

Third Sunday in Lent  
March 23, 2025

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

***Please silence cell phones.***

*Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.  
Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"The kingdom's forgiveness flows wild and free through the desert of  
recrimination and revenge."

Tom Long

PRELUDE

*TWO VERSETS on Brother James Air*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Noel Rawsthorne

CHIMES

INTROIT

*O Love How Vast, How Flowing Free*  
Chancel Choir

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 63)

One: O God, we seek you!

**All: Our souls thirst for you as in a dry land without water.**

One: We look for you in this sanctuary, eager to behold your glory.

**All: Your love is better than life!**

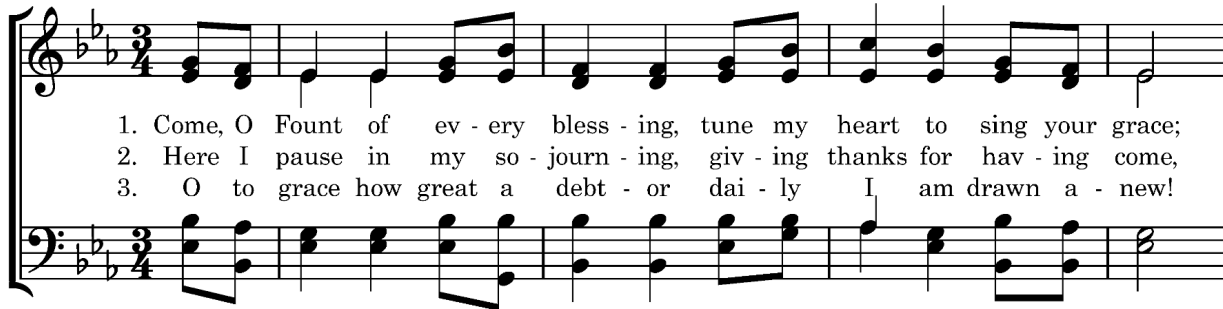
One: We will thank you every time we breathe.

**All: Our arms and our lives wave like banners of praise!**

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

\* HYMN

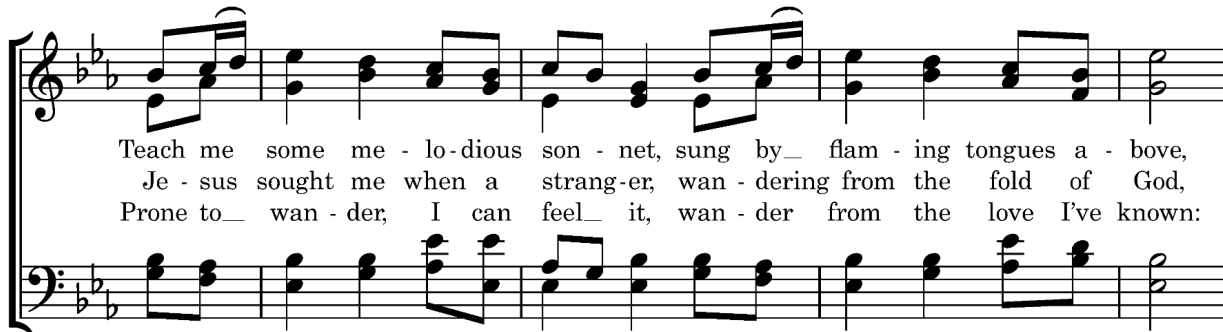
*Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*



