

May 4, 2025
Communion

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 thank You God for most this amazing day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything which is natural which is infinite
which is yes.

E.E Cummings

PRELUDE

Meditation

Russell Woolen

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

CHIMES

INTROIT

Just as I Am

Chancel Choir

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beautiful are the works of God!

All: Beautiful are all of God's children!

One: Beautiful is the mind of God!

All: Beautiful are the hopes of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the heart of God!

All: Beautiful are the souls of God's people!

One: God made the heavens and the earth!

All: To God be the glory for the things God has done!

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

* HYMN

To You O God All Creatures Sing



1. To you O God, all crea - tures sing, and all cre - a - tion, ev - ery -
2. Your wind that blows the tem - pest by, your clouds that sail a - cross the
3. Your flow - ing wa - ters, crys - tal clear, make mel - o - dies for you to
4. To you, O God, day af - ter day, your plan - et earth in ev - ery
5. Now we who are of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers, take our



- thing sings your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! Your burn - ing sun with gold - en
sky sing your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! Your morn - ing ris - es with a
hear, sing your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! Your fire, — boun - ti - ful and
way, sings your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia, As sa - vory fruit and fra - grant
part, sing your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! To you we lift our pain and



beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais - es,
song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais - es,
bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais - es,
flower show forth your glo - ry and your power, sing - ing prais - es,
care, re - ceive the bur - dens that we bear, sing - ing prais - es,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le lu - ia!

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**O God, we are wholly in your hands;
each one of us with sins,
which only you can forgive;
each one of us with sorrow,
which only you can turn into joy;
each one of us with regret,
which only you can heal.
Come to us now, risen Lord.
Show yourself as our almighty and merciful God!
Not against us, but for us.
Not above us, but with us.
Not occasionally, but forevermore!
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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 take part in communion.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**God of breakfast by the lake,
Thank you for blessing this earth with your own footsteps.
Thank you for blessing this meal with your own presence.
Let your nearness change us!
Amen.**

*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.*

* COMMUNION HYMN

Softly and Tenderly

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for

you and for me; See at the por - tals Christ wait - ing and
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not God's

watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me. Come home, come
mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me?

home; All who are wea - ry come home; Ear - nest - ly,

ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing— call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

John 20:1-18

Simon Peter announced, "I'm going fishing." The rest of them replied, "We're going with you." They went out and got in the boat. They caught nothing that night. When the sun came up, Jesus was standing on the beach, but they didn't recognize him. Jesus spoke to them: "Little children, do you have any breakfast?" They answered, "No." He said, "Throw the net off the right side of the boat and see what happens." They did what he said. All of a sudden there were so many fish in it, they weren't strong enough to pull it in. Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!"

So Simon Peter, hearing that it was the Lord, threw on some clothes, for he was stripped for work, and flung himself into the sea. The other disciples came in by boat for they weren't far from land, a hundred yards or so, pulling along the net full of fish. When they got out of the boat, they saw a fire laid, with fish and bread cooking on it. Jesus said, "Bring some of the fish you've just caught." Simon Peter joined them and dragged the net to shore full of a great many fish; 153. And though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said, "Breakfast is ready." Not one of the disciples dared ask, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

Jesus then took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. This was now the third time Jesus had shown himself alive to the disciples since being raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

*** 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

Golden Breaks the Dawn



1. Gold - en_ breaks the dawn, _____ comes the_ east - ern sun
2. As the_ spin - ning globe _____ rolls a - way the night,
3. Give me_ dai - ly bread, _____ while I_ do my part;



o - ver_ lake and lawn, _____ new day_ has be - gun.
na - ture wears a robe _____ spun of_ morn - ing light.
bright skies o - ver - head, _____ glad - ness in my heart.



Birds a - bove me fly, _____ flow - ers bloom be - low;
Dawn break in me too, _____ as in skies a - bove;
Sim - ple wants pro - vide, _____ e - vil let me_ shun;



through the earth and sky _____ God's great mer - cies flow.
teach me to be true, _____ fill my_ heart with love.
Je - sus at my side, _____ till the_ day is done.

SERMON

“Sand in His Shoes, Bread in His Hand”

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

I Come to the Garden Alone



1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, ___ while the dew is
2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice ___ is so sweet the
3. I'd stay in the gar - den with him, ___ though the night a -



still on the ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing
birds hush their sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that he
-round me be fall - ing; But he bids me go; through the



on my ear, the Son of God dis - clos - es.
gave to me with - in my heart is ring - ing.
voice of woe his voice to me is call - ing.



