

June 22, 2025
Baptism Sunday

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

Please silence cell phones.

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

Christian discipleship is far too demanding for the individual. Only within a caring community will a person find the resources and relationships that forge an enduring faith. We are baptized into this larger community and learn our true identity in it. You are what *God* says you are, not what you may often feel. You are a chosen and beloved child of God.

PRELUDE	<i>It Is Well With My Soul</i>	Horatio Spafford
	St. Arbucks Quartet	arr. Colleen Henry

INTROIT	<i>Awake, Awake To Love And Work</i>
	Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME	Matt Fitzgerald
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* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Friends, this is the day that the Lord of light has made

All: Let's open our eyes, rejoice, and be glad in it!

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

* HYMN

We Worship You God

1. We wor - ship you, God; your power and your love
2. We tell of your might, we sing of your grace,
3. The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
4. Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
5. Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

are bla - zoned a - broad, a - round, and a - bove:
whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old,
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

Our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
Your char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
Your mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
and broad is your path on the wings of the storm.
and round it you cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

God of truth and transformation, help us to see when we are blind to what you are doing in our lives and the world. Forgive us and open our eyes when we are clinging to the familiar because we are afraid of what the truth might ask of us. Give us the courage to answer you when you call on us. When your Spirit moves, help us to follow you rather than our own self-interest. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

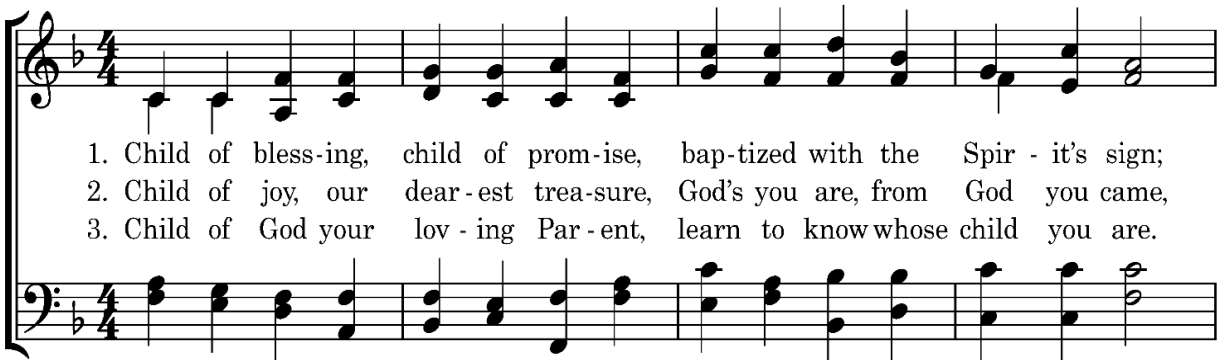
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

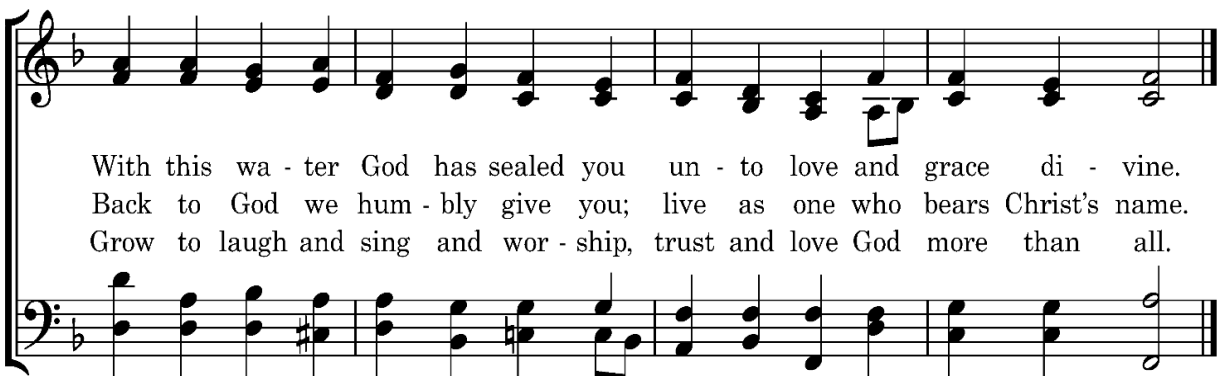
RESPONSE

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

v. 1



1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir - it's sign;
2. Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came,
3. Child of God your lov - ing Par-ent, learn to know whose child you are.



