

July 13, 2025

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

***Please silence cell phones.***

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

Christian faith is a way of life, not a grocery list of beliefs. The Christian religion asks us to place our trust not in ideas and certainly not in ideologies, but in a God who was vulnerable enough to become human and die and desires to be present to us in everyday circumstances. . . . It is in the realm of the daily and the mundane that we must find our way to God. -Kathleen Norris

PRELUDE

*Adoration*  
St. Pauls Brass

Florence Price  
arr. David J. Miller

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is here!

**All: As we meet to offer our praise and worship**

**One:** Silence our distracting thoughts, Lord.

**All: Open our ears, to hear your Spirit speak!**

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

\* HYMN

*God Is Here! As We Your People Meet*



1. God is here! As we\_\_ your peo-ple meet to of - fer praise and prayer;
2. Here are sym-bols to\_\_ re-mind us of our life - long need\_\_ of grace;
3. Here our chil-dren find\_\_ a wel-come in the Shep-herd's flock\_\_ and fold;
4. Sov-ereign God, of earth and heav-en, in an age\_\_ of change and doubt



May we find in full - er mea-sure what it is\_\_ in Christ we share.  
Here are ta - ble, font, and pul-pit, here the cross\_ has cen - tral place.  
Here as bread and wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as\_\_ of old.  
Keep us faith - ful to\_\_ the gos - pel, help us work\_ your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
Here in hon - es - ty\_\_ of preach-ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
Here the ser-vants of\_\_ the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of\_\_ the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
here, in new-ness and\_ re - new-al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to\_\_ be - lieve and to a - dore.  
we,\_ who can - not live\_ with - out you, we\_\_ a - dore you! We be - lieve!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jeff Carlson

**Loving God, we are bombarded daily with troubling news, most of which we cannot fix. So it is easier for us to tune out than to face the overwhelming challenges that we see. To cope, we distract ourselves with amusements and become self-absorbed. Then we grow farther from you and farther from our true selves. Forgive us Lord, and still our racing minds. Send your Spirit to change our course and lead us back to you. Lead us from our distractions to devotion to you, the Prince of Peace. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Sunday School students are invited to participate in Prayground Sunday School.  
If you would like to accompany your child(ren) to the gym,  
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

## RESPONSE

*Be Still, My Soul*

v. 1

1. Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; \_\_\_\_\_ bear pa - tient -  
2. Be still, my soul: for God will un - der - take \_\_\_\_\_ to guide in  
3. Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here \_\_\_\_\_ when we shall

- ly the cross of grief or pain; \_\_\_\_\_ Leave to your God to  
fu - ture days as in the past. \_\_\_\_\_ Your hope, your con - fi -  
be with God whom we a - dore, \_\_\_\_\_ with dis - ap - point - ment

or - der and pro - vide; \_\_\_\_\_ in ev - ery change God  
- dence let noth - ing shake; \_\_\_\_\_ all now mys - te - rious  
gone, no grief nor fear, \_\_\_\_\_ sor - row re - placed with

faith - ful will re - main. \_\_\_\_\_ Be still, my soul: your best e - ter - nal  
shall be clear at last. \_\_\_\_\_ Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still  
joy for - ev - er - more. \_\_\_\_\_ Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

friend \_\_\_\_\_ through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.  
know \_\_\_\_\_ how Je - sus' pow - er ruled them long a - go.  
past, \_\_\_\_\_ all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

## SCRIPTURE

Louise Gram

*Luke 38-42*

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

## \* 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 Still, My Soul*  
See Previous Hymn

vv. 2 & 3

SERMON

"Distracted"