And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me



I am his own, ___ And the joy we share as we



tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er ___ known. ___

OFFERTORY

I Can Tell the World About This
Chancel Choir

Spiritual
arr. Moses Hogan

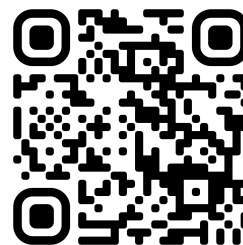
I can tell the world, yes, about this,
I can tell the nations, yes, that I'm blessed,
Tell 'em what my Lord has done,
Tell 'em the conqueror has come,
And he brought joy to my soul

My Lord done just what he said,
Yes he did,
He healed the sick and raised the dead
Yes he did,
He lifted me when I was down,
Yes he did,
He placed my feet on solid ground.

That mornin', Hallelujah!
O Lord, he brought joy in the mornin',
When he saved me, when he blessed me
I'll tell it, how he brought this joy to my soul.

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



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.

* HYMN

What a Covenant

1. What a cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing
2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing

on the ev - er - last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness,
on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path
on the ev - er - last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace

what a peace is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;

lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

The image shows a musical score for a benediction response. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics 'A - men, A - men, A - - - men.' are written below the treble staff. The first two 'A - men' are separated by a comma, and the third 'A - - - men.' has a long dash indicating a sustained note. The music ends with a double bar line.

POSTLUDE

I Saw the Light
St. Arbucks Quartet

Hank Williams

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 Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald,

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Martin Fair

Acolytes: Faye Johnson, Adrian Broderick

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

Communion bread baked by Annie Johnson.

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 4 Alexander Young, Oliver Dierks

May 5 Frank Schmitz, Madeline Hurlbutt, Maia Sanders

May 6 Ben Lytal, Dave Bueschel, Denise Beitelschmidt, Kent Davidson, Matt Wood

May 7 Carri Johnson, Myers Emmrich, Owen Waldschmidt

May 8 Doug Clark, Francois Millard, Joel Grachan

May 9 Adam McElhinney, Jill Wachholz, John Balevic, Lydia Murray

May 10 James Grunst, Steve Singles

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.

- 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.
- Mike Stensaas, complications from Parkinson's and a stroke.
- 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.
- Sally Acker, recovering from a fall.
- Wayne Bradley, pursuing ongoing treatment.
- Pastor Liz's Aunt Donna Gentry, on the death of her husband Mike.
- 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 – NEW MEMBER CLASS – 11 a.m., Room 211

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.

MAY 9 - LPCS METAMORPHOSIS GALA

You are invited to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Lincoln Park Community Services at their upcoming Metamorphosis gala! The gala will be on Friday evening, May 9, at Sarabande, 2726 West Roscoe Street in Chicago. LPCS serves adults who are experiencing homelessness in Chicago through two shelters, a Drop-In program, and a Street Outreach program. St. Pauls was one of the founding churches of LPCS in 1985 and has been an instrumental part of its growth ever since. LPCS will be recognizing us with their Cornerstone Legacy Award. Tickets are on sale now. To learn more, scan the QR code here or check LPCS's website at LPCChicago.org.



MAY 11 & 18 – FILL THE SILL

Our group, recently renamed ACT (Action in our Community Together), is aligned with the Faith and Action Committee. 'Fill the Sill' is a call to action for members to bring canned goods to fill the windowsills of the Sanctuary. It's a movement tied to the great history of St. Pauls' initiative to alleviate hunger in big and small ways. Let's line our window sills with canned goods to help Common Pantry's efforts in Lincoln Park address the challenges that result from economic instability. Bring your donations to church on May 11 and May 18!

May 16 - WINDY CITY WINDS-SPRING CONCERT

Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band," will present its spring concert "Looking Back" on Friday, May 16, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Pauls UCC, featuring favorite music from their first three seasons, with guest conductor Dr. Kimberly Fleming, Assistant Director of Bands at the University of Illinois and guest vocalist William Powers, acclaimed bass-baritone of the Metropolitan Opera of New York. Powers will perform *The Man in the Arena* by Chicago area composer Ronald Hill, based on a speech by Theodore Roosevelt. Admission is free and the concert will also be live-streamed at spucc.org/streaming. Don't miss it!

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 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

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/msytj254. 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 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.

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!



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.

YOUNG ADULT RUN CLUB AND BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The Young Adult Group is thinking of starting a weekly Running Club this June. It would be an easy 5K on a weeknight evening. No need to be an avid runner; all paces are welcome! We also may form a beach volleyball team to join the summer leagues at North Avenue Beach (which will have a fee). If you're interested in joining us for either activity, we'd love to have you! RSVP to Bruonobilehome@gmail.com.

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.

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>.

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.



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.

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.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

Recycling Household Chemicals and Electronics

This is the time for spring cleaning. Among the more difficult items to recycle are household chemicals and electronics. These items can include toxic products such as lead, mercury and PCBs. The City of Chicago runs the Household Chemicals and Electronics and Computer Recycling facility at 1150 N. North Branch Street (two blocks east of the Kennedy Expressway at Division.) They accept household cleaners, solvents, cell phones, computers and related electronics. Drop-off hours are: Tuesday, 7 a.m.-12 p.m.; Thursday, 2-7 p.m.; first Saturday of every month, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

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!

