



August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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 have never stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you wisdom to see clearly and really understand who Christ is and all that he has done for you. I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can see something of the future he has called you to share."

Ephesians 1:16-18A

PRELUDE

Sonata No. 2—Largo, BWV 526
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. S. Bach

INTROIT

My Lord, What a Morning African American Spiritual
Nancy Pifer, soprano and tenor horn
Nadia Jimenez, soprano

My Lord, what a morning,
When the stars begin to fall.

Done quit all my worldly ways,
Joined that heavenly band.

My Lord, what a morning,
When the stars begin to fall.

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We have come to worship the mystery of God, found in Jesus Christ.

**All: Jesus came and preached peace to all who were far from God,
and peace to those who were near.**

One: We are no longer like outsiders, strangers to each other,
but are fellow citizens with the saints in the household of God.

**All: God created the world and calls us to live lives of purpose, peace, and
beauty.**

One: God is our rock, the solid foundation on which we stand.

All: Let's marvel at the beauty of life. Let's praise God!

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

* HYMN

To You 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!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jeff Wagner

We confess, Lord, that we are so busy putting up walls between ourselves and others that we cannot see the home you are building for all of us. We spend so much time noting the differences between each other, while you are embracing each one of us as your child. Forgive us, faithful heart. By your grace and Holy Spirit, help us to see the household you are building for all people. Awaken us to your Spirit's presence in our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our peace, our hope, our Lord, our Savior. Amen.

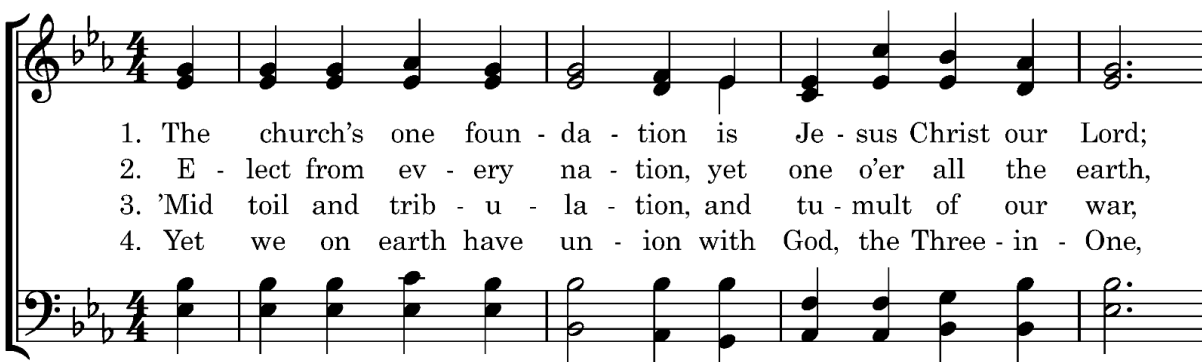
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