Liz Nickerson

\* HYMN

*Come, Teach Us, Spirit*



1. Come, teach us, Spir - it of our God, the lan - guage of your
2. Ex - cite our minds to fol - low you, to trace new truths in
3. En - gage our wits to dance with you, to leap from log - ic's
4. In - spire our spark to light from you to catch cre - a - tion's
5. De - light our hearts to wor - ship you, to learn com - pas - sion's



way, \_\_\_\_\_ the les - sons that we need to live, the faith for  
store, \_\_\_\_\_ new flight paths for our spir - it space, new mar - vels  
base, \_\_\_\_\_ to cap - ture in - sight on the wing, to sense your  
flair, \_\_\_\_\_ new ar - tis - try to cel - e - brate, new har - mo -  
code, \_\_\_\_\_ to live in con - text of your love, great teach - er



ev - ery day; \_\_\_\_\_ the faith for ev - ery day. \_\_\_\_\_  
to ex - plore: \_\_\_\_\_ new mar - vels to ex - plore: \_\_\_\_\_  
cos - mic grace: \_\_\_\_\_ to sense your cos - mic grace: \_\_\_\_\_  
- nies to dare: \_\_\_\_\_ new har - mo - nies to dare: \_\_\_\_\_  
who is God! \_\_\_\_\_ Great teach - er who is God! \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTE FOR MISSION

David Brown

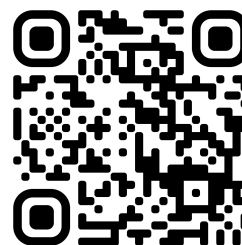
## OFFERTORY

*Amazing Grace*  
St. Pauls Brass

arr. William Himes  
adapted by Mark Swanson

### *ELECTRONIC OFFERING OPTIONS*

*Scan this code with your cell phone camera,  
Church Center at [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),  
PayPal at [spucc.org/paypal](http://spucc.org/paypal), or Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*



### *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

Musical notation for the Festival Doxology, consisting 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.



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

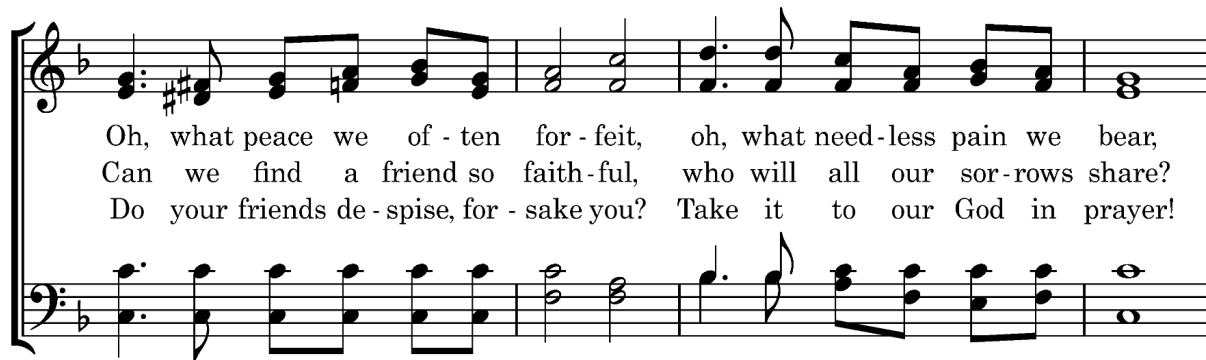
*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*



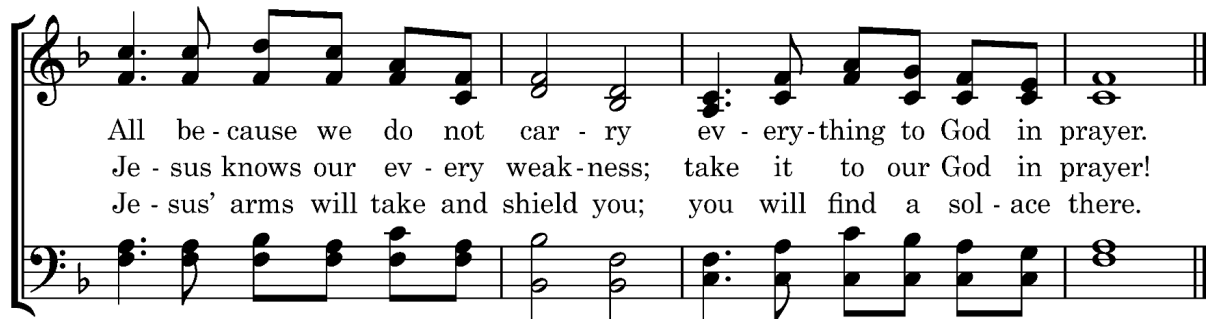
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, bur - dened with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to our God in prayer!  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, take it to our God in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to our God in prayer!



