

January 5, 2025  
Communion Sunday  
Epiphany Sunday

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

***Please silence cell phones.***

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"I had the epiphany that laughter was light, and light was laughter and that this  
was the secret of the universe." — Donna Tartt

PRELUDE *Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie* Maurice Duruflé  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

CHIMES

INTROIT *Brightest and Best*  
Chancel Choir

WELCOME Jeff Carlson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Isaiah 60*

One: Rise and shine, for our light has come!

**All: The glory of God has risen upon us!**

One: Darkness had covered the earth, thick darkness over all people.

**All: But God's glory has risen upon us!**

One: And God will be our everlasting light.

**All: Rise and shine, for our light has come!**

**The glory of God has risen upon us!**

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

\* HYMN

*We Three Kings*



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we  
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to  
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a  
4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of  
5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise; King and God and



tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain,  
crown him a - gain, King for - e - ver, ceas - ing ne - ver,  
De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing, voi - ces rais - ing,  
gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing,  
sac - ri - fice: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
o - ver us all to reign.  
wor - ship - ing God on high. O \_\_\_\_\_ star of won - der, star of light,  
sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
sounds through the earth and skies.



star with roy - al beau - ty bright, west - ward lead - ing,



still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of boundaries overrun,  
in calling kings  
from distant castles  
into to a small town stable,  
where they knelt before  
an impoverished infant,  
you showed your desire  
to bridge every difference.  
Such is the way of your love.  
Yet we still build walls,  
Remain at home in our opinions  
and define ourselves  
against one another.  
Forgive us, Lord.  
Give us new hearts to serve you,  
by loving all of those you love  
through Jesus Christ  
our newborn savior.  
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*There is no Sunday School for the month of January. Busy bags with activities are available for kids at the main Sanctuary doors. All children are invited to join "Bible Off Broadway" musical rehearsals in the Social Hall below the Sanctuary from 9:30-11 a.m. during the month of January. The nursery for 0-5-year-olds is open.*

\* 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.

SCRIPTURE

David Faulkner

*Matthew 2:1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

\* 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

verse 3

SERMON

“We Free Kings”

Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*



1. O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright Thou beam - est forth in  
2. Thou heav'n - ly Bright - ness! Light di - vine! O deep with - in my



truth and light! O Sov - ereign meek and low - ly! Thou Root of Jes - se,  
heart now shine, And make thee there an al - tar! Fill me with joy and



Da - vid's Son, My Lord and Mas - ter, thou hast won My heart to serve thee  
strength to be Thy mem - ber, ev - er joined to thee In love that can - not



sole - ly! Thou art ho - ly, Fair and glo - rious, all - vic - to - rious,  
fal - ter; Toward thee long - ing Doth pos - sess me; turn and bless me;



Rich in bless - ing, Rule and might o'er all pos - ses - sing.  
Here in sad - ness Eye and heart long for thy glad - ness!

OFFERTORY

*Epiphany Alleluias*  
Chancel Choir

John Weaver

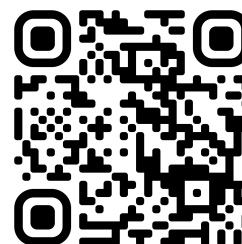
Alleluia! We have seen His star in the East,  
And are come to worship Him.  
Arise, shine; for they light is come.  
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

*You can give to St. Pauls electronically:*

*Scan this code with your cell phone camera,*

*Church Center at [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),*

*PayPal at [spucc.org/paypal](http://spucc.org/paypal), or Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*



\* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

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

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

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

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



CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Liz Nickerson

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

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

COMMUNION MUSIC

*Symbiosis*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

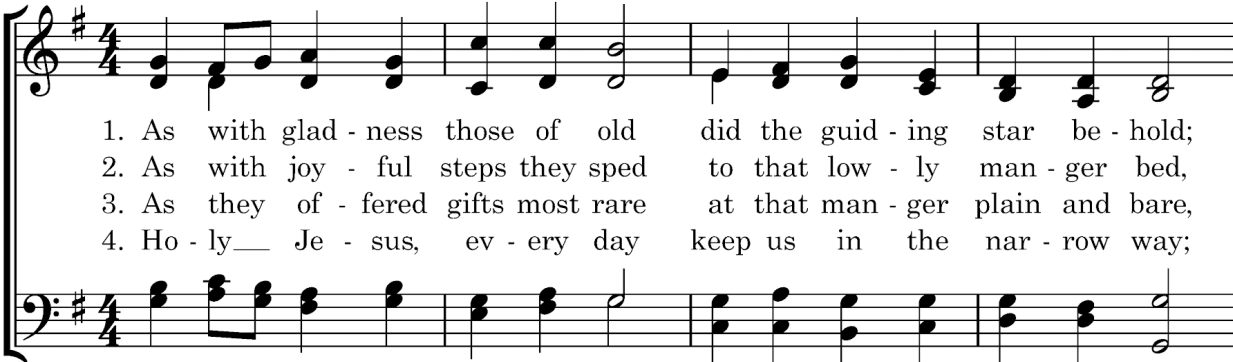
Kris Hansen

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

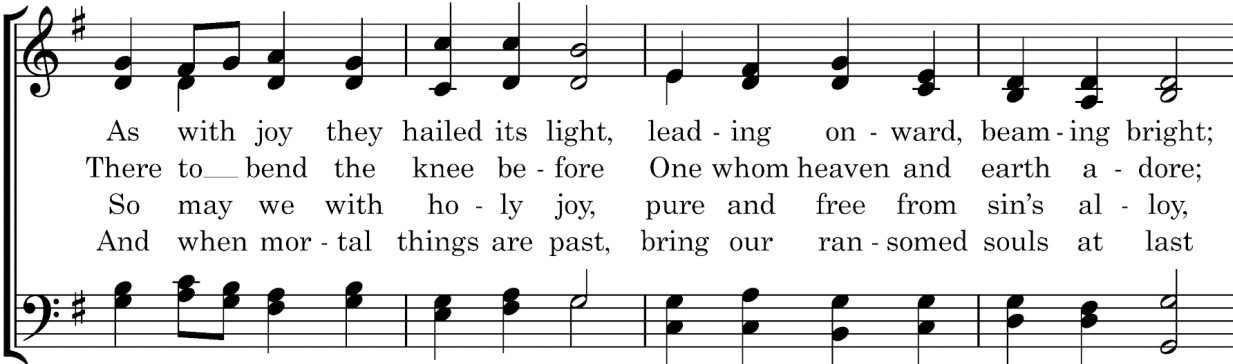
**O Christ, true light from true light, wise kings of old were  
overjoyed in the presence of your radiant light. Let us  
feel their same wonder. Receive our awestruck gratitude!  
Amen.**

\* HYMN

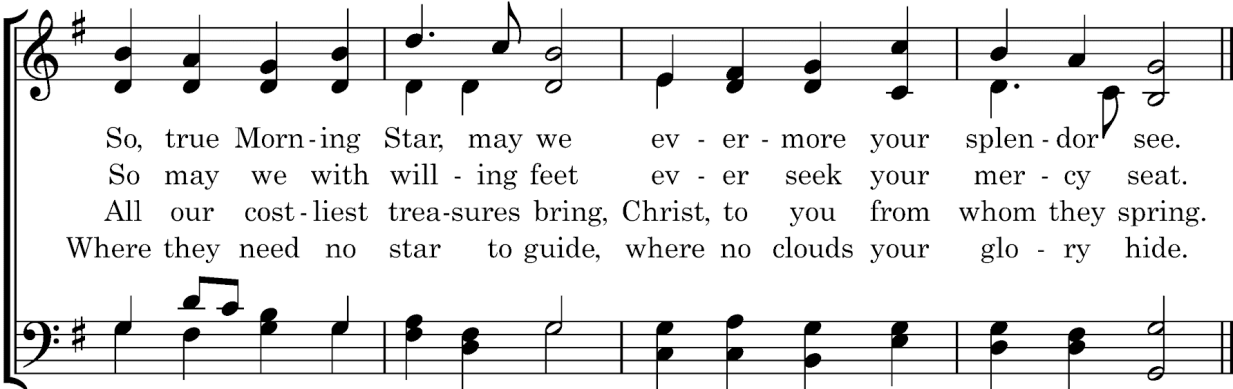
*As With Gladness Those of Old*



1. As with glad - ness those of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
2. As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger bed,  
3. As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger plain and bare,  
4. Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;



As with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
There to bend the knee be - fore One whom heaven and earth a - dore;  
So may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
And when mor - tal things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last



So, true Morn - ing Star, may we ev - er - more your splen - dor see.  
So may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek your mer - cy seat.  
All our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.  
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo - ry hide.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Glo - - - - - ri - a

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

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

POSTLUDE

*Joy to the World*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

arr. Juju Song  
adapted Brendan Henry

**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 that 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:** Jeff Carlson, Matt Fitzgerald, 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

**Communion Coordinator:** Jana O'Brien

**Scripture Reader:** David Faulkner

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Faulkner, Fred Pearson, Tim Reed

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

*Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.*

## BORN THIS WEEK IN 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.*

Jan 5 Christy Frisch, Sally Glowiak

Jan 6 Liz Harper

Jan 7 Courtney Sensenbrenner, Jeff Wagner, Peter Kaiser

Jan 8 Caleb Patton, Oscar Schrimpf

Jan 9 Gisele Jozwiak, Grayson Colosi- McCann

Jan 10 Bethany Grachan, Colleen Wood, Mark Workman-Mandell, Matt Crowley

Jan 11 Julianne Prangle

## 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.*

- Lynn Dykstra Davis mourns the death of her cousin, Lorelei Scholten Meeter.
- 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 Barga, 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 - CHILDREN'S BIBLE OFF BROADWAY REHEARSALS BEGIN** - 9:30-11 a.m., Social Hall

Bring your children aged 4 to high school seniors to the Social Hall now (even if they're late!) for *Bible Off Broadway* rehearsal, happening today and every Sunday in January in lieu of regular Sunday School. Whether onstage or behind the scenes, all children are encouraged and welcome to participate in a way that suits them.