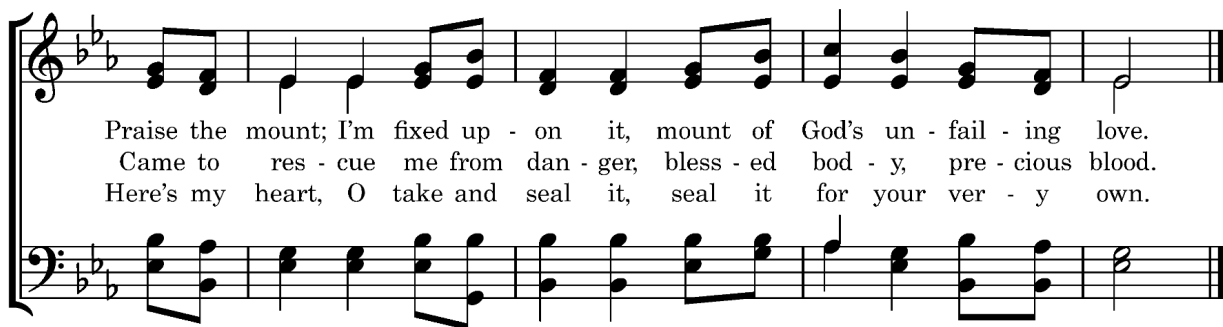
1. Come, O Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
2. Here I pause in my so - journ - ing, giv - ing thanks for hav - ing come,  
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of end - less praise.  
come to trust, at ev - ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe - ly home.  
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to you.



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by\_ flam - ing tongues a - bove,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God,  
Prone to\_ wan - der, I can feel\_ it, wan - der from the love I've known:



Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.  
Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless - ed bod - y, pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

**True God of all truths,  
 the truth is we have let pretenders seize your throne.  
 Instead of worshiping you and your great love,  
 we tremble before  
 the power of death and the power of intellect,  
 the power of nation and the power of politics,  
 the power of fear, the power of numbers,  
 the power of shame.  
 And so we come to you repentantly.  
 We repent of our sins, Lord.  
 We turn to you again.  
 Remind us of who and whose we truly are.  
 Remind us that you cannot be our God  
 if we will not be your people.  
 And, then, embrace us once again.  
 Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

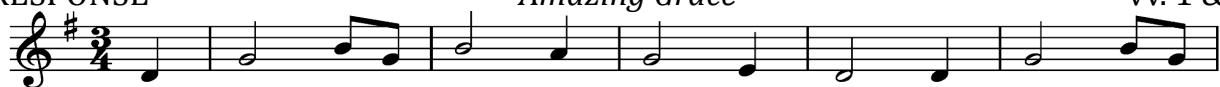
WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*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

Amazing Grace

vv. 1 & 2



1. A - maz - ing\_ grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a\_\_\_  
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my\_\_\_  
 3. Through man - y\_\_\_ dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al -  
 4. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright shin - ing\_



wretch like me!\_\_\_\_\_ I once\_\_\_ was\_\_\_ lost, but  
 fears re - lieved;\_\_\_\_\_ How pre - cious did that  
 - ready - y come;\_\_\_\_\_ 'Tis grace\_\_\_ has brought me  
 as the sun,\_\_\_\_\_ We've no\_\_\_ less\_\_\_ days to



now\_\_\_ am\_\_\_ found, was blind, but\_\_\_ now I see.\_\_\_\_\_  
 grace\_\_\_ ap - pear the hour I\_\_\_ first be - lieved!\_\_\_\_\_  
 safe\_\_\_ thus far, and grace will\_ lead me home.\_\_\_\_\_  
 sing\_\_\_ God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.\_\_\_\_\_

SCRIPTURE

Mark Huddle

*Luke 13:1-9*

Some people came up and told Jesus about the Galileans Pilate had killed while they were at worship, mixing their blood with the blood of the sacrifices on the altar. He asked them, "Do you think those murdered Galileans suffered in this way because they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? Not at all.

Unless you repent, turn to God, you too will die. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them – do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? Not at all. Unless you repent, turn to God, you too will die.

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

\* 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!**

\* RESPONSE

Amazing Grace  
See previous hymn

vv. 3 & 4

SERMON

“Fig Nothings”

Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

*I've Got a Feeling (Everything is Gonna Be All Right)*



1. I've got a feel - ing ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right. O\_\_\_\_\_



I've got a feel - ing, ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right. O\_\_\_\_\_



I've got a feel - ing, ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right,



be all right, be all right, be all right.