All be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.  
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to our God in prayer!  
Je - sus' arms will take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Peace I Leave With You*  
St. Pauls Brass

Amy Beach

POSTLUDE

*Rejoice!*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Richard Smallwood

***It is a joy to welcome our own St. Pauls Brass to inspire us musically. Their members are Kris Hansen, Jake Nitzsche, Jim Brandt, trumpets; Jeanine Woodman, flügelhorn; Tom Clancy, Rick Peterson, horns; Nancy Pifer, tenor horn; Mark Swanson, baritone horn; Lorne Frank, trombone; Sarah Good Mosley, timpani; Mark Mosley, conductor***

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Clergy:** 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:** Louise Gram

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**Camera Operators:** Nana Addadzi-Koom, Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Brian Hafner, Trevor Hafner

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

**Social Hour today** *is in celebration of Allen Heinemann and Bill Borden's 40th anniversary.*

**Today's flowers** are given in memory and celebration of Mrs. Lueder's birthday on July 18.

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

## BORN THIS WEEK IN JULY

*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.*

July 13 Cal Connolly, Grace Orozco, Holly Stovall

July 14 Bill Borden, Creighton Hartanov, Tim Nowack

July 15 Carolyn Hyson, Laird Koldyke, Lee Lichamer, Margot Rose Grachan, Ninon Freeman

July 16 Julia McGuire, Stacy O'Connell

July 17 Amelia Hoerr, Micki Fayhee

July 18 Ron Koepke

July 19 Chuck Michod, James Rowley

## 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.*

- Those grieving the loss of their loved ones in the Texas flood.
- Layton Olson on the death of his wife, Annette Robinson.
- Sarah Good at the death of her brother, David.
- 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, recovering from surgery.
- Bob Ball at the death of his older brother Phill, and for Phill's wife Jane and daughters Stephanie, Allison and Cherilyn.
- 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

### **TODAY – PRAYGROUND CHURCH - During worship**

Kids start in worship with their families and then are released together to learn a specific type of prayer using the acronym P.R.A.Y.: praise, repent, ask, and yield. Then they will head to the park across the street or to the gym to create a prayer and play! Register here: [tinyurl.com/54429p95](https://tinyurl.com/54429p95).

### **TODAY – YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH - 11:15 a.m. -12:30 p.m.**

Meet outside in the courtyard by the bell bench and join new friends for lunch at a nearby restaurant! Join GroupMe to see a full list of activities. [tinyurl.com/3u6nup7k](https://tinyurl.com/3u6nup7k).

### **TODAY – LUNCH MAKING FOR GUESTS AT LPCS - 11:20 a.m. -12 p.m.**

Right after church, come to the kitchen across from the gym and help make sack lunches for the residents of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. We provide all the needed food, but volunteers are asked to contribute \$20 each to help cover food costs for the lunches. Donations can be made via cash, Venmo, or Zelle. If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up: [tinyurl.com/y46tn3pp](https://tinyurl.com/y46tn3pp).

### **TODAY – DINNER MAKING FOR GUESTS AT LPCS - 4-7 p.m.**

Make a difference by helping prepare and deliver dinner for residents of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. We'll meet at St. Pauls at 4 p.m. and deliver the meal to LPCS (600 W. Fullerton) around 6 p.m. We provide the needed food, but volunteers are asked to contribute \$30 each to help cover food costs for the dinner. Donations can be made via cash, Venmo, or Zelle. If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up: [tinyurl.com/msytj254](https://tinyurl.com/msytj254). Email Evie Kling at [eviekling@gmail.com](mailto:eviekling@gmail.com) with questions.

