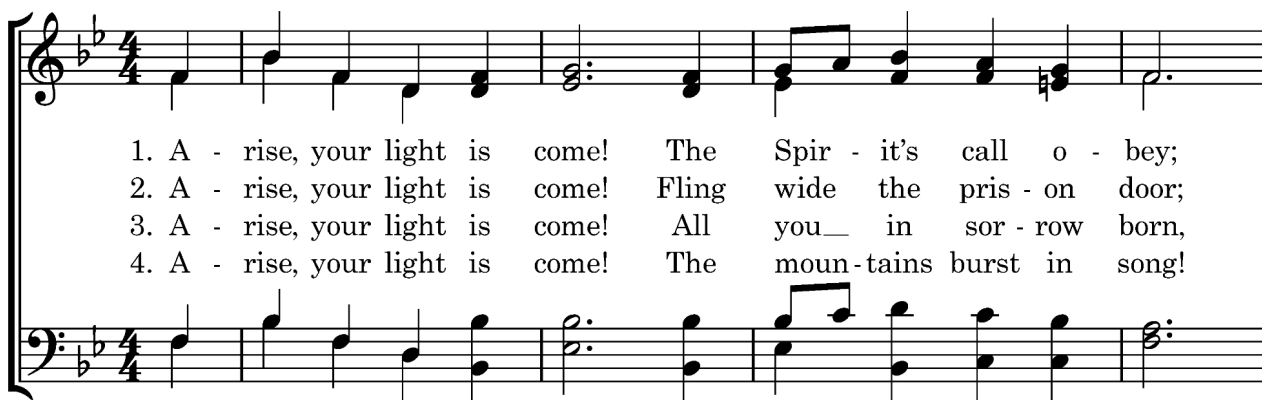
One: Christ sets us free from whatever holds us in bondage.

All: Let's follow Christ and bring love and light to the world.

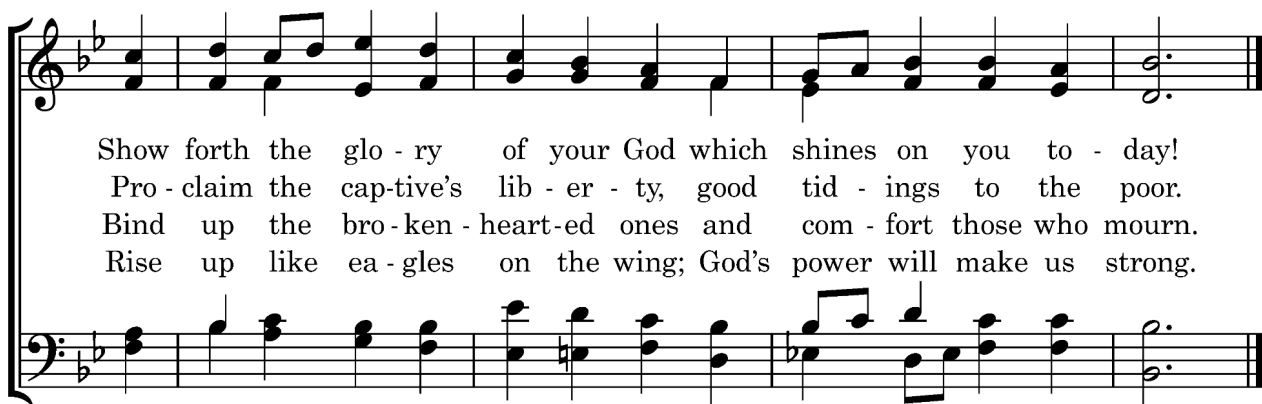
* *Please stand if you are able to do so.*

* HYMN

Arise, Your Light Has Come



1. A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2. A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3. A - rise, your light is come! All you_ in sor - row born,
4. A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!



Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!
Pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
Bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

God of love and light, forgive what we have been. Create in us a new heart. Help us to turn away from all the paths that lead us astray. Instead, help us to follow you. Help us to help those in need. Set us free from everything that makes us selfish and self-absorbed. Let our grudges turn into forgiveness, let our anger turn into love, let our darkness turn into light. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision

Verse 1



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.

