

May 18, 2025
New Members
Symphony of Psalms

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

"It is not a symphony in which I have included Psalms to be sung. On the contrary,
it is the singing of the Psalms that I am symphonizing."

- Igor Stravinsky, speaking of his *Symphony of Psalms*

PRELUDE

Lieder ohne Worte Felix Mendelssohn
(Songs Without Words)
Op. 62, no. 1 and Op. 67, no. 1
Kevin Dzierzawski and Karina Kontorovitch, pianists

INTROIT

Easter Carillon W. Leonard Beck
Chancel Choir

Let all things living make praise, Alleluia.
God guideth you on all your ways, Alleluia.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia.
Our god on high, our joy, and boast, Alleluia.

CHIMES

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The earth shakes, the mountains quake.

All: God is our refuge and strength.

One: The storms rage, the winds howl.

All: We will not fear, for God is near.

One: There is a river, whose streams make glad the city of God.

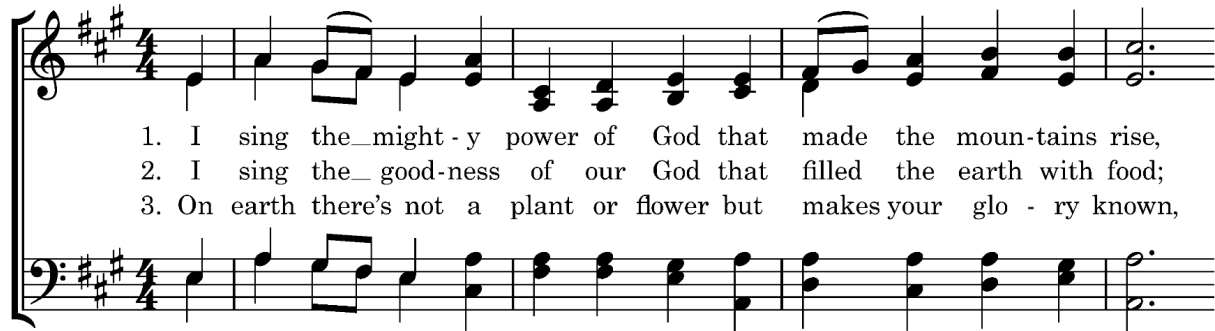
All: God is in the midst of the city! God is with us!

Psalms 46

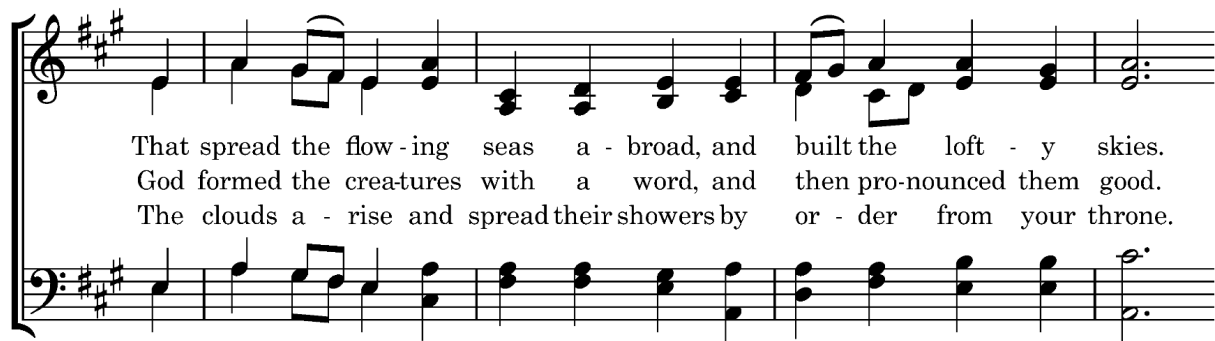
** Please stand if you are able to do so.*