### **JULY 15 – 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](mailto:janaobrien1@gmail.com).

### **JULY 16 – 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/25rkpeky](https://tinyurl.com/25rkpeky).

**JULY 17 – MOMS' GROUP - 9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Thursday**

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](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org).

**JULY 19 & 20 –WILD MILE POLLINATOR SAFARI AND WALKING TOUR**

The Green Team invites St. Pauls to two events at the Wild Mile, an ecological restoration effort on the banks of the Chicago River and on the river itself, supported by the non-profit Urban Rivers.

- on July 19, 4-6 p.m., there will be a Pollinator Safari with Nick Dorian.
- on July 20, noon, a Wild Mile walking tour lasting about an hour.

Please contact Ninon Freeman at (312) 447-1330 for more information. Go to [urbanrivers.org](http://urbanrivers.org) for in-depth program descriptions. RSVP preferred.

**JULY 22 – FOOD FOR THE SOUL GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall**

Bring your own lunch. Pastor Matt will share about the June Youth Mission Trip with UCAN to The Christian Church of Wilkinsburg in Pennsylvania. 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.

**JULY 30 – COOKIES FOR A CAUSE BAKING**

Join in an evening of baking cookies and sharing dinner in community at St. Pauls. Cookies are donated to A Just Harvest and LPCS. This is an excellent opportunity to volunteer your time and take part in a very enjoyable evening of fellowship. For more information on this activity contact Marcia Volk at [marcia@volkonline.com](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com) or Gloria Joseph at: [glrjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:glrjoseph@yahoo.com).

**AUGUST 8 - MOMS' NIGHT IN - WINE AND CHOCOLATE SOCIAL - 7:30-9:30 p.m.**

You're invited to a special evening just for the moms of St. Pauls! Join us for a cozy night of laughter, good company, and well-deserved relaxation. Bring your favorite wine or chocolate to share, and let's toast to a night of connection and fun. We can't wait to see you there! RSVP at [tinyurl.com/5n93wubj](http://tinyurl.com/5n93wubj)

### **AUGUST 12 – JANE AUSTEN 250 READING GROUP - 7 p.m., Zoom**

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/yez6ejw6](https://tinyurl.com/yez6ejw6).

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*.

### **AUGUST 16-17– WOMEN'S FARM WEEKEND AT MARCIA VOLK'S FARM**

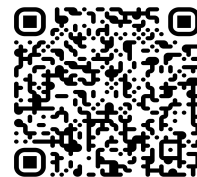
Join us at Marcia Volk's farm for a weekend getaway! Come for Saturday only, or stay overnight. Enjoy hiking at Starved Rock, farm trails, wildflowers, 4-wheeler rides, and a zip line—or just relax. BYO lunch for Saturday. Potluck dinner and bonfire that night. Sunday includes optional church in Lacon, plus breakfast and lunch at the farm. \$10 suggested for expenses. First 12 to respond get beds (stairs required). Contact Gloria at [glrjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:glrjoseph@yahoo.com) or Marcia at [marcia@volkonline.com](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com), (773) 307-6866.

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE MIGRANT HOUSING PROJECT LEGAL FUND! THE JUNE FAITH-FAMILY NIGHT FUNDRAISER RAISED \$2,651.57 TOWARDS OUR GOAL! STAY TUNED FOR FUTURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS.**

## **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](https://tinyurl.com/5dtmhpra).

### **PALESTINE STUDY GROUP**

Broaden your understanding of the Israel-Palestine conflict in this thoughtful and supportive group. All are welcome. Contact David Burnett at [burnett.db@gmail.com](mailto:burnett.db@gmail.com).



### **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.

### **VOICES FROM THE HOLY LAND FILM SALON**

Nonviolent civil resistance-mass demonstrations, strikes and boycotts, art, literature, journalism, poetry are discussed through a monthly film series. Sign up and receive the link for **5 Broken Cameras** (Trailer

[tinyurl.com/VFHL-July2025Trailer](http://tinyurl.com/VFHL-July2025Trailer)). You watch anytime before the discussion.