TODAY'S MUSIC

Russell Woolen (1923-1994), who composed *Meditation*, was a Connecticut-born pianist, organist, and composer. In his works, he combined elements of Medieval music with a more modern harmonic vocabulary. He was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1947, but the “pressures of secular life” caused him to leave the priesthood in the 1960s. He continued, however, to compose and perform until his death. One of his works, *In martyrum memoriam* (1968-69), was performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under the direction of Margaret Hillis in 1979. It was composed as a memorial tribute to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Just as I Am is set to the tune WOODWORTH, which was composed by American William B. Bradbury (1816–1868) in 1849. He also composed the children’s hymn, *Jesus Loves Me This I Know*. The text is by Charlotte Elliot (1789–1871), who was British. Sadly, she was frail and sickly most of her life, which makes her text especially poignant and personal. It is a hymn that many of us associate with the crusades of Billy Graham (1918–2018).

To You O God All Creatures Sing is a text that was adapted by Sister Miriam Therese Winter (b. 1938). A Catholic theologian, she is also a Medical Mission Sister who has worked in a number war-torn areas, including Ethiopia and Cambodia. The German hymn tune LASST UNS ERFREUEN, dates from 1623, and was first found in a hymnal published in Cologne, Germany. It is recognisable to us as the same tune as our *Festival Doxology*.

Golden Breaks The Dawn employs a Chinese tune, LE P'ING, which was composed by Zhao Zichen (1888-1979). We can thank the editors of our *New Century Hymnal* (the black hymnal), who reached beyond traditional western music and text sources to include this and other hymns from wider cultural resources. Zhao Zichen was raised as a Buddhist, but during his education at a missionary school he became a Christian. He received his master’s degree and Bachelor of Divinity degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. He then returned to China to teach. He survived the Communist revolution and the Cultural Revolution, as well. Sadly, he had a crisis of faith during his “re-education.”

Both the text and music for *Softly and Tenderly* were composed in 1880 by Will L. Thompson (1847-1909), which also explains the naming of the tune, THOMPSON. He was born in Ohio, and after unsuccessful attempts to sell his songs, started his own publishing firm. He composed both the text and music for numerous hymns. This is his most famous.

Both the text and tune, GARDEN, for *I Come to the Garden Alone* were composed in 1913 by C. Austin Miles (1868-1946). He was an American pharmacist from Pennsylvania, but he abandoned that career to compose gospel songs. He composed hundreds of them and eventually owned a publishing company that printed song books.

I Can Tell the World, a truly uplifting Black spiritual, was arranged in 1998. In his-all-too brief life, Moses Hogan, (1957-2003), continued and amplified the great tradition of spiritual arrangement that includes William Dawson. He recorded a number of compact disks and created solo arrangements for such singers as Kathleen Battle. He was commissioned by St. Pauls to write a piece, *I Got a Home in-a that Rock*, in honor of former choir member Ron McCowan's 25 years of service to this congregation.

What a Covenant is also known to us as *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*, the first words of the refrain. The text is by Eisha Hoffman (1879-1939), who was educated at Union Seminary and served a number of Congregational churches during his ministry. The tune, SHOWALTER, takes the name of its composer A. J. Showalter (1858-1924). He composed more than 100 hymns. He grew up and was deeply influenced by the American shape-note tradition, which includes such famous hymnals as *The Sacred Harp*.

I Saw the Light was composed and recorded in 1952 by Hank Williams (1923-1953). He was a beloved country music singer and composer. In his all-too-short life, he recorded 35 singles, with 11 of those reaching No. 1 on the Country & Western charts.

Special Music Theme for 2024-2025

HEAR Ye! + Bach

Enjoy another year of special music during worship services.

H- Hebrew

E - English

A - Austrian

R - Russian

November 3, 2024 - Reformation Sunday - *Lobet den Herrn* - Bach

December 8, 2024 - Christmas Cantata (Hebrew & English)

Nachamu, nachamu ami - Max Janowski (*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*)

Fantasia on Christmas Carols - Ralph Vaughan Williams

with guest artist William Buchman, from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

February 16, 2025 - Northwestern University Chapel Choir – Guest choir in worship

March 9, 2025 - *Komm, Jesu, komm* - Bach

April 6, 2025 - (Austria) - *Requiem* - Mozart

May 18, 2025 - (Russian) - *Symphony of Psalms* - Stravinsky/Shostakovich

Mark these dates in your calendar!

ABOUT ST. PAULS

Making a Joyful Sound in the City!

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

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

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

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

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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 Narthex.



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.