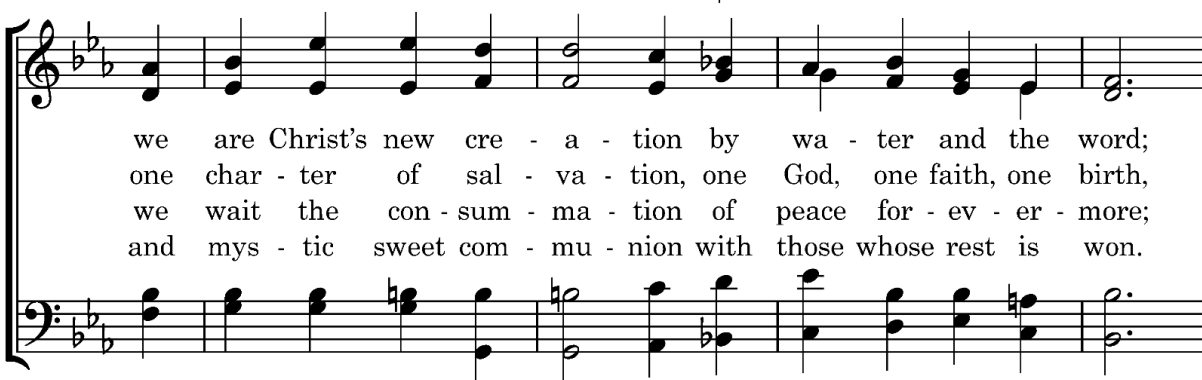
RESPONSE

The Church's One Foundation

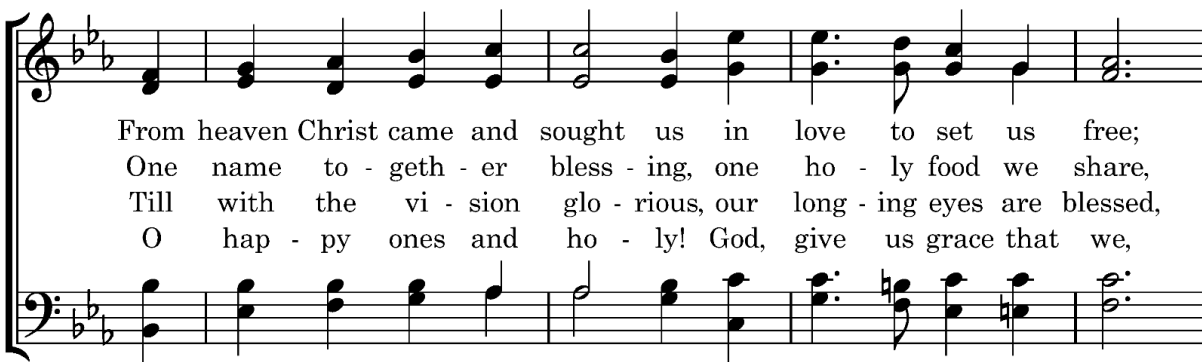
vv. 1 & 2



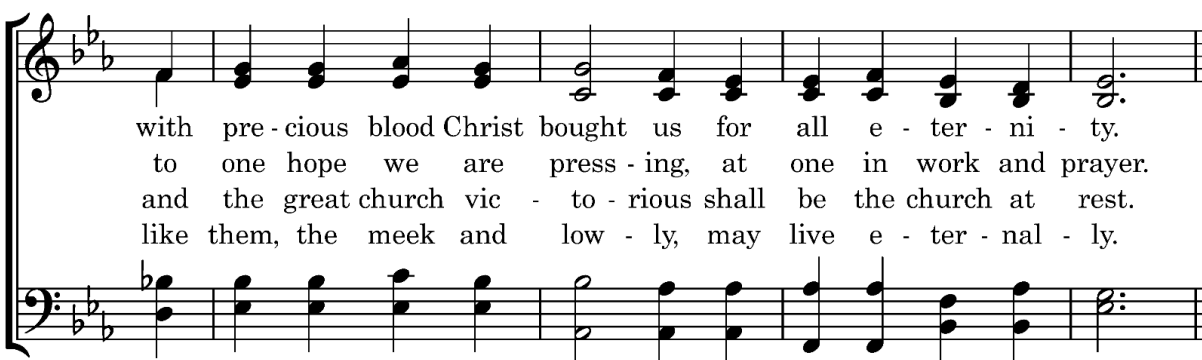
1. The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ our Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of our war,
4. Yet we on earth have un - ion with God, the Three - in - One,



we are Christ's new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
one char - ter of sal - va - tion, one God, one faith, one birth,
we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free;
One name to - geth - er bless - ing, one ho - ly food we share,
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious, our long - ing eyes are blessed,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! God, give us grace that we,



with pre - cious blood Christ bought us for all e - ter - ni - ty.
to one hope we are press - ing, at one in work and prayer.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

SCRIPTURE

David Faulkner

Ephesians 2:15–22

Jesus has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

* 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

The Church's One Foundation
See previous hymn

vv. 3 & 4

SERMON

"Building Temples"