Zoom meeting with four panelists on Sunday, July 20, 2 p.m. Register for the InterFaith coalition program at [tinyurl.com/VFHL-July2025](http://tinyurl.com/VFHL-July2025). Any questions, contact Pat Ruch (773) 679-8106.

### **HELP US EXTEND CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY!**

The Care and Connection Ministry invites you to serve as a host during Social Hour. Hosts are asked to circulate and introduce themselves to those they don't know and engage with those who may not be involved. As you welcome visitors, new members and perhaps those re-engaging, you help make St. Pauls a welcoming church. If you would like to serve as a host, register here: [tinyurl.com/3f384fcm](http://tinyurl.com/3f384fcm).

### **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 [tinyurl.com/yzj4cvan](http://tinyurl.com/yzj4cvan). Ready to sign up now? You can do so here: [tinyurl.com/3n4jehnn](http://tinyurl.com/3n4jehnn)

### **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](http://spucc.org/new_member_classes).

### **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](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving).

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:dbrown@harrington-brown.com).

### **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](mailto:erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org)). Register here: [tinyurl.com/2nt8zsvx](http://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](http://www.littlelightslp.org) or contact Erin Fitzgerald at [erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto: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](https://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](mailto: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](https://tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support). We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. Age 18+ only, 30 participants maximum.

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

The Dirty Dozen

The Environmental Working Group has identified fruits and vegetables with the highest concentration of pesticides: strawberries, spinach, greens and cabbages, peaches, nectarines, apples, grapes, peppers, blueberries and cherries. Try and buy organic if possible; always wash fruits and vegetables in running water for about a minute. Vegetables with leaves, such as cabbages, should have their outer leaves pulled off.

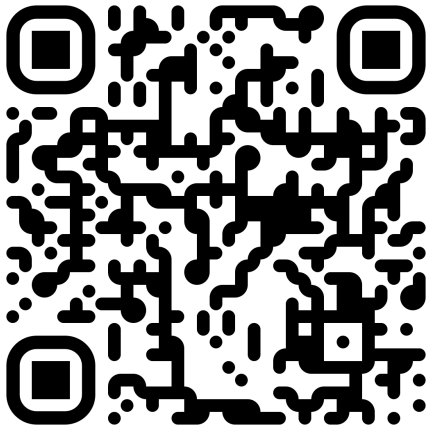
### **STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS**

Our Stephen Ministers are here for you if you are going through a tough time. Extensively trained in compassionate Christian caregiving, Stephen Ministers are matched confidentially with someone in our congregation who is going through a crisis, such as the death of a loved one, a diagnosis, a divorce, a job loss, etc. They meet with you once a week for an hour to offer support through listening, companionship and prayer. If you wonder whether having a Stephen Minister might be helpful for you, please speak with Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org). Every one of us could benefit from a Stephen Minister at some point in our lives.

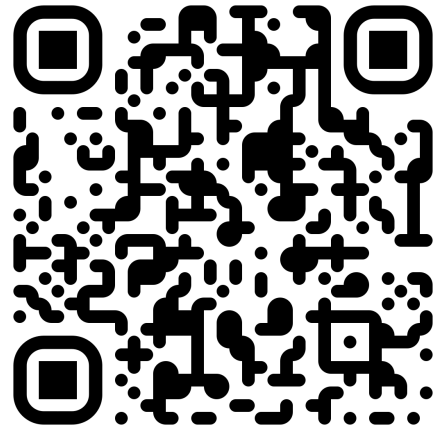
## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