With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
Back to God we hum - bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Arlo Anthony Brinkoetter, Jones David Brinkoetter, Tilly Mae Brinkoetter

Pastor Jeff: Receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as children of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Arlo, Jones, and Tilly are now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for those baptized this morning. Inspire their lives. May they sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for their parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with this family as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.

Pastor: Arlo, Jones, and Tilly, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

All: Amen

RESPONSE	<i>Child of Blessing, Child of Promise</i> See previous hymn	v. 3 ONLY
ANTHEM	<i>Come Unto Him</i> from <i>Messiah</i> Nadia Jiménez, soprano Kevin Dzierzawski, piano	G.F. Handel

Come unto Him, all ye that labour,
Come unto Him that are heavy laden,
And He will give you rest.
Take his yoke upon you, and learn of Him,
For He is meek and lowly of heart,
And ye shall find rest unto your souls.
Matthew 11: 28-29

Acts 9 (selected verses)

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. ...lay hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel"... Ananias laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once, he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?"

* STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to care for creation,
to seek justice and to resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

* RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision

v. 1 ONLY

1. Be thou my__ vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my__ wis - dom, and thou my true word;

Nought be all else to me and save that thou art,
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;

Thou my__ best__ thought, by day or by night,____
Thou my__ great Fa - ther, I thy true son;____

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy__ pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing, and__ I with thee one.

SERMON

"Blinded So He Could See"

Liz Nickerson

* HYMN

Amazing Grace

1. A - maz - ing__ grace! How sweet the sound, that
2. Through man - y__ dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
3. When we've been__ there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a__ wretch like me!__ I once__ was lost, but
have al - ready - y come;__ 'Tis grace__ has brought me
shin - ing__ as the sun,__ We've no__ less days to

now__ am__ found, was blind but__ now I see.___
safe__ thus far, and grace will__ lead me home.___
sing__ God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.___

MINISTRY MOMENT - STEPHEN MINISTRY

Joseph JaQuay

OFFERTORY

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made the glowing colors,
He made the tiny wings.

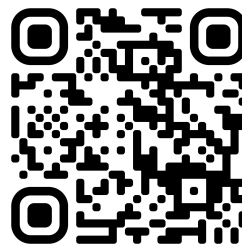
All things bright . . .

The purple headed mountains,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;
The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one.

All things bright . . .