Liz Nickerson

* HYMN

We Would Be Building



1. We would be build - ing; tem - ples still un - done_____ o'er crum - bling
2. Teach us to build; up - on the sol - id rock_____ we set the
3. O keep us build - ing, Sav - ior; may our hands_____ ne'er fal - ter



walls their cross - es scarce - ly lift,_____ wait - ing till love can
dream that hard - ens in - to deed,_____ ribbed with fine steel, both
when the dream is in our hearts,_____ when to our ears there



raise the bro - ken stone,_____ and hearts cre - a - tive
time and change to mock,_____ the un - fail - ing pur - pose
come di - vine com - mands_____ and all the pride of



bridge the hu - man rift._____ We would be build - ing, Ar - chi - tect Di -
of our no - blest creed._____ Teach us to build; O Mak - er, lend us
sin - ful will de - parts._____ We build with you; O grant en - dur - ing



- vine,_____ re - veal the shape of life in your de - sign.
sight_____ to see the tow - ers gleam - ing in the light.
worth_____ un - til your prom - ised realm shall come on earth.

OFFERTORY

Quis et homo
from *Stabat Mater*
(Sung in Latin)

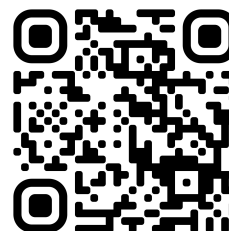
Gioachino Rossini

Nancy Pifer and Nadia Jimenez, sopranos
Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

Who would not weep if he saw the Mother of Christ in such torment?
Where is the one who would not weep to see the Mother of Christ in such suffering?
What soul would not weep if he saw the Mother of Christ in such torment?
Who would not weep to see the Mother of Christ thus, in so much distress?

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

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 blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

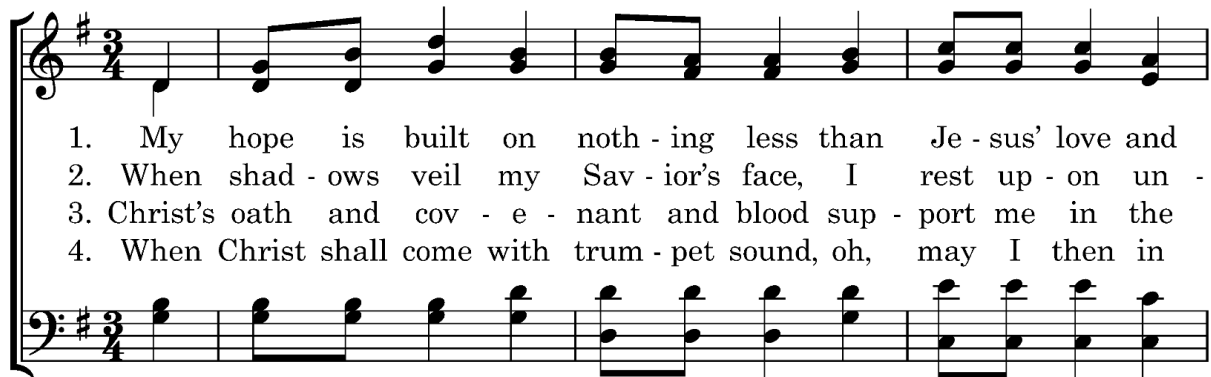
Liz Nickerson

THE LORD'S PRAYER

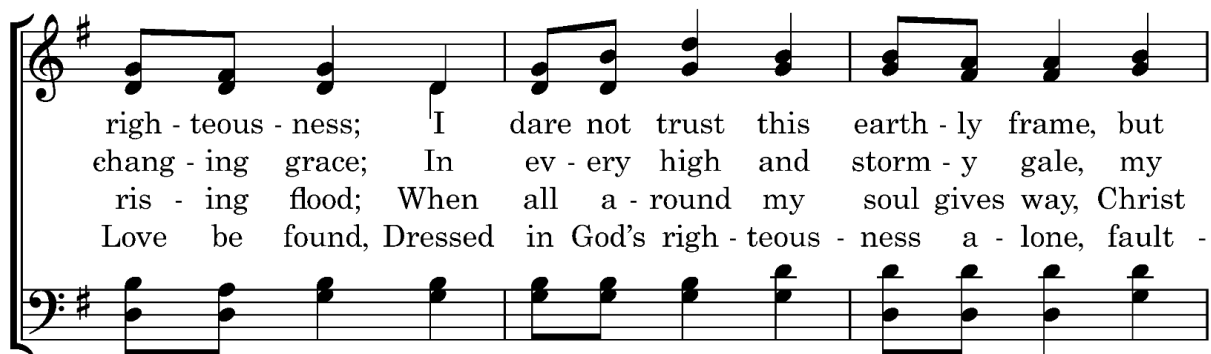
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