* HYMN

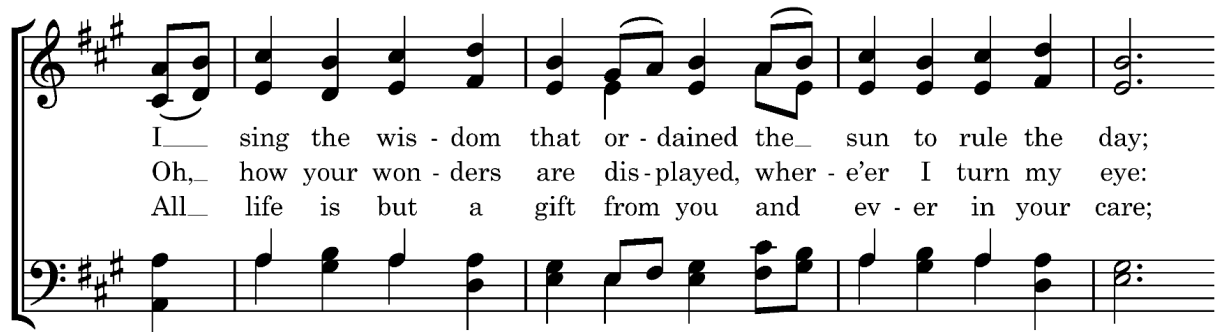
I Sing the Mighty Power of God



1. I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
2. I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
3. On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known,



That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
God formed the creatures with a word, and then pro-nounced them good.
The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.



I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Oh, how your won - ders are dis-played, wher - e'er I turn my eye:
All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;



The moon shines full at God's com - mand, and all the stars o - bey.
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
Wher - ev - er peo - ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres - ent there.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord our God,
We often live as if fear, failure, and despair
can separate us from you.
Renew our Easter faith.
Remind us that neither death, nor life, nor angels,
nor principalities, nor things present,
nor things to come, nor powers, nor height,
nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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.*

ANTHEM

Symphony of Psalms

Igor Stravinsky

Exaudi orationem

arr. Dimitri Shostakovitch

Chancel Choir

Kevin Dzierzawski and Karina Kontorovitch, pianists

Exaudi orationem meam, Domine, et
deprecationem meam. Auribus percipe
lacrime meas. Ne sileas, ne sileas.

*Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with Thine
ears consider my calling: hold not Thy
peace at my tears.*

Quoniam advena ego sum apud te et
peregrinus, sicut omnes patres mei.

*For I am a stranger with Thee: and a
sojourner, as all my fathers were.*

Remitte mihi, prius quam abeam et
amplius non ero.

*O spare me a little that I may recover my
strength: before I go hence and be no
more seen.*

Psalm 38: 13 & 14

SCRIPTURE

Liz Kurman

Psalm 148 (read responsively)

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all you hosts!

Sun and moon, shining stars!

Highest heavens, and waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
who commanded and they were created!

**God established them forever and ever;
and fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for God's name alone is exalted; God's glory is above earth and heaven.**

Praise from all who love God!

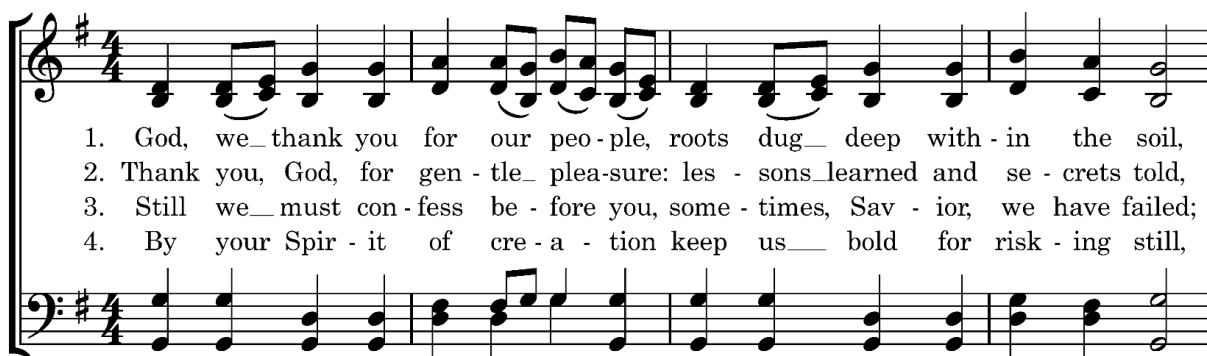
Israel's children, intimate friends of God.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