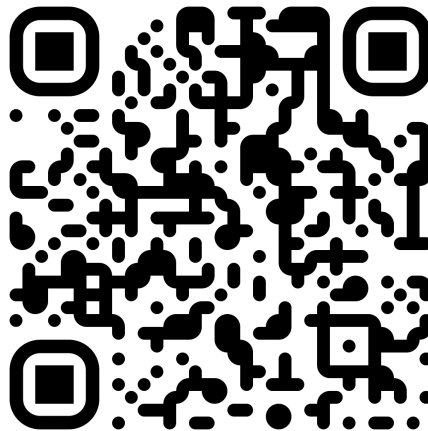
### JOIN A GROUP



### 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

***Adoration*** was composed by Florence Price (1887-1953) in 1951 and originally scored for organ. In addition to this arrangement by David J. Miller, *Adoration* has also been arranged for violin and string orchestra. There were actually some positive things that happened during the pandemic. The National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) encouraged its membership to use the time to research and assign students music of neglected composers like Florence Price. She was born in Arkansas, but was active musically in Chicago from 1927 until her death. She was part of the Chicago Black Renaissance. She composed four symphonies, one of which was premiered by our own Chicago Symphony Orchestra. In 2009, long after her death, a great deal of her music was discovered at her abandoned summer home in St. Anne, Illinois.

The text for ***God Is Here! As We Your People Meet*** was written in 1971 by Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000). Born in Liverpool, he was one of the most prominent hymnodists in Britain and became a Methodist minister. The tune, ABBOT'S LEIGH, was composed in 1941 by Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1992). Taylor was both a musician and a priest of the Church of England. He composed 20 hymns and edited a number of hymnals.

***Be Still My Soul*** employs a tune called FINLANDIA, because the melody was composed by Jean Sibelius (1865-1957) as part of his famous tone poem by the same name that honored his homeland. The original German text is by Kathrina von Schlegel (1697-17??) and was translated into English by Scottish Jane Borthwick (1813-1897), who translated and composed many hymn texts.

***Come, Teach Us, Spirit*** employs a contemporary text written in 1990 by Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020). Born and educated in New Zealand, she earned undergraduate degree in music and her master's degree in French literature. She became active in Amnesty International and composed more than 100 hymns. The tune, MURRAY, is obviously taken in homage to her married name and was composed in 1993 by Arthur G. Clyde (b. 1940). He is a prominent UCC musician and editor of our *New Century Hymnal* (1995).

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. This arrangement by William Himes (b. 1949) was adapted by our own Mark Swanson. Himes, who has

more than 70 published works, graduated from the University of Michigan and has a long association with the brass bands of the Salvation Army. In addition to being a member of our Chancel Choir and married to Nancy Pifer, Mark Swanson is also Librarian for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

***What a Friend We Have in Jesus*** uses the tune CONVERSE. The text was written in 1855 by Joseph Mendicott Scriven (1819-1886). Scriven was an Irish immigrant to Canada and he often wrote hymn texts to find solace in his faith. His life was not altogether a happy one. Charles C. Converse (1832-1918) composed the hymn tune that bears his name in 1868. He also had two other pseudonyms. An American who studied in Leipzig, Germany, he returned to America and became a lawyer. He remained an active musician throughout his life.

In recent years, the music of Amy Beach (1867-1944) has been rediscovered by listeners and performers beyond the halls of academia. Her music was the first “successful” classical music composed by an American woman. Her *Gaelic Symphony* was the first symphonic work composed and published by a female composer and was premiered by the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1896. Her music was performed widely during her life, but lost popularity with the rise of modern music. Her music has been rediscovered and appreciated for the depth of her talent as a composer. ***Peace I Leave With You*** was published in 1891 and was originally scored for choir and organ. Our Benediction Response is an excerpt from that work arranged for brass.

***Rejoice!*** - Richard Smallwood (b. 1948) is one of the top composers and performers of Gospel music. His group, The Richard Smallwood Singers, has toured the world. He is a graduate of Howard University, which also counts former Vice President Kamala Harris and many other luminaries as alumni. He was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall Of Fame in 2006.

## 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.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)

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

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

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership  
Please visit [www.spucc.org/contact](http://www.spucc.org/contact)

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

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



## **WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!**

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,  
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and  
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,  
grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to LGBTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are blessed by your presence and  
we are glad you are here.