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.*

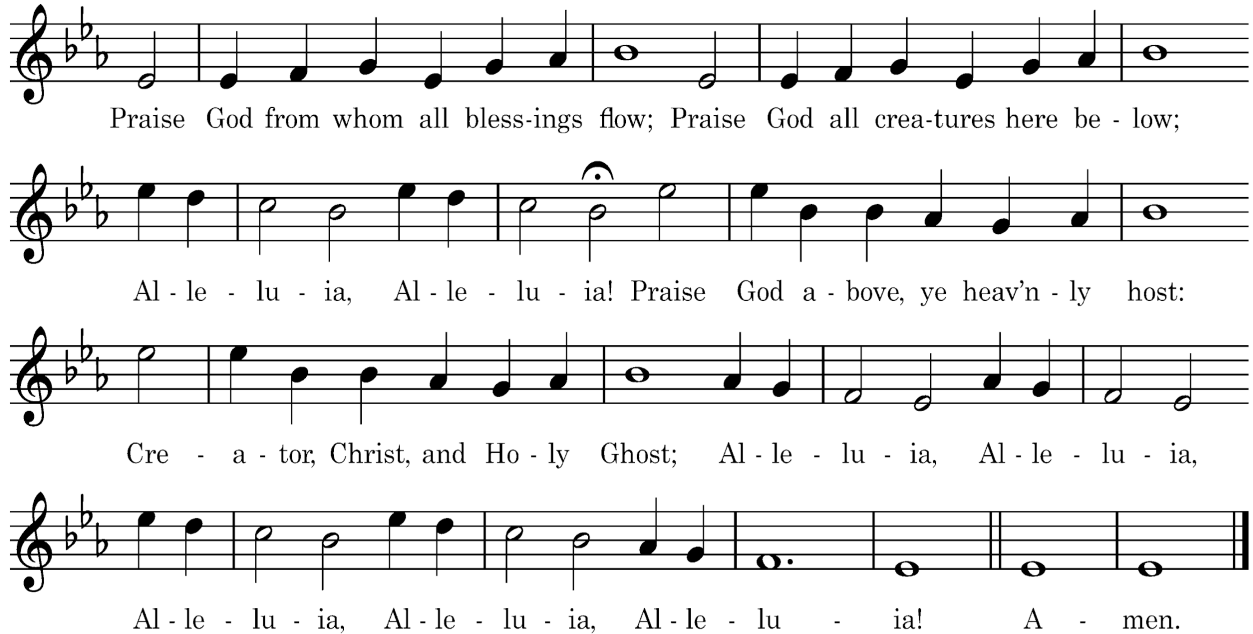


WELCOME CARD

*If you are a visitor, welcome! Thank you for
worshiping with us today!
If you 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.

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN LEADER NADIA JIMÉNEZ

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

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, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of the hymn. The first system contains four verses. The second and third systems contain the main body of the hymn. The fourth system contains the concluding lines. The score includes a variety of musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, as well as rests and dynamic markings.

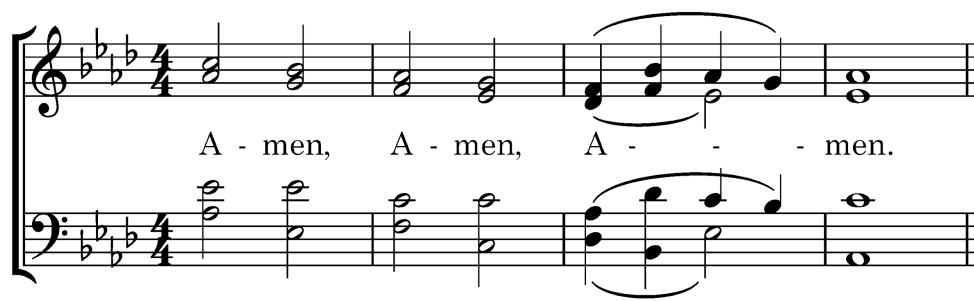
1. God, speak to me, that I may speak in
2. O lead me, God, that I may lead some
3. O fill me with your full - ness, God, your
4. O use me, God, use ev - en me just

liv - ing echo - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
wan - der - ers a - long life's way; O feed me so that
ov - er - flow - ing love to know; In glow - ing word and
as you will, and when, and where, un - til your bless - ed

let me seek your err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.
I may feed your hun - gry ones with - out de - lay.
kin - dling thought, your love to tell, your praise to show.
face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Finale

Daniel Gawthrop

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

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!

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Liz Nickerson, Jeff Carlson

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: James Rowley

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

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

BORN THIS WEEK IN JUNE

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.

June 22 Geoff Gist

June 23 Benn Hamm, Chris Kohler, Elise Prangle, Nancy Kintzel, Paul Chang, Quinn Houser, Whitney Shirk

June 24 Doug Hoerr

June 25 Deborah Bayly, Dianne Witkowski, Jack Clarke, Renae Bradshaw, Robin Burnett

June 27 Genevieve Anderson, Jill Minetz, Julia Nickerson, Juliannis Pacheco, Patricia Kirby, Theo Gonzalez-Greenberg

June 28 Gale Landem

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.