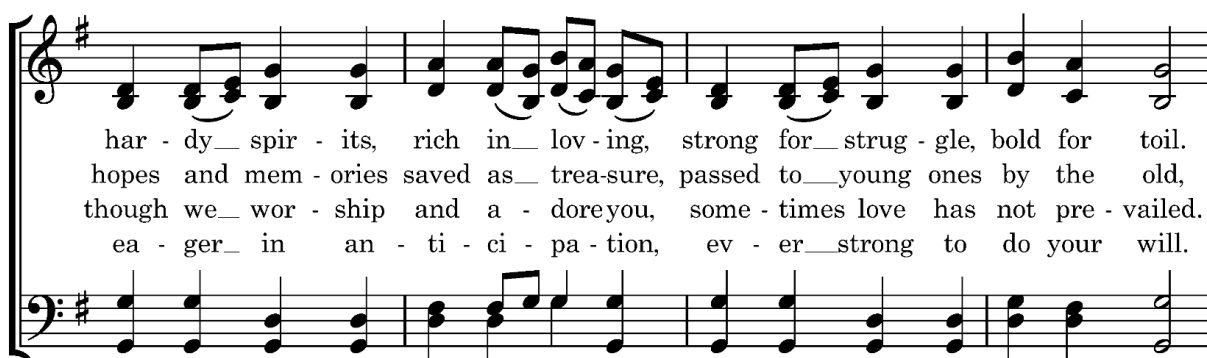
*RESPONSE

God, We Thank You For Our People

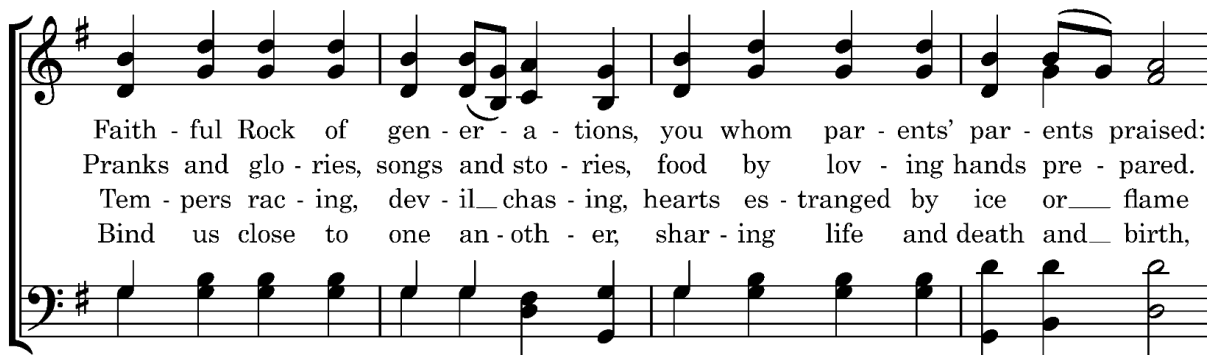
vv. 1 & 2



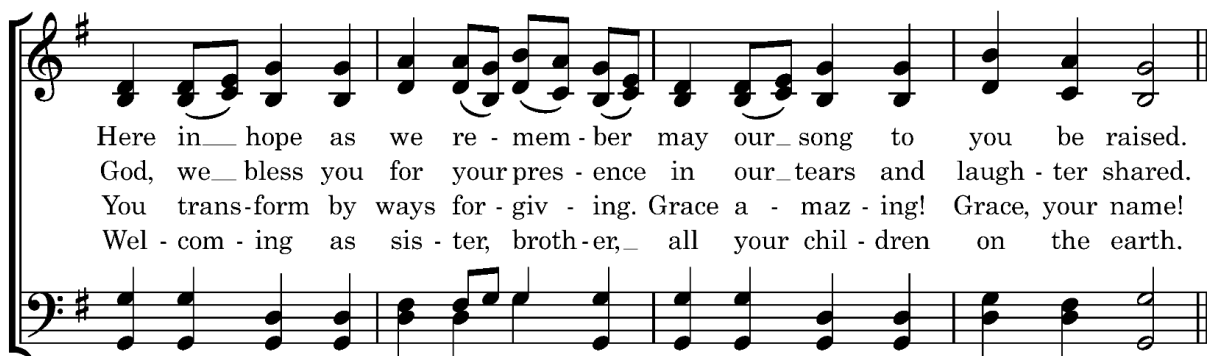
1. God, we thank you for our peo-ple, roots dug deep with-in the soil,
2. Thank you, God, for gen-tle plea-sure: les-sons learned and se-crets told,
3. Still we must con-fess be-fore you, some-times, Sav-ior, we have failed;
4. By your Spir-it of cre-a-tion keep us bold for risk-ing still,



har-dy spir-its, rich in lov-ing, strong for strug-gle, bold for toil.
hopes and mem-ories saved as trea-sure, passed to young ones by the old,
though we wor-ship and a-dore you, some-times love has not pre-vailed.
ea-ger in an-ti-ci-pa-tion, ev-er strong to do your will.