2. Je - sus al - read - y told me, ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right. O\_\_\_\_\_

3. Spir - it has con - firmed it, ev - ery thing is gon - na be all right. O\_\_\_\_\_ the



Je - sus al - read - y told me, ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right. O\_\_\_\_\_

Spir - it has con - firmed it, ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right. O\_\_\_\_\_ the



Je - sus al - read - y told me, ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right,

Spir - it has con - firmed it, ev - ery - thing is gon - na be all right,



be all right, be all right, be all right

be all right, be all right, be all right

3. The

OFFERTORY

*Brother James Air*  
Chancel Choir

James L.M. Bain  
arr. Gordon Jacobs

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want,  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; he leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again;  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For thou art with me, and thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

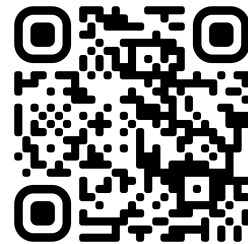
Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;  
And in God's house forever more  
My dwelling place shall be.

*You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:*

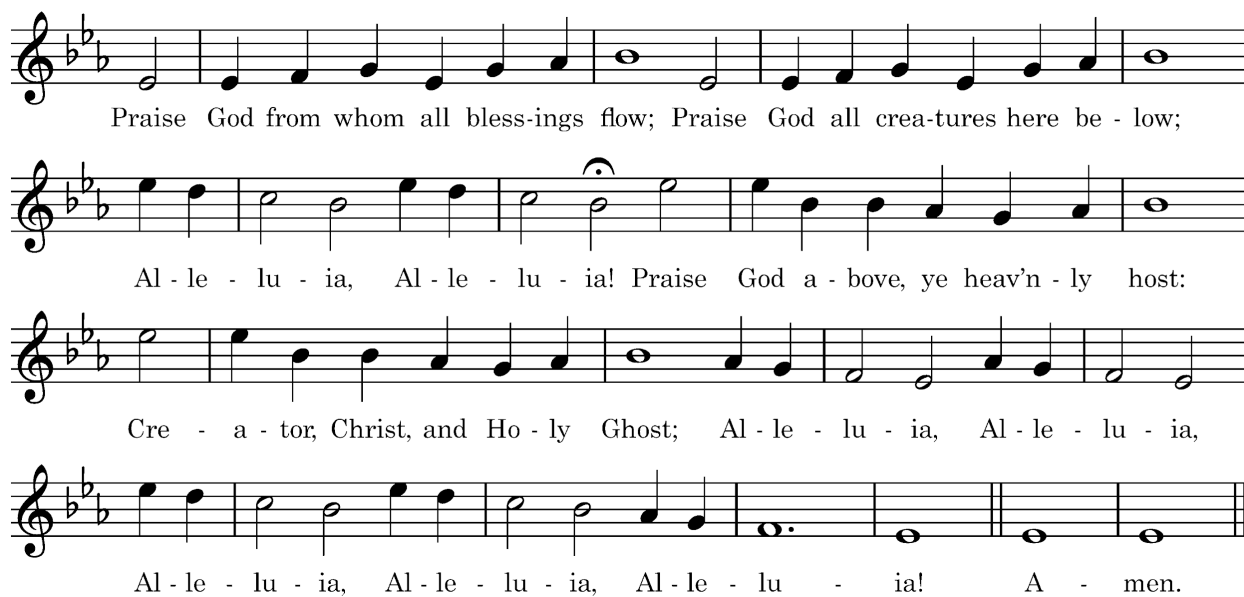
*Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,*

*At [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),*

*Or through Zelle or PayPal to [giving@spucc.org](mailto: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

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

1. My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,  
2. God left the rich - est throne sal - va - tion to be - stow;  
3. Some - times they threw down palms and sweet - est prais - es sang.  
4. What has my Sov - ereign done? What makes this rage and spite?  
5. I sing my plain be - lief, one song my heart out - pours:

Love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.  
But Christ as flesh and bone the world re - fused to know.  
Ho - san - nas and glad psalms through streets and mar - kets rang.  
Christ gave new strength to run, re - stored the gift of sight.  
Nev - er was pain nor grief, nev - er was love like yours.