**JAN 18 - POLO OPEN GYM & LITTLE LIGHTS OPEN HOUSE** - 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Looking for a place to get those wiggles out on a Saturday morning? Drop in at St. Pauls for some free play in the gym! Mini-bounce house, coffee & snacks provided. Little Lights classrooms open to visit and learn about our program. Bring a friend! Open to the community. Questions? Reach out to Erin Fitzgerald at [littlelights@spucc.org](mailto:littlelights@spucc.org).

**JAN 20 - 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/](http://ucanchicago.org/)

**JAN 26 - 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 28 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL GROUP** - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall

Bring your own lunch. 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. 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](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com) or (773) 307-6866, or Gloria Joseph at [glrjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:glrjoseph@yahoo.com).

**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](mailto: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](http://tinyurl.com/4hxjezm7).

**FEB 9 - 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](http://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](https://tinyurl.com/mrxmed3c).

### **NEW SMALL GROUPS! SHORT CIRCLES: REGISTER TODAY**

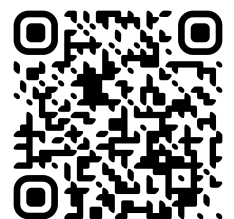
Short Circles are small groups for people who want to experience growth in their spiritual lives. In circles of 6-8 people, we will connect to God and one another. We will meet for 50-60 minutes once a week for six weeks beginning in early February. Each week, your Short Circle will focus on a few short 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](https://tinyurl.com/mry4acbf)

### **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](mailto:mwmosley@gmail.com). Please join us as together we "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!"

### **CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Please register your K-6<sup>th</sup> Sunday School students, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](https://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](https://tinyurl.com/wuphf495).

### **JOIN THE MOVEMENT**

Join United Way of Metro Chicago for a free exclusive conversation with Chicago urban historian Shermann "Dilla" Thomas to explore The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy and culture. Learn more about MLK's unique connection to Chicago and what's happening now in the neighborhoods where he spent time. Register here to attend one of two free Zoom broadcasts: [tinyurl.com/5b38a5uv](https://tinyurl.com/5b38a5uv).

### **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](mailto: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

<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>\$950,000</b>
<b>\$900,000</b>
<b>\$800,000</b>
<b>\$700,000</b>
<b>\$600,000</b>
<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>\$400,000</b>
<b>\$300,000</b>
<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>

***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:

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



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

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## TODAY'S MUSIC

***Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie*** (*Prelude on the Introit for the Epiphany*) Op13 was composed in 1961 by Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986). Duruflé took the chant melody *Ecce advenit dominator Dominus* (Behold! The Lord is coming!), which is from the *Mass for the Epiphany*. Duruflé uses chant as an inspiration for many of his works, especially his setting of *Requiem*.

The text for ***Brightest and Best*** was written in 1811 by Reginald Heber (1783-1826). Although born in England to a wealthy and educated family, he spent his final years working tirelessly with the poor as Bishop of Calcutta, India. He translated his first poem from Latin to English at age 7. He composed 57 hymns, including *Holy, Holy, Holy*. The tune, MORNING STAR, was composed in 1892 by James P. Harding (1850-1911). Also of English birth, for 35 years he was the organist at St. Andrews Church, Islington, London. He composed many church anthems and was noted especially for his anthems for children's choirs.

***We Three Kings of Orient Are*** employs a text and music composed in 1857 by John H. Hopkins (1820-1891). Hopkins was one of 12 children of immigrant parents. He helped his father manage the Vermont Episcopal Institute.

***Symbiosis*** was composed in 2023 by Kris Hansen (b. 1995). The music expresses a collective experience of support. Raised, baptized and confirmed at St. Pauls, Kris is a member of our St. Arbucks Quartet. He is an active singer, music producer, composer, trumpet player, and keyboard player in his own group, Semi-Cycle. He also performs regularly with other bands, including The Walters, Kweku Collins and Othersides.

***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.

***O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*** is a famous German tune, *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*, composed in 1599 by Philipp Nicolai (1446–1608). Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878) translated the German. Having been raised in Dresden, she was well known for her translation of German chorales.

John Weaver (1937-2021) composed our *Epiphany Alleluias* in 1968. He was also the Chair of the Organ Department at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia from 1972 to 2003, the same position at The Juilliard School from 1987 to 2004, and was also Organist and Director of Music at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City from 1970-2005. The text comes from the Propers for the Epiphany Sunday.

*As With Gladness Those of Old* is set to the tune DIX, which was composed by W. Chatterton Dix (1837–1898). Mr. Dix also composed the original lyrics. He was a Scottish insurance company manager who also published a number of volumes of hymns.

*Joy to the World* was composed by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759), who also composed *Messiah*, and was adapted as a hymn by Lowell Mason (1792-1872). For his contributions, Mason is often referred to as the father of American church music. Brendan Henry based his adaptation on the arrangement by Juju Song (b. 1976). She is a native Japanese musician who fell in love with jazz at age 12 and moved to New York City at 18. In addition to composing music for albums, she also has scored music for films.

## **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.

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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.