- Nadia Jiménez's brother, Adrian, in the hospital.
- Walter Crowley and his family on the loss of his wife, Carole Crowley.
- Harrison, Mackenzie, and Cameron Rogers on the death of their father, Toby.
- Family and friends of Ben Ryan Diserod on his death.
- Maddie Lockhart's mother for her upcoming surgery in July.
- Bob Ball at the death of his older brother Phill, and for Phill's wife Jane and daughters Stephanie, Allison and Cherilyn.
- Juanita Barlow, who underwent 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.
- 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.
- Wayne Bradley, pursuing ongoing treatment.
- Craig Wilbanks' mother and father, each of whom are 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

JUNE 24 – FOOD FOR THE SOUL GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall

This month: *Angels: The Poems of God* – What and who are angels? Do our popular ideas about them actually come from the Bible? Pastor Jeff will present on what scripture does and does not say about these mysterious creatures that are said to watch over us. 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.

JUNE 26 & 29 – MOMS' GROUP - 9:15-10:15 a.m. Thursday, or 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sunday

Pastor Liz is looking forward to a meaningful discussion with you! 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.

JUNE 27 – ST. SABINA PEACE WALK - 7 p.m.

Join a group from St. Pauls as we join St. Sabina for their annual summer peace walks through the Auburn-Gresham neighborhoods. Thousands of people will gather for these powerful walks! Contact Louise Gram at (773) 870-6311 for additional information and RSVP on Church Center at tinyurl.com/55x9dj9x to coordinate carpools with other attendees

JUNE 29 – PRIDE PARADE

This year, Holly Stovall and Ken Sadler and family will represent St. Pauls along with others from the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches. Because of new restrictions, only four people from each church can walk in the parade, so if you're at the parade, be sure to wave when they walk by and thank them for representing St. Pauls!

JUNE 29 – ST. PAULS SOCIAL/PRIDE PARADE COOKOUT - 2 p.m., Parking Lot

Adults of all ages are invited to join St. Pauls Social and hosts Rick Peterson and Doug Heyboer for a cookout after the Pride Parade in the St. Pauls parking lot (or in the church in case of rain). Whether you're marching or not, you're invited to join this fun cookout. Please bring your own food and beverages. A grill will be provided for all to share. You may leave your food at the church during the march. RSVP here: tinyurl.com/nk2sfnjh

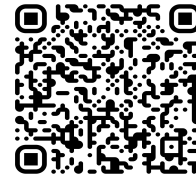
JULY 9 – SUMMER BIBLE STUDY BEGINS - Noon, Zoom

Join us for seven weeks of summer school in 1, 2 & 3 John. These early Christian letters take off where the Gospel of John leaves off, encouraging lives of life, light and love. Led by Pastor Jeff, we meet once a week for about a half hour to 45 minutes over Zoom through August 20. Sign up on Church Center here: tinyurl.com/yc2dk6kj

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!



NEW! BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

We've updated the process! As of June 1, please use our new bulletin announcement form to submit St. Pauls-sponsored events for inclusion in the Friday newsletter and Sunday worship bulletin. **Submissions are due by 10 a.m. on Wednesdays and should be no more than 100 words.** Ready to share information about your event? Fill out the form here: tinyurl.com/5dtmhpra.

K-6TH GRADE YOUTH EDUCATION SURVEY

The Youth Education Committee is eager to hear from parents of this year's K-6 grade church school students. Please fill out one survey for each child here: tinyurl.com/3f6rprae. Your input will help the committee strengthen the program. When you complete your survey, we will enter you in a raffle for a \$50 Starbucks gift card. **Submissions are due today (June 22).** Thank you!

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT POLITICAL POLARIZATION?

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. To find out more, visit today's table at coffee hour! You can do so here: tinyurl.com/3pyjmebs.

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: spucc.churchcenter.com/giving.

WINDY CITY WINDS SUMMER CONCERT- "ON BROADWAY"

Windy City Winds presents three free outdoor concerts in July, performing music from your favorite Broadway shows!

- Saturday, July 12 – 7 p.m. at the Bucktown Garden Walk (Winchester & Churchill)
- Wednesday, July 23 – 7 p.m. at the North Center Town Square (Damen & Lincoln)
- Saturday, July 26 – 3 p.m. at Washington Square Park (Clark & Delaware)

Several St. Pauls Church members participate: Jim Brandt, Tom Clancy, Lorne Frank, Rick Peterson, Nancy Pifer, Mark Swanson and Penny Trowbridge, with announcer Jana O'Brien and conductors Mark Mosley and Sarah Good Mosley.