* HYMN

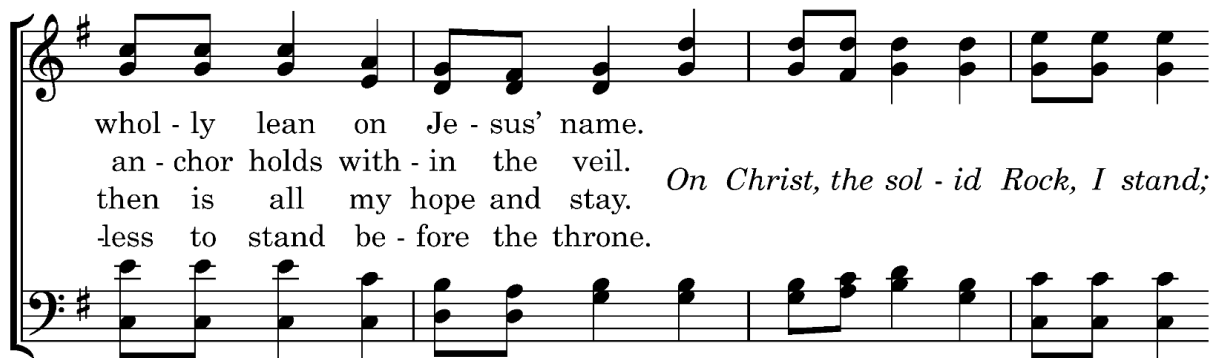
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less




1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' love and
2. When shad - ows veil my Sav - ior's face, I rest up - on un -
3. Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the
4. When Christ shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I then in



righteous - ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but
chang - ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ
Love be found, Dressed in God's right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -



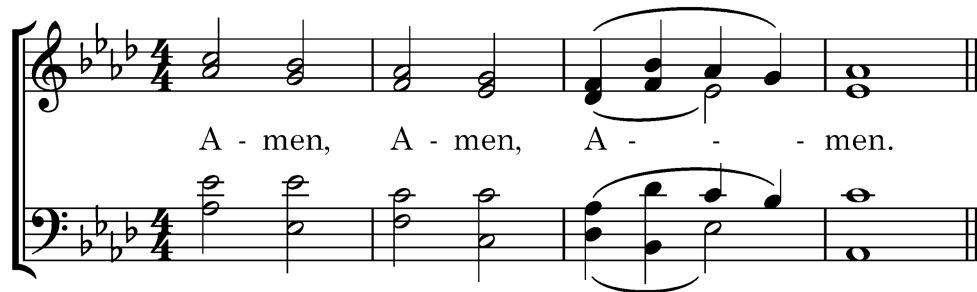
whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an - chor holds with - in the veil. *On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;*
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be - fore the throne.



all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth
St. Arbucks Quartet

Craig Curry

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

Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks in the Social Hall. 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: Liz Nickerson, (Pastor Matt and Pastor Jeff are on vacation today.)

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: David Faulkner

Worship Assistant: Jeff Wagner

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Doug Clark, Fred Pearson

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

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

***A GIFT TO THE CONNECTORS** has been given by Larry Simpson in honor of Mead Gifford.*

BORN THIS WEEK IN AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

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.

Aug. 31 Cecilia Badanes

Sep. 1 Jill Lawrence

Sep. 2 Gretchen Althen, Mary Train

Sep. 3 Erika Keegan, Nana Addadzi-Koom, Natalie Mutch

Sep. 4 Beatrix Kompare

Sep. 5 Brent Bunch, Hayley Leaf, Isaiah Fitzgerald, Tom Stephenson

Sep. 6 Bob Wild, Brian Butler, Greg Pine

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.