O who am I, that for my sake my God should take frail  
But, O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who at my need did  
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, for blood and death they  
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and  
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could

flesh and die? My God should take frail flesh and die?  
life ex - pend; who at my need did life ex - pend.  
thirst and cry; for blood and death they thirst and cry.  
'gainst Christ rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst Christ rise.  
glad - ly spend; I all my days could glad - ly spend.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE                      *Threefold Amen*

A musical score for a threefold amen response. It consists of two staves, a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - - - men.' are written below the treble staff. The music features a series of chords and melodic lines in both staves, with a final phrase in the treble staff that is held over into the next measure.

POSTLUDE

*From the Top of My Head*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Roy Hargrove

***If you would like someone to pray with you today, Stephen Ministers are present after the postlude at the right front of the Sanctuary.***

***Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks in the Social Hall, downstairs, directly beneath the Sanctuary.***

## 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:** Mark Huddle

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, David Faulkner

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

*Pastor Liz is away on spring break and will be back on Monday.*

*Would you like to donate altar flowers? Sign up here: [tinyurl.com/4w6fu5js](http://tinyurl.com/4w6fu5js).*

## BORN THIS WEEK IN MARCH

*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.*

Mar. 23 Marti Pechnyo, Mike Vahey, MJ Rogers

Mar. 24 Kristen Lightfoot

Mar. 26 Andrew Hein, Bill Rodriguez, Kristen Cerne, Mark Swanson,  
Molly Dierks, Nick Richardson

Mar. 27 Ivy Combs, Melinda Morrissey

Mar. 28 Charlotte Crouch

## **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.*

- Matthew Wallace, recently diagnosed with epilepsy.
- D.W. as she deals with cancer chemotherapy.
- Friends and loved ones of Marcia Knudson at her death.
- That we each find our role, our voice, in bringing peace forward.
- Students, workers, and communities at risk of family separation, loss of homes and businesses due to government overreach.
- Karen L. Johnson, recovering from a fall.
- Sally Acker, recovering from a fall.
- Wayne Bradley, pursuing ongoing treatment.
- Bob Ball's brother, Phill, being treated for complications associated with leukemia, and Jane, who is Phill's primary caregiver.

### **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.

## LENT & EASTER AT ST. PAULS

- SUN, MAR 30    FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT - 10 a.m.
- FRI, APR 4     PERFORMANCE OF *THE GOSPEL OF MARK* - 7 p.m.
- SUN, APR 6     FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT - 10 a.m.  
*Mozart Requiem*
- SUN, APR 13    PALM SUNDAY - 10 a.m.  
Palm branches, songs, Easter Egg Hunt
- THU, APR 17    MAUNDY THURSDAY  
Labyrinth walk - 7 p.m.  
Taizé Service - 7:30 p.m.
- FRI, APR 18    GOOD FRIDAY - 7:30 p.m.  
Communion, Tenebrae with choir
- SUN, APR 20    EASTER SUNDAY - 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Communion, choir, brass

*Scan here  
for Lent Info:*



# PANCAKE CHURCH!

A Delicious Way to Support Our  
Youth Mission Trip!