JANE AUSTEN 250 READING GROUP

December 16, 2025, is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. We'll read her six complete novels, one a month, beginning July 8 - December 16. Monthly discussions will be over Zoom the second Tuesday of the month, except for December when we'll meet on her birthday. Sign up to participate here: tinyurl.com/222hj89n.

Contact: Pastor Jeff. July 8 - *Sense and Sensibility*; August 12 - *Pride and Prejudice*; September 9 - *Mansfield Park*; October 14 - *Emma*; November 11 - *Northanger Abbey*; December 16 - *Persuasion*.

NEW MEMBER CLASS - SEPTEMBER 21

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. Next class: September 21 at 11 a.m. See other upcoming dates here: spucc.org/new_member_classes.

DRIVERS NEEDED - SUNDAYS AND WEEKDAYS

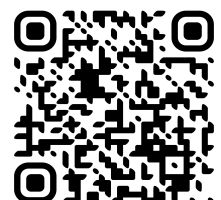
We need members to drive older members to church on Sundays and to occasional doctors' appointments. Please email Pastor Liz for details at lnickerson@spucc.org.

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.

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.



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 and crafts, enjoy music and 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: tinyurl.com/2nt8zsvx.

LITTLE LIGHTS ENROLLMENT 2025-2026

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.

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: tinyurl.com/2j5dy6fp.

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

Wicker Picnic Baskets

The rectangular, wicker picnic basket has new relevance when trying to avoid single-use plastic waste. Before plastic and styrofoam were readily available, these picnic baskets were packed with light-weight porcelain, specially sized utensils and cups and tablecloths and napkins.

Porcelain may be too heavy now, but it can be replaced by such materials as bamboo or heavy-weight paper. Utensils are still available in smaller sizes and durable glassware is now readily available. Finally, cloth napkins and tablecloths can be found in stores and thrift shops.

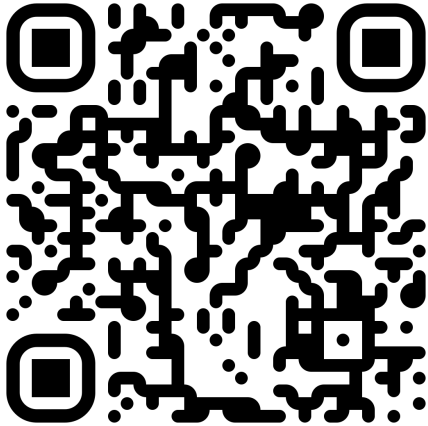
STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS

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.

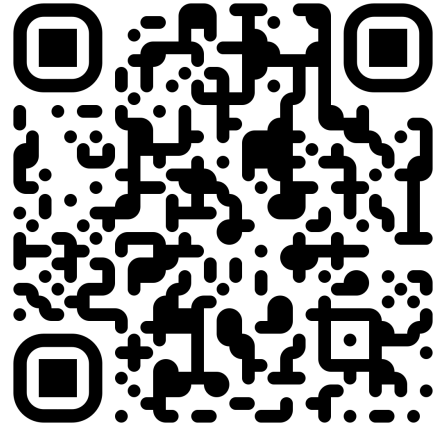
WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

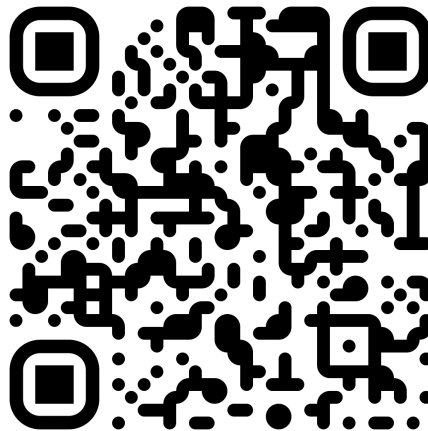
JOIN A GROUP



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

For St. Pauls sponsored events, please fill out the new form **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