- The family and friends of Mead Gifford at his death.
- Julian Jarzebowski and family at the death of his aunt, Danka.
- Michelle Drew Rodriguez at the death of her father.
- Loved ones of Evert Martin at his death.
- Liode, a single mom with two children, and a former student of Deb Bayly, in need of stable housing and a job.
- Doug Dobmeyer's nephew Ben, who was found after he had gone missing and who struggles with mental health issues in Atlanta.
- Kate and Angus Atkins-Trimnell, Pastor Liz's sister and brother-in-law, because Angus' father, Ralph, has entered hospice.
- Sue Derison recovering from her cardiac ablation on August 19.
- Pat Kirby, struggling with an infection at home.
- Those grieving the loss of their loved ones in the Texas flood.
- Donn Schimp and his family as Donn continues cancer treatment.
- Julie Chambers is in the hospital.
- 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

SEPTEMBER 5 – FAITH FAMILY FRIDAY - 6–8 p.m., Social Hall & Gym

Faith Family Fridays are full of fun, fellowship and food with your church family! Join us for a preview of Kickoff Sunday by meeting Sunday School teachers and peers. All ages welcome. Main entree provided by St. Pauls Youth Ministry. Feel free to bring your own beverage, side, or game to share. This event is free, but registration is required for food count. \$10/family suggested donation. Register here: tinyurl.com/4zsmry6u

SEPTEMBER 7 – KICKOFF SUNDAY

Our church year kicks off on Sunday, September 7, and we can't wait to celebrate together! Church School begins, the Chancel Choir returns, and we'll gather for a joyful morning of worship and community. It's sure to be a powerful Sunday you won't want to miss. Be sure to register your children by scanning the QR code so they're ready to join us for an exciting new year of learning and growing in faith.



SEPTEMBER 7– FILL THE SILLS

Let's line our window sills with donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste and gently used totes and/or backpacks to help Common Pantry's efforts to address the challenges that result from economic instability. Please *tote* what you can to church on September 7!

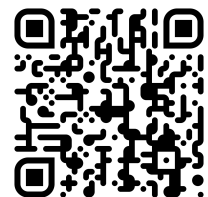
SEPTEMBER 9 – JANE AUSTEN 250 READING GROUP - 7 p.m., Zoom

December 16, 2025, is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. We're reading her six complete novels, one a month, from 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.

Contact: Pastor Jeff. September 9 - *Mansfield Park*; October 14 - *Emma*; November 11 - *Northanger Abbey*; December 16 - *Persuasion*.

OCTOBER 5 – FIESTA FOR FUNDS - 11 a.m., Gym

Join us on October 5 after worship for "Fiesta for Funds," a silent auction to raise funds for our Migrant Legal Fund, along with an all-church potluck. Funds raised will help defray the remaining costs of guiding our sponsored families through the immigration process. Visit tinyurl.com/3tazsjhc or scan the QR code to access the event registration and more information on donating items to the auction. We are seeking auction lots such as gift cards/vouchers, handmade items, event tickets, and more! We hope our whole congregation gets involved in this event!



OCTOBER 19 - VACCINATION CLINIC BY MARIANO'S PHARMACY- 9 a.m., Gym
Vaccinations will be provided by Mariano's pharmacy, including Covid boosters, shingles, pneumonia, and flu shots. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please remember to bring your Covid vaccine card and your Medicare card or insurance card. Registration will be announced soon.

NOVEMBER 9 – PHASE II DEDICATION CELEBRATION

Save the date for Sunday, November 9, when Saint Pauls will dedicate the completed Phase II capital construction project making our entire public church complex accessible and creating an open-air plaza for church services, events, and gatherings. The dedication will take place on the new plaza immediately after the worship service, to be followed by an "Oktoberfest in November" lunch in the gym featuring traditional brats, pretzels, cider, strudel, and (of course!) beer. Come celebrate the results of our congregation's vision and deep generosity—and invite your friends to the open house event to see the "new" Saint Pauls!