SCRIPTURE

Lindy McGuire

Luke 4:14–21

Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news about him spread throughout the whole countryside. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been raised. On the Sabbath, he went to the synagogue as he normally did and stood up to read. The synagogue assistant gave him the scroll from the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives,
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to liberate the oppressed,

and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the synagogue assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the synagogue was fixed on him. He began to explain to them, "Today, this scripture has been fulfilled just as you heard it."

* 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

Be Thou My Vision
See previous hymn

Verses 2 and 3

SERMON

“Set Free”

Liz Nickerson

* 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?

OFFERTORY

Spaseniye sodelal
(Sung in Old Church Slavonic)
Chancel Choir

Pavel Chesnokov

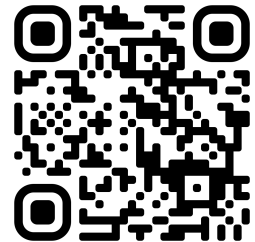
Salvation is created,
In midst of the earth,
O our God.
Alleluia.
Psalm 74:12

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

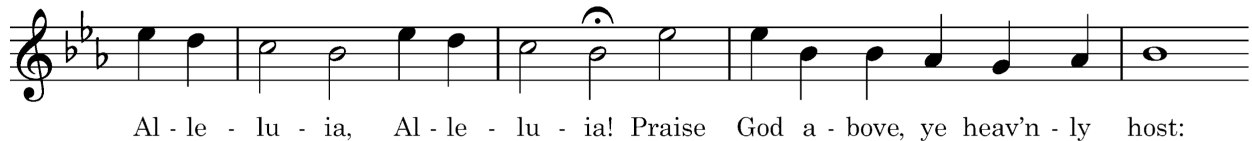
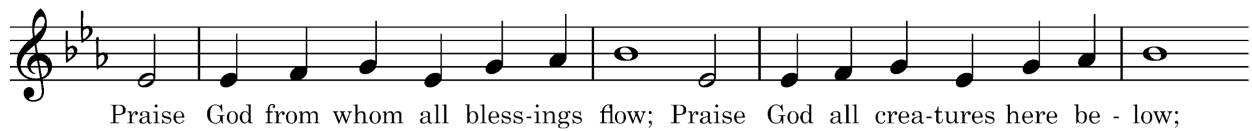
Scan this code with your cell phone camera,

Church Center at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

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



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



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

Live Into Hope

1. Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
2. Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
3. Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
4. Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

- gained, the end of greed. The op - pressed shall be the
and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C Major, BuxWV 174

Dietrich Buxtehude

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

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.
- SUNDAY SCHOOL and CONFIRMATION classes are on hold during *Bible Off Broadway* rehearsals in January. We hope all of your children will participate in whatever way they prefer -- in front of or behind the scenes. Rehearsals are in the Social Hall, located directly below the Sanctuary, before and during worship from 9:30-11 a.m.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Liz Nickerson, 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: Lindy McGuire

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

Would you like to donate altar flowers? Sign up here: tinyurl.com/4w6fu5js.

BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY

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.

Jan 26 Dan Martin, Harrison Rogers

Jan 28 Candi Huber, David Duvall, Dennis Kmetz, Magnolia DeMonte, Ryan DuPont

Jan 29 Veronica Tong

Jan 30 Carrie Gleason, Jana O'Brien

Jan 31 Lisa Rowley, Vanya Weglarz

Feb 1 Clayton Root, Max Cava, Rick Sensenbrenner

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.

- David Folkes at the death of his daughter, Sarah Philomena.
- Loved ones of Rachel Joyce at her death.
- 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.
- 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.
- Cheryl Kennedy at the death of Bill Kennedy.
- 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

TODAY - 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.

TODAY - 2025 YOUTH MISSION TRIP SPECIAL MEETING - 11 a.m., Youth Lounge
Teens and parents, please attend a special meeting after worship on Sunday, January 26, in the Youth Lounge. 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.

JAN 28 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall
Learn about the unexpected ways that grief can impact you and your health and how a specialized massage can support your healing process. Facilitated by Cindy Ball, Licensed Massage Therapist. 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. Please bring your own lunch. Childcare provided. Sponsored by St. Pauls Social.

JAN 29 - 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.