### **ST. PAULS WOMEN'S HISTORY – RUTH KLINKE BAUR (1909-2014)**

Ruth Klinke Baur began working in the church office as a teenager and for more than fifty years was synonymous with the St. Pauls church office. She was the secretary for five senior pastors: Pister, Scherger, Grauer, Trost and Henry. During those years, she was the secretary to the senior pastor, the office secretary and the financial secretary, usually working six and sometimes seven days a week. Additionally, she helped run the church school, organized and decorated for special events, and oversaw everything going on in the building. She is largely responsible for the current church archive as she kept everything, and in her free time typed up a whole file drawer of index cards recording baptism, confirmation and wedding information. She married Erv Baur, a church member and head usher for many years. At the end of her life, she lived at what was St. Paul's House, now Paul House and Health Care Center, where she celebrated her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday with many St. Pauls members before finally passing away at age 105.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **TODAY – SACK LUNCH MAKING FOR LPCS SHELTER - 11 a.m., Kitchen**

Make a difference by joining us after worship today in the church kitchen as we prepare brown bag lunches for clients at the Lincoln Park Community Services. Learn more about the shelter at [www.lpcschicago.org](http://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](https://tinyurl.com/2v92p898). If you have questions or need more information, please email Mark Pellegrino at [jjmarkp@yahoo.com](mailto:jjmarkp@yahoo.com).

#### **MAR 25 - MOLLENKOTT AWARD AND DISCUSSION - 5 p.m., Chicago Theological Seminary, 1407 East 60th Street, Hyde Park, 4th floor Chapel**

The LGBTQ-Religious Archives Network annually awards the Virginia Ramey Mollenkott Award for outstanding scholarship in LGBTQ religious history. This year's winner, Italian scholar Achille Marotta, will be present to accept the award and discuss his research. St. Pauls made contributions to the Archives and CTS in 2024. This event promises to be a spirited and lively celebration of queer religious history. There is no cost, but please register to attend or watch the event streamed at [tinyurl.com/y6w6w3bv](https://tinyurl.com/y6w6w3bv). For more information, contact Rick Peterson, [rnpeterson2017@gmail.com](mailto:rnpeterson2017@gmail.com).

**MAR 25 – FOOD FOR THE SOUL GROUP** - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall

Sponsored by St. Pauls Social. Adults of all ages are invited to make new friends and reconnect with old ones through lunch, fun and faith. Childcare provided. March is Women's History Month. We will share personal reflections.

**MAR 26 – WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – 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](http://tinyurl.com/bdzytb33).

**MAR 26 – CHRIST IN THE RUBBLE – A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO GAZA** – 6 p.m., Room 211

Join others from St. Pauls to watch a livestream presentation from Rev. Munther Isaac, pastor of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, West Bank. Rev. Isaac will reflect on his new book, *Christ in the Rubble*, a challenge to mainstream Christians and a call to realign our actions with Christ, who can be found with victims in the rubble of war.

**MAR 27 – MOMS' GROUP** - Thursdays, 9:15-10:15 a.m. & Sundays 11:30-12:15 p.m., Rm 028

Pastor Liz is looking forward to a meaningful discussion with you! Our Moms' group meets on Thursdays (9:15-10:15 a.m.) and Sundays (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) once per month. Upcoming Thursdays: March 27, April 24 and May 22. Upcoming Sundays: April 6, May 4, June 8. 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](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org).

**APR 4 – PERFORMANCE OF THE GOSPEL OF MARK** - 7 p.m., Chapel

Come hear the Gospel of Mark as it was meant to be heard in its entirety. Member and actor Mark Huddle will bring the Gospel to life in this performance that will challenge and inspire you. The performance is free, but please register at: [tinyurl.com/dmcwszcd](http://tinyurl.com/dmcwszcd).

**APR 25 – FAITH FAMILY FRIDAY** - 6-8 p.m., Social Hall, Gym

Save the date! Join St. Pauls families of all ages for a pizza night! More details to follow.