Faith-ful Rock of gen-er-a-tions, you whom par-ents' par-ents praised:
Pranks and glo-ries, songs and sto-ries, food by lov-ing hands pre-pared.
Tem-pers rac-ing, dev-il chas-ing, hearts es-tranged by ice or flame
Bind us close to one an-oth-er, shar-ing life and death and birth,



Here in hope as we re-mem-ber may our song to you be raised.
God, we bless you for your pres-ence in our tears and laugh-ter shared.
You trans-form by ways for-giv-ing. Grace a-maz-ing! Grace, your name!
Wel-com-ing as sis-ter, broth-er, all your chil-dren on the earth.

SERMON "Come Into Animal Presence" Matt Fitzgerald

* RESPONSE *God, We Thank You For Our People* vv. 3 & 4
See previous hymn

*MISSION MOMENT The Common Pantry Shea Leibow

OFFERTORY ***Symphony of Psalms*** Stravinsky-Shostakovitch
Alleluia. Laudate Dominum

Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia.</i>
Laudate Dominum in sanctis Ejus.	<i>Praise God in His holiness.</i>
Laudate Dominum.	<i>Praise God.</i>
Laudate Eum in virtutibus Ejus.	<i>Praise Him for His noble acts.</i>

Laudate Eum secundum multitudinem magnitudinis Ejus.	<i>Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.</i>
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Laudate Eum in sono tubae.	<i>Praise Him with the sonorus trumpet.</i>
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Laudate Eum. Alleluia.	<i>Praise Him. Alleluia.</i>
Laudate Dominum. Laudate Eum.	<i>Praise God. Praise Him.</i>

Laudate Eum in timpanum in choro	<i>Praise Him upon the lute and harp.</i>
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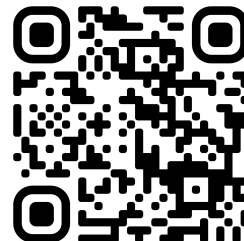
Laudate Eum in chordis et organo.	<i>Praise Him with strings and pipes.</i>
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Laudate Eum in cymbalis bene Jubilationibus.	<i>Praise Him with cymbals well-tuned and joyful.</i>
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Laudate Eum, omnis spiritus laudate Dominum Alleluia.	<i>Let everything that hath breath praise God. Alleluia.</i>
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ELECTRONIC OFFERING OPTIONS

*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.*



WELCOME CARD

*If you are a visitor, welcome! Thank you for
worshiping with us today!
If would like to learn more about the church, please
scan the QR code.*



** FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY*

A musical score for a four-part setting of the Festival Doxology. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below each staff.

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Lily Keefer and Brandon Reed

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS A Dialogue on our Statement of Faith

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

All: Together we will proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!


PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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


God Whose Giving Knows No Ending




1. God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store,
2. Skills and time_ are ours for serv - ing, that your will on earth be done;
3. Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your grace con - ferred;
4. Lend your joy_ to all our giv - ing, let it light our pil - grim way;



Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door:
All at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the Church made one.
Ours to use_ for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel Word.
From the night of anx - ious keep - ing, loose us in - to gen - erous day.



Gift - ed by_ you, we turn to_ you of - fering up_ our - selves in praise;
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self_ a - lone;
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing as we heed Christ's age - less call,
Then when years on earth are o - ver, and we've lived our hu - man span,



Thank - ful song_ shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
Heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, hon - oring you by lov - ing all.
God, ful - fill_ be - yond our dream - ing, all our stew - ard - ship be - gan.



* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Alelluia. Laudate Dominum* Stravinsky-Shostakovitch
Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE *Valse Op. 11, No. 4* Sergei Rachmaninov
Kevin Dzierzawski and Karina Kontorovitch, pianists

Our Music Director, Kurt R. Hansen, would like to express deep gratitude to his friend Cantor Cory Winter for introducing him to this wonderful version of the ***Symphony of Psalms***. Thanks is also offered by the Chancel Choir for the additional help with all our special music from **Karina Kontorovitch**.

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 Gym. If you're visiting, be sure to stop by the Welcome Table so we can greet you and you can find out more about St. Pauls!

SAVE THE DATE & NOTE THE TIME
Joint Worship with Lighthouse UCC, JUNE 8 at 10:30 a.m.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Jeff Carlson, 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: Liz Kurman

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, John Balevic, David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

Greeters: Mercedes Ridao

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 MAY

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.