JAN 29 - BIBLE STUDY: THE GOSPEL OF JOHN - 12 p.m., Zoom

John's stories and images have captured the imaginations of Christians in every generation. It's very different from the three other "Synoptic" Gospels in the New Testament, with material all its own. It depicts Jesus as the Good Shepherd, the Bread of Life and the Light of the World, always shining in whatever darkness may come. Led by Pastor Jeff, we meet weekly at noon over Zoom. Sign up here: tinyurl.com/bdzytb33

FEB 1 - VIRTUAL LABYRINTH WALK- 6 p.m., Zoom

The Legacy Labyrinth Project has invited St. Pauls members and friends to participate in a virtual, collective finger labyrinth walk using heart focused intention. The Legacy Labyrinth Project with their Labyrinth Activism Network combine the concepts of social justice and use of labyrinths for the purpose of peaceful activism. Discover the research-driven work that can have a positive influence in the world. To learn more and register, visit tinyurl.com/y4t7e8ur.

FEB 2 - BIBLE OFF BROADWAY - PLEASE COME BY 9:50 A.M.!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 2 as a "must-attend" special worship event day at St. Pauls. That's when more than 60 of our youth again will take the reins of the 10 a.m. worship service and present ***SHE-roes of the Bible***. This high energy and high inspiration service represents a great opportunity for you to invite friends and family to Saint Pauls to see how we truly "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!" All are welcome! Please arrive 10 minutes early so you won't miss the prelude.



FEB 2 - 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 - 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 Youth Lounge. 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 - NEW MEMBER CLASS – 11 a.m., Room 210 (Confirmation 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.

FEB 16 - SACK LUNCH MAKING FOR LPCS SHELTER - 11 a.m., Kitchen

Make a difference by joining us after worship in the church kitchen on Sundays, January 19, February 16 and March 16 as we prepare brown bag lunches for clients at the Lincoln Park Community Services shelter. Learn more about the shelter at www.lpcschicago.org. We'll begin right after worship (around 11 a.m.) and deliver the lunches to their location at 600 W. Fullerton. We will provide all the food needed, but volunteers are asked to donate \$25 (cash or via Venmo/Zelle) to help cover the cost of the lunches. To sign up, please visit tinyurl.com/2v92p898. If you have questions or need more information, please email Mark Pellegrino at jjmarkp@yahoo.com.

FEB 21 - FAMILY FONDUE NIGHT - 6-8:30 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room

Families + Fun + Fondue = Friday, February 21! Join St. Pauls families of all ages for a night of fellowship! Fondue (cheese and chocolate) will be served in the Oscar Mayer Room, the nursery will be open for little ones, and kids will have activities in both the gym and the Youth Lounge. This event is free of charge, but please sign up by February 18 to secure your spot. Register here: tinyurl.com/mrb3xwt4

FEB 21 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL WHISKEY TASTING - 7 p.m., Parlor

Join St. Pauls Adult Social and host Todd Coe for a whiskey tasting. Todd will walk us through the sights, smells and tastes of several different whiskeys and discuss what to look for when shopping for a bottle of your own. Please bring a snack to share. Todd is generously donating the whiskeys, but a \$10 donation that will go toward the Migrant Housing Project–Legal Fund is requested. Please RSVP here by Friday, February 14: tinyurl.com/2ybfan52. The event is limited to the first 20 registered attendees.

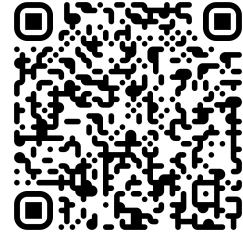
FEB 27 - MOMS' GROUP - Thursdays, 9:15-10:15 a.m., Youth Lounge

New weekday Moms' group meets at St. Pauls once per month on Thursdays from 9:15-10:15 a.m. continuing on February 27, March 20, April 24 and May 22. Being a mom is the hardest job in the world! So come meet other moms, make new friends, learn from each other, get advice, pray, and get renewed! Each month has a relevant theme on an issue you face as a mom. Free professional childcare is available. Babies can stay with their moms. RSVP to lnickerson@spucc.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW! Opt in to texting from St. Pauls

Want to receive reminders and announcements via text?
Simply scan the QR code and fill out the form!



CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose: Medical Supplies for Teaching!