**APR 26 – VOLUNTEER WITH REBUILDING TOGETHER** - 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Off-Site Registration is open for the National Rebuilding Together Day. Join the St. Pauls team as this year we work on two Maywood houses -- making them safe, warm and dry. Sample tasks include moving things to the dumpster, painting, and installing safety devices. Working together is a great way to meet and get to know others from St. Pauls. March is registration month. Sign up on Church Center at this link: [tinyurl.com/34ned8w4](https://tinyurl.com/34ned8w4). Note: indicate cat allergy; second house is cat free. Questions, email Pat Ruch at [pmr.ruch@gmail.com](mailto:pmr.ruch@gmail.com).

**MAY 4 – NEW MEMBER CLASS** – 11 a.m., Room 211  
Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for the 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. See other upcoming dates here: [spucc.org/new\\_member\\_classes](https://spucc.org/new_member_classes).

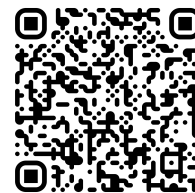
### **JUNE 15-21– YOUTH MISSION TRIP**

We are excited to invite our youth on the summer 2025 trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Youth will work with activists and church leaders from the Christian Church of Wilksburg, a dynamic interracial congregation in the heart of the community. We will stay at the church, joining youth and young adults from the Wilksburg 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).

## **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!



### **BUILDING UPDATE - ROOM NUMBERS AT ST. PAULS**

St. Pauls is in the process of converting from room names to numbers. When construction is completed, formal signage will replace the temporary signage. Major locations, i.e., Sanctuary (115), Social Hall (015), Kitchen (010), Gym (009) will commonly use those titles, but their numbers are posted. Numbering begins at the Fullerton entrance (largely inaccessible during asbestos abatement and construction) and rises to the Kemper Place doorway: Main Level (100s), Upper Level (200s), Lower Level (000s). Yes many rooms have cycled through many names, and we'd love to catalogue the ones you remember using. Thank you for your flexibility.



### **LITTLE LIGHTS SUMMER CAMP**

Registration is open for summer fun! Our part-time summer program is geared toward ages 3+ and runs from June through August, Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Camp combines play and structured fun inside our classrooms, in the gym and outside in the sun. We create arts & crafts, enjoy music & games, making friends and memories along the way! Register by March 31 to lock in Early Rate (10% discount). There is also a 10% sibling discount and 20% Church Member discount (contact Erin for the code at [erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org)). Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/2nt8zsvx>.

### **STAY & PLAY CANCELED DURING CONSTRUCTION**

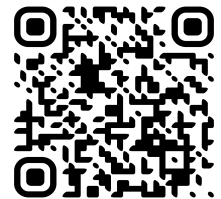
Our Friday morning playgroup is canceled through the duration of the Phase II Construction Project. The playgroup overlaps with Little Lights classes and since we are sharing the classrooms, there will not be enough space for both to run at the same time. Thank you for your understanding and we look forward to getting it up and running again in the fall after construction is complete.

### **LOSS AND GRIEVING DISCUSSION GROUP**

We've all lost someone we loved. Whether you lost someone you loved last month, last year, or five years ago, you can still grieve that loss. Grief changes, but it never goes away. Would you be interested in sharing stories with others who are in similar situations? We're not therapists, just your friends and neighbors who are also grieving and would like to share our ideas and learn how others are coping. We're planning to start a grief support group at St. Pauls, but we need to make sure there's an interest in this. Please contact Pam Woll at [pamelawoll3333@gmail.com](mailto:pamelawoll3333@gmail.com) if you think this might benefit you.

### **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](http://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.

### **CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team**

Climate Change Adaptation

Lee Zeldin, the current Environmental Protection Agency administrator, has recommended ignoring the EPA's finding that climate change poses a danger to public health. Presto! Just like that firestorms, droughts, floods, heat waves, happen just because.

The new EPA policy is to “adapt” to climate change, i.e., containing the impacts of weather extremes through better infrastructure design; shoring against sea-level rise through physical containment, and resettling people living in vulnerable communities. Adaptation also includes fighting against biodiversity loss and food and water insecurity. Sounds good, but where is the money and leadership if the idea is to diminish the EPA and related institutions?