May 18 Gaby Godinez, Jay Gleason, Tara Magner

May 19 Dede Koldyke, James Keller, James Mix, Mike Pechnyo, Nancy Godinez

May 20 Gustav Schmidt, Laura Brinkoetter, Nate Gallagher, Ryan Braun

May 21 Amelia Holland, Nate Combs, Scarlett England, Scott Moehrke

May 22 Julian Chaiken, Leslie Chamberlain

May 24 David Wu, Josiah Smedley, Maegan Kaiser

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Our names are **Andrew** and **Casey Stulce** (pronounced as one syllable, with a soft "c"). We both grew up in the South (Casey in north Georgia, Andrew in Tennessee), met when we were in college in North Carolina, and moved to Chicago from Atlanta in 2017. We live in Lincoln Park, and you may see us around the neighborhood with our son **Wade** (9 months) and daughter **Vivian** (almost 5) riding her bike or scooter to/from school at Oscar Mayer or the playground at Oz Park.



We are the **Simon family, Travis, Kaley** and our two boys, **Sully** (3) and **Shay** (4 months). Travis is from across the lake in Michigan and Kaley is from the suburbs. We met in college in Texas and after staying for a few years and getting married down there, we moved back "home" to Chicago. Wicker Park was our home for several years pre-kiddos, but we have settled into Lincoln Park and love it. Sully and Shay keep us busy, so we'll be honest and say getting caught up on sleep sounds like the most fun thing to do usually, but when we have the time and energy Travis reads, Kaley finds joy in cooking and we both like to travel.



Our names are **Scotland** and **Lily Keefer**. Scotland grew up on the East Coast and Lily is originally from Madison, Wisconsin. We both moved to Chicago after college, with Scotland working as an attorney at an investment company and Lily working in consulting. We live in the Lincoln Park neighborhood with our rescue dog, Riley, and are expecting a daughter this summer. We are big sports fans, enjoy traveling and a good glass of wine.



We, **Rob Sorum** and **Rob Montgomery**, are married, together 23 years. Rob S was born in North Dakota, raised in South Dakota, and graduated from South Dakota State University. I've worked in the retail industry for more than 35 years, including as an executive at JCPenney (Dallas) and Ulta Beauty (Chicago) corporate headquarters. Rob M was born and raised in Iowa and graduated from the University of Iowa and Iowa College of Law. I've worked with the same law firm for 35 years and advocate for minority and low income people during crisis times. We live on Orchard Street in Lakeview, just a short walk to St. Pauls. We enjoy biking, hiking, the lakefront, outdoors, movies, hosting friends and family at our home, and travel.



I'm **Nana Addadzi-Koom**. I grew up in Ghana and moved to China for my undergrad before moving to America for graduate school at Illinois Tech to study Technological Entrepreneurship. I have finally decided to settle in Chicago and I live on Fullerton in Lincoln Park. I currently work as an independent consultant. My dream job is to be a serial entrepreneur and a creative director. For fun, I like to walk/run alone or with my dog, Hank, by the Lake and I also enjoy working on new ideas and photography/film.



We are **Grant Alex** and **Lindsay Weliver**. We have lived in Chicago for five years and moved to Lincoln Park from Lakeview one year ago. During our free time, you will find us exploring Chicago's incredible restaurants, at Wrigley Field rooting for the Cubbies, running along the lakefront trail, or finding any reason to get outside. Lindsay works in Operations Technology and Grant recently completed his BSN at Loyola University Chicago and is starting a new career as a nurse. We are also a proud B1G household (Lindsay graduated from Indiana, Grant graduated from Minnesota). We are grateful to have found such an amazing community in St. Pauls!



We are **Brandon Reed** and **Zack Berent**. Zack grew up on the southwest side of Chicago, and Brandon grew up in San Diego. We have been married for almost two years. We are both engineers, with Zack's background in biomechanical and Brandon's background in design and systems. We like to make art for our loved ones, play cooperative and competitive video games, and learn new recipes (Vietnamese is Brandon's favorite)!



My name is **Bruno Nobile**. I grew up in Evanston and now live and work in the Lincoln Park area. For fun I enjoy going for runs along the lake, and spending time with friends!

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.