We are at that time of the year when we are forced by icy cold weather to stay indoors. This is an excellent time to go through closets, medical supply boxes and basements to see what might be "Recycled, Reused and Repurposed."

Lynn Davis is looking for unopened and expired or unexpired medical supplies.
Most needed are:

- IV bags of any size and medical tubing;
- Saline flushed/saline vials;
- Syringe and needles;
- Gauze bandages of any type.

Also welcomed:

- Urinary catheters;
- Tracheostomy kits.

PLEASE: No medications or used items. A box will be available during social hour where you can place supplies. Additional information will also be available regarding other types of recycling.

JUMPSTART GYM – JANUARY 7-MARCH 19

Parents/Caregivers supervise children ages 0-3 in an open-ended environment. Take advantage of our beautiful full-size gym while it's cold outside and your little one needs a place to get those wiggles out! Our first Jumpstart Gym time is Tuesday, January 7, and continues on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 9-9:45 a.m. through March 19. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3hnt2rjw>. Reach out to Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org if you have any questions. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING RAISES MORE THAN \$12,000!

All of this year's Christmas Eve offering is going to ensure legal safety for migrant families. Over the past two years, Saint Pauls housed five Venezuelan migrant families in our building. Today, nearly every single member of these families has achieved legal status, safeguarding their presence in Chicago and allowing them to work. Such legal aid is costly. Our Christmas Eve offering is supporting the Saint Pauls Legal Aid Fund to provide this assistance. Thanks for your generosity!

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

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!"

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

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.



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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

For St. Pauls-sponsored events, send to info@spucc.org by 10 a.m. on Wednesdays for publication in the Friday email and next Sunday bulletin. Share personal announcements/ events on our Facebook group page, 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

**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)	
*IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER: <i>As with any construction project of any size, timetables are approximations and subject to change/delay.</i>		

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?

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TODAY'S MUSIC

O Happy Day was composed by Edwin Hawkins (1943- 2018). He was an artist of wide ranging talents: gospel musician, singer, pianist, composer, arranger, and choir master. He was born in Oakland, California, and was already playing keyboards at age 7 for his family's gospel group. *O Happy Day* is his most performed and remembered work.

The text for ***O Day of Radiant Gladness*** was composed in 1862 by Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885). Nephew of the famous poet, William Wordsworth, he had a long career as a priest in the Anglican Church. The tune, ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN, is a 17th century German folk melody first published in a manuscript found in Memmingen.

The text for ***Arise, Your Light Is Come*** was written in 1974 by Ruth Duck (b. 1947), one of the most influential hymn composers of our time having penned more than 150 hymn texts. She is an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ, and retired professor of worship at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. The tune, FESTAL SONG, was composed in 1872 by William H. Walter (1825-1893). He became a public school music teacher and was also the organist at Trinity Church in New York City. He composed more than 40 hymn tunes.

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

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.

Spaseniye sodelal Op. 25, No. 5 was composed by Pavel Chesnokov (1877-1944). He was one of the most prolific composers of the Moscow Synodal School. These "hymns" were based on Russian Orthodox chant melodies. Old Church Slavonic is the language of the Russian Orthodox Church and liturgy and has the same relationship to modern Russian as Latin, the traditional language of the Catholic Church and liturgy, does to Italian. **A note for this time:** The Russian Orthodox Church was said to have been founded by St. Andrew, one of the 12 disciples, when he journeyed from Greece to what became Kiyv, Ukraine, but was then known as *Kiyvan Rus'* (land of the Rus').

The tune for *Live Into Hope*, TRURO, was composed by Charles Burney (1726-1814). Having apprenticed with a well-known English Baroque composer, Thomas Arne (1710-778), Burney was a music historian and composer. The words were written in 1976 for the United Presbyterian National Women's Meeting by Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008). She was a well-known Presbyterian hymn writer, having composed lyrics for more than 100 hymns. She also championed women's rights within her denomination.

The *Fugue in C Major* BuxWV 174, was composed by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637?-1707). Buxtehude's music and his skill as an organist had a profound effect on Bach. A true story is that Bach at age 20 walked (!) nearly 250 miles from Arnstadt to Lübeck just to hear and work with Buxtehude. That would be like walking from St. Pauls to Toledo, Ohio.

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
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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.