### **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.

### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For St. Pauls sponsored events, send to [info@spucc.org](mailto: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!

**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

***TWO VERSETS on Brother James Air*** was composed in 1991 by Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019). Rawsthorne was a well-known British concert organist and composer of music for choirs and organ. He began his lifelong commitment to liturgical music at age 8 when he became a chorister in the choir of the Liverpool Cathedral. He went on to become the cathedral organist in 1955. Among his teachers was Marcel Dupré.

The text for ***O Love How Vast, How Flowing Free*** is a free translation of an anonymous 15th century Latin poem. The tune, DEO GRACIAS, is also known as AGINCOURT, which is an English ballad that also dates from the 15th century.

***Come O Fount of Every Blessing***, to the tune NETTLETON, is from the rich American tradition of the Sacred Harp hymnals, specifically *Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music*. The text was written by Robert Robinson (1735-1790), who began his professional life as an apprentice to a hairdresser before committing himself to a religious life.

The text for ***Amazing Grace*** is by John Newton (1725-1807), a slave ship captain who became an Anglican clergyman and fervent abolitionist. He once said that writing this text saved his soul. The tune, NEW BRITAIN, is most likely an African American spiritual and was first published in 1829.

The text and music to ***I've Got A Feeling (Everything Is Gonna Be All Right)*** is unattributed and listed as "traditional." It is clear that this song is another example of the rich spiritual music of the Black church. The first printed occurrence is from hymnals dating to 1982.

The tune for ***Brother James Air***, MAROSA, was composed by James Leith Macbeth Bain (1860-1925). He was a healer and mystic known simply as Brother James. This arrangement was composed in 1934 by Gordon Jacob (1895-1984), an English composer and professor at the Royal College of Music in London for more than 40 years. He was known for his orchestrations of composers from Byrd to Elgar and Noël Coward. The text is a portico version of Psalm 23 taken from the *Scottish Psalter of 1650*.

***My Song Is Love Unknown*** is a hymn text written in 1664 by Samuel Crossman (1623-1684). Very little is known about his life beyond the fact that he was clergy. A notable observation is how clearly this text speaks to us across four centuries. The tune, RHOSYMEDRE, was composed in 1840 by John David Edwards (1806-1885). He was an Anglican priest and the tune name is taken from one of the parishes he served in Wales.

*From the Top of My Head* was composed by Roy Hargrove (1969-2018). In his all too short life, Hargrove became one of the greats in the jazz performing and recording world. He was a composer whose principal instruments were trumpet and flugelhorn. In addition to jazz, he also performed and recorded hip-hop, R & B, gospel, funk, and alternative rock. Born in Waco, Texas, he attended the Berklee College of Music in Boston for one year, but a very active performing and recording career ended his formal training. He made and contributed to numerous recordings. His 14-year battle with kidney disease ended with his death in 2018.

## **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!

## EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS ORDER FORM

Celebrate or remember a loved one by ordering a flowering plant for the Easter Festival Altar. Flowers may be picked up after the 11 a.m. Easter Sunday service. Remaining flowers will be donated to our senior members and neighbors. Please enclose \$30 or more per plant with this order form, or order and pay online here: [tinyurl.com/mwvkad2h](http://tinyurl.com/mwvkad2h)

**Please print legibly.**

**In Celebration of** *(print name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**In Memory of** *(print name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**From** *(your name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tear out this form and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to:  
St. Pauls UCC  
Attn: Easter Flowers  
2335 N. Orchard St., Chicago, IL 60614

Completed orders must arrive **by April 14th** to appear in the Easter Bulletin.

## **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 Martin Luther King day march against violence on Chicago's streets, we are proud to "make a joyful sound in the city."

Most important, during the past 182 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](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)

Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)

Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org)

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership

Please visit [www.spucc.org/contact](http://www.spucc.org/contact)

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

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

Parking validation is available in the 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.