- Juanita Barlow undergoing a heart procedure on June 2.
- Loved ones of Mike Stensaas at his death.
- Nancy Barnett in the hospital.
- Dr. Rod Sippy, as he faces a long recuperation, as well as Erica Barbosa as she heals from a long illness.
- Donn Schimp and his family as Donn continues cancer treatment.
- Julie Chambers is in the hospital.
- Joe Harrington's mother on a recent diagnosis.
- Matthew Wallace, recently diagnosed with epilepsy.
- Dianne Witkowski, 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.
- 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.
- Craig Wilbanks mother and father each facing serious health challenges.

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 - FILL THE SILL

Let's line our window sills with canned goods (specifically cans of protein: beans, tuna, peanut butter) to help Common Pantry's efforts to address the challenges that result from economic instability. It's going to take 1,600 to Fill the Sills! Please bring what you *can* to church on May 18!

MAY 20 - RETIREMENT GROUP MEETING – 10 a.m., Room 028

Please join us to discuss our transition paths, ways we found ourselves here, what's meaningful, and what's next with or without planned health, funds or companionship. For more information, contact Jana O'Brien:janaobrien1@gmail.com.

MAY 22 - MOMS' GROUP - Thursdays, 9:15-10:15 a.m.

Pastor Liz is looking forward to a meaningful discussion with you! The upcoming dates are Thursday, May 22, and Sunday, June 22. 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.

MAY 22 - WATCH PARTY: LOVE AS AN ANTIDOTE TO AUTHORITARIANISM –

Thursday, 6:45-8:30 p.m.

Come to a watch party for the Spring Series: “Love as Antidote to Authoritarianism”— a three-part virtual experience that will explore how we can harness love as a force for courageous action. Please join us for “Part 2: Love for Opponents: Tend the Wound” to learn how we listen across lines of difference and reimagine a future that leaves no one behind. Registration and information tinyurl.com/4xjp6yj4.

MAY 27 - 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.

MAY 28 - 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, May 28. Meet us in the kitchen at 5:30 p.m. or whenever you can make it. We eat around 6:30. Cookies go to A Just Harvest and the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. If you can't join us, but would like to participate, you may drop off cookies with your name on them and labeled MARCIA at the church on or before the 28th. Please get in touch with Marcia Volk to reserve a spot and she will let you know what dinner/baking supplies are still needed. Contact Marcia at marcia@volkonline.com or (773) 307-6866. You may also contact Gloria Joseph at glrjoseph@yahoo.com.

MAY 30 - BBQ NIGHT (FAITH FAMILY FRIDAY) - 4:30-8 p.m., Parking Lot
Join us for Faith Family Friday, a night of fun, fellowship, and food with our church family! Enjoy a relaxed evening hanging out in St. Pauls parking lot filled with outdoor games and plenty of laughter. We'll provide the grills, a full hot dog bar with all the fixings. You are welcome to bring a blanket or folding chair to sit on, other items you want to grill, and a side dish or beverage of your choice. Register here: tinyurl.com/yckf2kxt.

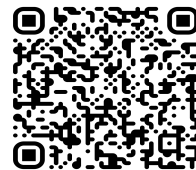
JUNE 1- MAKING DINNER FOR GUESTS AT LPCS - 6-8:30 p.m.
Make a difference by joining us on June 1 to cook dinner for the residents of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. The activity is to shop, cook, serve, and clean up after dinner for 35 people. We'll be starting at 6 p.m. and should be finished by 8:30 p.m. We'll do this at the LPCS kitchen at 600 W. Fullerton. Each participant will be given a shopping list of items to bring. We estimate the cost will be about \$35/participant. If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up to participate tinyurl.com/msyti254. If you have questions, please contact Evie Kling at eviekling@gmail.com.

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 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.

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!



DO YOU WANT TO NAVIGATE DISAGREEMENT IN A HEALTHIER WAY? *Want to Talk? Communication Tools for Divided Times* is an eight-session small group program that guides you in deepening your relationships while staying true to your values. This program draws upon the wisdom of experts in nonviolent communication, civil dialogue, and grassroots organizing, providing practical tools for navigating the political polarization of our time, as well as tough conversations with our loved ones. For more information, tinyurl.com/58z4t5fs. St. Pauls will hold this program starting on September 14. Save the date and stay tuned for details!

SILENT AUCTION COMMITTEE

The Activism and Advocacy Ministry is assembling a committee to put on a silent auction to benefit the Migrant Housing Project Legal Fund in late October. If you have personal or professional experience in organizing a fundraising event like a silent auction, and would like to participate, please reach out to Katie Alrutz Kathryn.passon@gmail.com.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for our 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.