Our Prelude, ***It Is Well With My Soul***, was composed in 1876 by Philip L. Bliss (1836-1878). A largely self-taught itinerant music teacher, he was converted at age 12 at a revival. It was Dwight L. Moody (1837-1899), famous evangelist and founder of the Moody Bible Institute here in Chicago who encouraged Bliss to become a singing evangelist. The text was written in 1873 by Horatio G. Spafford (1828-1888). He also gave the Bliss tune its name, VILLE DU HAVRE, which was the name of the ship carrying his wife and four daughters from Chicago to vacation in France. The ship sank in the Atlantic after a collision with another vessel and only his wife survived. He wrote this text **after** this loss. This arrangement was made by Colleen Henry (1946-2014), mother of Brendan Henry.

The text for ***Awake, Awake to Love and Work*** was composed in 1921 by Geoffrey Anketel Studdert Kennedy (1883-1929), who was an Anglican minister of proud Irish descent. He spent his life working in deprived surroundings. The tune, MORNING SONG, is from another great early American shape-note hymnal, *Kentucky Harmony*. The melody is based on the English folk song *Old King Cole*.

We Worship You, God uses the tune LYONS which was originally ascribed to Haydn, but more recent research indicates the composer was Joseph Martin Kraus (1756-1792), a German who resided in Sweden. The English text is by Robert Grant (1779-1838). He was of Scottish descent, but lived his entire life in India. He was deeply influenced by the poetic rendering of Psalms.

The text for ***Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*** was written in 1981 by a UCC pastor and teacher of theology, Ronald Cole-Turner (b. 1948). The tune, STUTTGART, was composed in 1715 by Christian Friederich Witt (1660-1716). Witt completed a huge hymnal, *Psalmodia Sacra*, the year before his death. Of the 774 hymns (!!!), he composed nearly 100. He was Kapellmeister of the Gotha court in Stuttgart at the same time that Bach was in Leipzig, just 300 miles north. An interesting side note is that Nathan Laube, world renowned organist and friend of St. Pauls, was until recently on the organ faculty at the Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart. He has since returned to the faculty at the Eastman School of Music.

Come Unto Him is from Part One of arguably the most often performed and well known of the works of George Friderick Handel (1685-1759). This serene aria takes its text from Matthew 11:28 & 29 and directly precedes the chorus *His Yoke Is Easy*, which closes Part One of *Messiah*. Handel presented a number of performances of *Messiah*, making subtle and sometimes major changes for each performance

depending on how successful he felt a particular piece was, and sometimes based on who was available to sing. *Come Unto Him* was originally composed as a quasi duet with an alto singing *He Shall Feed His Flock* and the soprano following after with the text *Come Unto Him*. The term “quasi duet” is used to describe the fact that the two voices never sing together. Handel later composed a version for soprano alone.

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

The text for ***Amazing Grace*** is by John Newton (1725-1807), who was a slave ship captain, but 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 well-known Victorian text for ***All Things Bright and Beautiful*** was composed in 1848 by Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). She spent her entire life in Ireland and after marrying an Anglican priest, devoted herself to the service of the disadvantaged. She and her sister also founded a school for the deaf. John Rutter (b. 1945) wrote this anthem in 1983 on a commission by Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

God Speak to Me, That I May Speak is a text composed in 1872 by Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879). She was born in England and her father was an Anglican priest. Although she did not consider herself a poet, she wrote many hymn texts and also studied both Greek and Hebrew at the collegiate level. The tune CANONBURY was composed in 1839 and is attributed to the famous German Romantic composer Robert Schumann (1810-1856). It is an adaptation of his melody from *Nachtstücke* (night piece) No. 4 in G major. Johannes Brahms was a champion of the young Schumann’s talent and had a close relationship with Robert and Clara Schumann, as well as with Robert until his death, and a lifelong connection with Clara after Robert’s death.

Our postlude today, ***Finale***, was composed by Daniel E. Gawthrop (b. 1949). Born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, he is known for his output of compositions for both choirs and the organ. He has received more than 100 commissions for his works. He attended both Michigan State University and Brigham Young University and currently resides in southern Idaho with his wife.

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 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.

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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.