NOVEMBER 16 – SAVE LIVES - DONATE AT ST. PAULS BLOOD DRIVE– 8 a.m., Gym
Save the Date to save more lives! Saint Pauls will be sponsoring another blood drive on November 16 and hope you can sign up to donate! And bring friends!

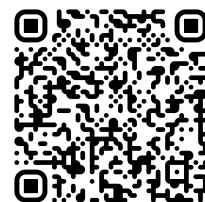
Appointments are encouraged. Your life-saving gift of blood can save up to THREE lives! The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime. Sign up in advance by reserving a time slot via the QR code:



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!



WINDY CITY WINDS OUTDOOR CONCERT – SEPTEMBER 6

Summer is not quite over! Come hear Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band," perform their final FREE outdoor concert of the season, *On Broadway*, on Saturday September 6 at 3 p.m. at the North Center Town Square, 4100 N. Damen Avenue. We'd love to see you there!

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.

NEW SMALL GROUPS! SHORT CIRCLES: REGISTER TODAY

Get Closer to God This Fall! Short Circles are six-session small groups for people who want to grow closer to God with others. In these circles we will connect to God and one another. We will meet for 50-60 minutes once a week for six weeks, beginning the week of September 21 and concluding the week of November 2. Each week your Short Circle will focus on the scripture passage used in worship the coming Sunday, using the ancient method of "lectio divina" or "spiritual reading." The aim is for you to discover what God is calling you to do or to become. Short Circles offer a remarkable opportunity to grow in faith and bond with others. We will offer both in-person and Zoom groups. Register here: tinyurl.com/un8esxmy. Questions? Contact Pastor Matt at mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

WALKING TOUR AND S'MORES ON THE WILD MILE

The Green Team connects St. Pauls with meaningful ecological activities for parishioners of all ages. The Wild Mile uses suspended gardens to revitalize the banks of the Chicago River, providing habitats and increasing the spectrum of native fauna and flora. This site is handicapped accessible.

Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Times: 5:30–6:15 p.m. – Walking Tour

6–8 p.m. – S'Mores Night

Located on the North Branch of the Chicago River, 905 Eastman Street, Lincoln Park (two blocks south of Whole Foods). RSVP at UrbanRivers.org or contact Ninon Freeman for more information.

SHARE THE HARVEST

The Green Team will have a table set up during Social Hour through the fall where extra seeds, plants and herbs can be shared.

DRIVERS/TRANSPORTATION AIDES NEEDED

We need volunteers to drive individuals to church on Sundays or occasional appointments and accompany a congregant to church on Sunday on the Pace bus round trip. This is a great way for you to make a real difference. For details please contact Pastor Liz at lnickerson@spucc.org.

CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are many ways you can serve as a volunteer with the children and youth ministry at events, with Sunday School, and in the nursery. If you love nurturing children, this is a fun way to make a difference! Volunteers complete a background check and always serve in pairs of two, following our child safety policy. 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 nursery childcare slot here: tinyurl.com/2j5dy6fp or contact Pastor Liz at lnickerson@spucc.org to learn more about other opportunities to help.

VOLUNTEER AS A SOCIAL HOUR HOST

Visiting a new church can feel intimidating—especially walking into Social Hour without knowing anyone. We're looking for volunteers to serve as Social Hour hosts. The role is simple: be on the lookout for people you don't know, greet them, and help them feel welcome. They might be new to St. Pauls or simply someone you haven't met yet. Either way, you'll brighten their day and make new friends. You can volunteer once a month, once a quarter, or whenever it works for you. Sign up to host on an upcoming Sunday here: tinyurl.com/3f384fcm.

NEW! BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

We've updated the process! 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.

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. Ready to sign up now? You can do so here: tinyurl.com/3n4jehnn.

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.

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.

LITTLE LIGHTS ENROLLMENT 2025-2026

We are accepting applications for the fall! Flexible class options and days available. 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.

PALESTINE STUDY GROUP

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

LOSS AND GRIEVING DISCUSSION GROUP

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

"HEALING HEARTS" PET SUPPORT GROUP: ST. PAULS PET LOSS COMMUNITY

Are you struggling with losing a beloved furry friend/companion/animal assistant? Losing a pet can be one of the most heart-wrenching experiences in life. At St. Pauls, we understand the deep bond you shared with your beloved pet/family member and we're here to offer support, understanding and a virtual shoulder to lean on. To join, visit tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. Age 18+ only, 30 participants maximum.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

High Impact Behaviors to Reduce Emissions.