POP TAB PROGRAM: RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITY

Help support the Ronald McDonald Charities by saving aluminum tabs from all kinds of cans: soda, canned foods, pet food, etc. Bring your pop tab donations to the Social Hall and add them to our collection bin. This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce young children to helping others and recycling. Little things like pop tabs can make a big difference! To date we have donated more than 35 pounds of pop tabs!!

DRIVERS NEEDED - SUNDAYS AND WEEKDAYS

We need members to drive older members to church on Sundays and to occasional doctors' appointments. Please email Pastor Liz for details at lnickerson@spucc.org.

ST. PAULS MIGRANT HOUSING PROJECT LEGAL FUND

St. Pauls housed five Venezuelan migrant families in our building over the past two years. Today, nearly every single member of these families has achieved legal status, helping to safeguard their presence in Chicago for the time being and allowing them to work. Such legal aid is costly and ongoing. In a time of wild anxiety and uncertainty for these new friends, you can help make a difference for our migrant families by supporting our legal aid fund. If you'd like to make a donation, please choose "Migrant Housing Project - Legal Fund" from the drop-down menu on our giving page: <https://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving>

HAVE SOME ODD JOBS? WE'VE GOT SOME WILLING WORKERS!

As they continue to work at supporting themselves financially, members of our migrant family friends would love to work for you. They are available for things like house cleaning, handyman repairs, moving items, painting, deck-staining, demolition & clean-up, and carpentry on things like deck and dry-wall. We have been assigning work at a rate of \$25/hour and ask that the jobs be a minimum of 3-4 hours. You can find out more by contacting our Migrant Housing Project Coordinator David Brown at dbrown@harrington-brown.com.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our nursery is looking for caring and compassionate volunteers to support our staff and provide extra attention to our little ones. If you love playing, reading, and nurturing young children, we'd love to have you join us! Whether you can help for a few hours a month or on a regular basis, your time and kindness will make a meaningful impact. Sign up for a Sunday slot here: <https://tinyurl.com/2j5dy6fp>.

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 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

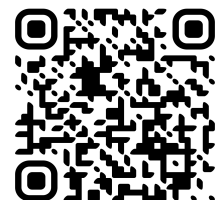
Registration is open for summer fun! Our part-time summer program is geared toward ages 3+ and runs from June through August, Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Camp combines play and structured fun inside our classrooms, in the gym and outside in the sun. We create arts & crafts, enjoy music & games,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

LITTLE LIGHTS ENROLLMENT 25-26

We are accepting applications for the fall! We model and facilitate problem-solving strategies, build empathy and develop self-regulation skills. Through hands-on learning and play, children will benefit from structured socialization and gain a greater sense of themselves within our St. Pauls community. If you are interested in learning more about early education classes for your child, visit our website at www.littlelightslp.org or contact Erin Fitzgerald at erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org.

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.

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 interest for this. Please contact Pam Woll at pamelawoll3333@gmail.com if you think this might benefit you.

"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.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth..." Job 19:35 (KJV).

Reflecting on Use of Plastics

Although it seems difficult to link words written millennia ago, caring for creation is part of creating closeness with our Redeemer and understanding that ecological stewardship today will have consequences for hundreds of years.

For example, reflect on the ubiquitous presence of plastics, particularly single-use, which account for half the plastics in use. While single-use plastics are typically only used for 12-15 minutes, they can take hundreds of years to degrade: plastic cups 100 years, plastic cutlery and bags 400 years! [National Defense Council]

Before you plan social activities, eschew the plastics and embrace alternatives such as bamboo and paper.

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.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

JOIN A GROUP



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



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!

Chancel Choir

Kurt R. Hansen, Music Director

Kevin Dziersawski and Karina Kontorovitch, pianists

Sopranos

Katie Alrutz
Lenore Ettinger
Nadia Jimenez
Gay Kelly
Jennifer Kew
Karin Magnuson
Nancy Pifer *
Ashley Saluga
Grace Stauskas
Meg Tazelaar
Annika Victorson
Kecia Waldschmidt
Christie DeForest Ward
Pam Woll

Altos

Cindy Ball
Amy Barton
Lois Basil
Terry Brancaccio Hansen
Lila Brown
Carrie Bruggers - Librarian
Breanna Coe *
Micki Fayhee
Karen Johnson
Winnie Kearns
Jana O'Brien
Amy Petersen Beck

Pat Ruch

Jade Luo Santos
Lola Stevenson

Tenors

Todd Coe
Andy Davis - Asst. Librarian
Ninon Freeman
Kris Hansen
Doug Heyboer
Rick Peterson
Sare Scanlan
Nathan Streeter*

Basses

Bill Borden
Jim Brandt
Jeff Carlson
Nathan Chamberlain
Allen Heineman
Mark Huddle
Julian Jarzebowski
Lee Lichamer *
Mark Mosley
Mark Swanson
Doug Walters

* Section leader

TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning we celebrate the final offering of our **Special Music for 2024-2025, HEAR Ye + Bach**. We hope that each one of these works has lifted your spirits, touched your hearts, and opened expanded ways to appreciate music as part of worship.

Lieder ohne Worte (Songs Without Words) Op. 62, No. 1 and Op. 67, No. 1 were composed by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) over a long period, 1829 to 1845. They were composed in eight books of six pieces each over that 16-year period. His sister Fanny (1805-1847) and later Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) also composed a set of songs without words. The hallmark of the pieces is a Romantic sense of lyricism.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God is a text by Issac Watts (1674-1848), the eminent English poet, who set the entire books of Psalms as poetry, which included Psalm 90, *Our God Our Help in Ages Past*. His poetry has inspired many composers. The tune, ELLACOMBE, is unattributed and of German origin, first published in a hymnal in 1784. In the 19th century, the tune was named for a village in Devonshire.

This version of **Symphony of Psalms** features work of two of the greatest composers of the 20th century, Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971) and Dimitri Shostakovitch (1906-1975). Along with Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953), they are among the great lights of Russian music of that same time. Stravinsky composed **Symphony of Psalms** in 1930 on a commission from the Boston Symphony Orchestra and their Russian-born conductor Serge Koussevitsky. It was premiered in Boston in December 1930 and is for full orchestra and large chorus. This work was composed during Stravinsky's "second period" of compositional style, neoclassical. As a side note, our Chicago Symphony Orchestra and their second conductor, Fredrick Stock, commissioned Stravinsky to compose a work, his *Symphony in C*, in celebration of the CSO's 50th anniversary in 1941.

Returning to **Symphony of Psalms** in the 1930s, Dimitri Shostakovitch was a faculty member of the Leningrad Conservatory where Stravinsky had studied before the 1917 Revolution when it was known as the St. Petersburg Conservatory. That institution graduated such musical luminaries as Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Prokofiev, and many others before and after the Revolution. Shostakovitch wanted to teach his composition students Stravinsky's **Symphony of Psalms**. Not having access to a large orchestra and chorus, and in order to introduce it to his students, he transcribed the orchestral score for piano four hands. The date of the transcription is listed as "sometime in the early 1930s." That is the version the Chancel Choir, Kevin Dzierzawski and Karina Kontorovitch will share with you in

worship today. Shostakovitch held Stravinsky in such esteem that he gave him a copy of his transcription when he met him in person in the Soviet Union in 1962.

The text for ***God We Thank You For Our People*** was written in 1986 by Ruth Duck (b. 1947). She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, and has written four volumes of hymn texts. HOLY MANNA is an unattributed melody from the great American series of shaped-note hymnals from the early 19th century, including *The Sacred Harp*.

The text for ***God Whose Giving Knows No Ending*** was written in 1961 by Robert L. Edwards (1915-2006). He was a Congregational minister who focused on prison ministry, low income senior housing, and other ministries of social justice. The words are set to the famous Welsh tune, HYFRYDOL, by Rowan Hugh Prichard (1811-1887) when he was only 19. We also sing this tune to the text *Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven* and *Love Divine All Loves Excelling*.

Valse Op. 11, No. 4 was composed in 1894 for “piano duet” by Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943). Rachmaninov was an incredibly gifted pianist in addition to being an unashamed Romantic composer in the 20th century when most composers were breaking away from melody and lush harmony. He was born in Russia but moved with his family to America in 1918 following the Russian Revolution. *Valse* is obviously French for waltz.

ABOUT ST. PAULS

Making a Joyful Sound in the City!

St. Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBTQ+ people.

From founding Chicago's largest provider of social services to at-risk children to starting a home for the elderly, from housing protestors at the 1968 Democratic Convention to hosting Lincoln Park's first MLK day march against violence on Chicago's streets, we are proud to make a joyful sound in the city.

Most important, during the past 180 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, mfitzgerald@spucc.org

Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org

Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership
Please visit www.spucc.org/contact

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

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