The most significant actions individuals can take to reduce carbon emissions are avoiding flying, switching to renewable energy sources, shifting to a vegetarian diet, and relatedly, having a pet that is not a carnivore.

For example, a round trip flight on a 737 from NY to LA, produced more than 1,300 pounds of emissions per passenger, the equivalent emissions to a human eating meat for a year or having a car for three months. Therefore, next time you consider flying, measure out the costs and weigh the alternatives, and if you must fly, consider buying carbon offsets. [Statistics from the UN International Civil Aviation Organization].

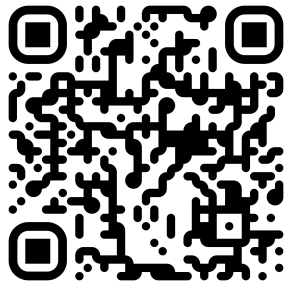
STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS

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.

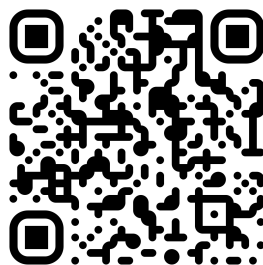
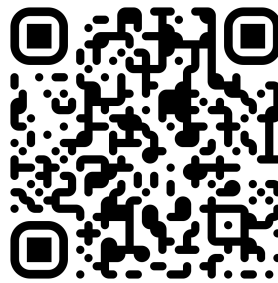
WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

JOIN A GROUP



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT

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

My Lord, What a Morning is another in a long line of stirring African American spirituals. Since there is no attributed composer nor author, we can hypothesize that the words and melody were passed orally from person to person and group to group. It is also likely that this is another profound example of how enslaved blacks imagined a world and time that they would be free by singing in code that their enslavers would misunderstand as only referring to the second coming of Christ.

To You O God All Creatures Sing is a text that was adapted by Sister Miriam Therese Winter (b. 1938). She is a Catholic theologian and 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. We recognize it as the same tune as our *Festival Doxology*.

We Would Be Building employs the tune 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 text is by Purd E. Deitz (1897–1968). Born in Pennsylvania, he became a clergyman in the Reformed Church, which was the original denomination of St. Pauls until 1955 when that was one of the denominations that merged with the Congregational Church to become the United Church of Christ.

Quis et homo is a duet from the oratorio *Stabat Mater* composed beginning in 1831 and completed in 1841 by Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868). Rossini was one of the most active and beloved opera composers in the early Romantic period. In Italy, the style of operas composed by him and two others, Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835) and Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848), were called *Bel canto*, beautiful singing. This style influenced all of Rossini's vocal works including his *Stabat Mater*. *Stabat Mater*, i.e., sorrowful mother, was a 13th century hymn to the Virgin Mary depicting her sorrow at the crucifixion. This text was set numerous times by other famous composers, including Josquin des Prez, Pergolesi, Dvorak, Schubert, Liszt, Verdi, Pärt and Poulenc, to name a few.

The text for ***My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*** was written in 1834 by Edward Mote (1797-1874). British born Mote wrote a number of hymn texts following a spiritual awakening resulting from the preaching of an evangelical preacher. He also authored a number of Christian pamphlets. SOLID ROCK was composed in 1863 by the prolific hymn writer, William Bradbury (1816-1868). He was raised on his

father's farm in Maine, developed a love of music as a child and began playing the organ in church by age 15. Among the best known of his hymns is the children's hymn, *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*.

Craig Curry, who arranged this great hymn tune, ***For the Beauty of the Earth***, is a graduate of Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and the University of Miami. He is an active composer whose arrangements and compositions have been widely performed. In 1838, Conrad Kocher (1786-1872) composed the original tune, DIX. He composed 25 German hymns, among them *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*.

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

Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org

Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, lnickerson@spucc.org

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

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

Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.
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.