



October 12, 2025
Giving Kick-Off

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.*

PRELUDE

Andante espressivo
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

William Walton

INTROIT

O Day of Radiant Gladness
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 92)

One: It's wonderful to give thanks and to sing praises to God.

All: It's wonderful each morning to speak of God's love.

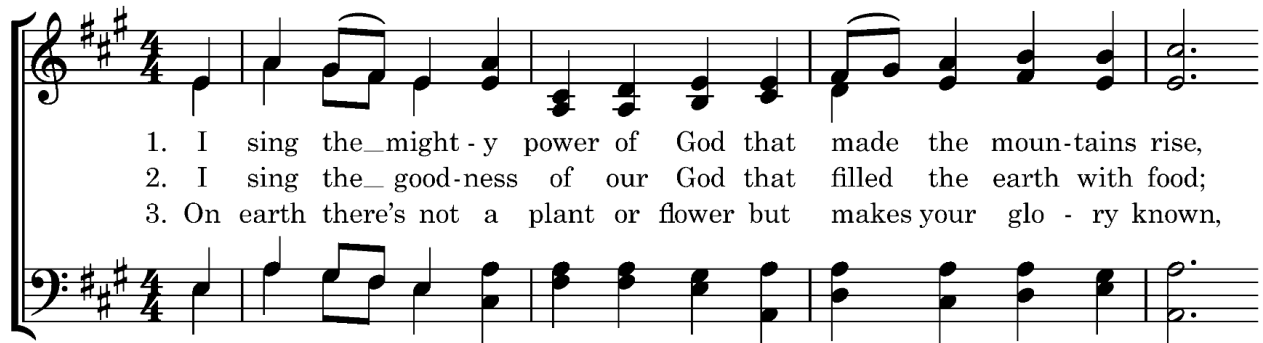
One: It's a joy to praise God with stringed instruments.

All: Let's sing for joy about the good God has done!

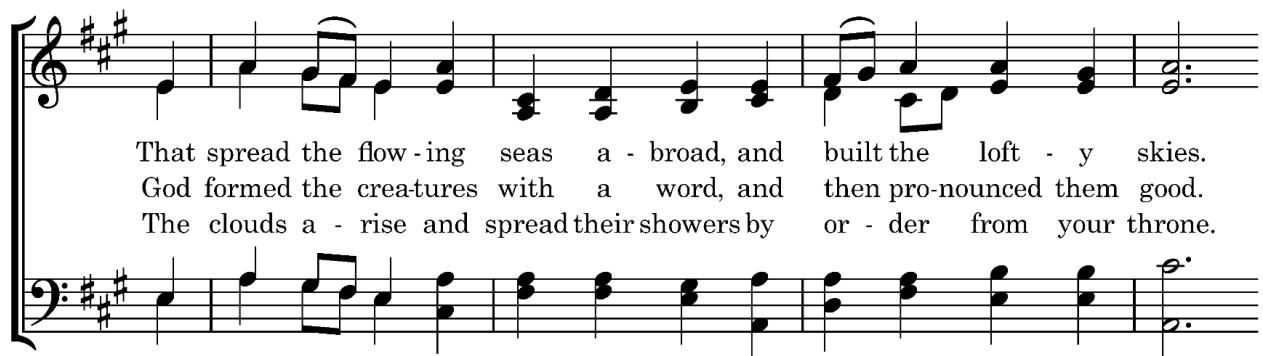
** Please stand if you are able to do so.*

* HYMN

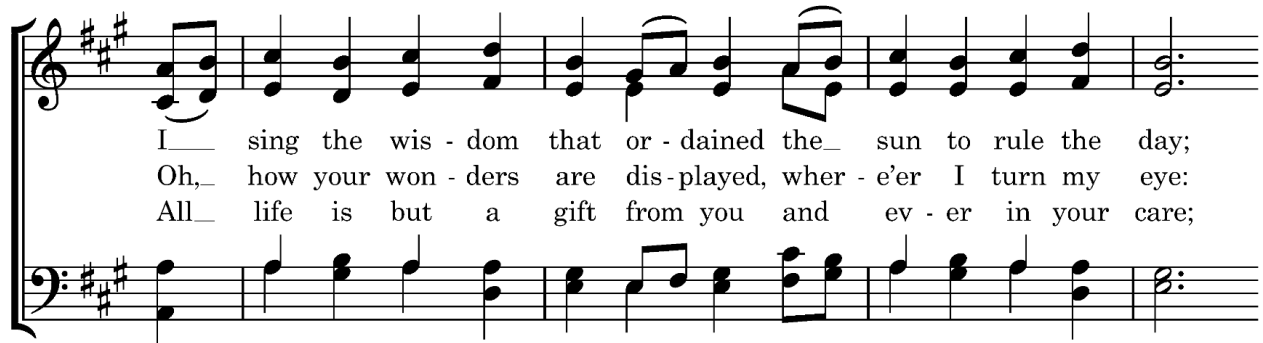
I Sing the Mighty Power of God



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



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



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



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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Faithful God,
When we don't love and serve others,
When we neglect to care for creation,
When we proclaim ourselves and not Jesus,
When we forget to give thanks,
When our lives don't reflect our statement of faith - forgive us.
We trust you to complete within us the good work that you have begun,
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,
2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove



Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness



As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed Thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed— Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

SCRIPTURE

Mark Sancya

Luke 17:11–19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with leprosy approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean.

Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.

Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

* 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

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil - e - ad To make the wound - ed whole,



There is a balm in Gil - e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul.



1. Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged And think my work's in vain,
2. If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you can - not pray like Paul,
3. Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, For_ Je - sus is your friend;



But_ then the Ho - ly Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus, And say, "He died for all!"
And_ if you lack for knowl - edge He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

* HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

1. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voic - es,
 2. O may this boun - teous God Through all our life be near us,
 3. All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,

Who won-drous things hath done, In whom his world re - joic - es,
 With ev - er - joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 The Son, and him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,

Who, from our moth - ers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
 And keep us in his grace, And guide us when per - plexed,
 The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore,

With count - less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
 And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
 For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

GIVING MOMENT: What More Is Saint Pauls Building?

Steve Garrett

OFFERTORY

The Road Home

Stephen Paulus

Nathan Streeter, tenor
Chancel Choir

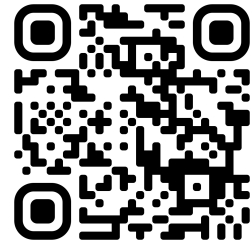
Tell me, where is the road
I can call my own
That I left, that I lost
So long ago?
All these years I have wandered
Oh, when will I know
There's a way, there's a road
That will lead me home

After wind, after rain
When the dark is done
As I wake from a dream
In the gold of day
Through the air there's a calling
From far away
There's a voice I can hear
That will lead me home

Rise up, follow me
Come away, is the call
With the love in your heart
As the only song
There is no such beauty
As where you belong
Rise up, follow me
I will lead you home

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*

A musical score for a four-part doxology. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below each staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final Amen. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be low; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God above, 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! A - men." The music is written in a single system with four staves.

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

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

How Firm a Foundation



1. How_ firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
5. "The_ soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,



by_ God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!
for_ I am your God, I will still give you aid;
the_ riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;
my_ grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
I_ will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



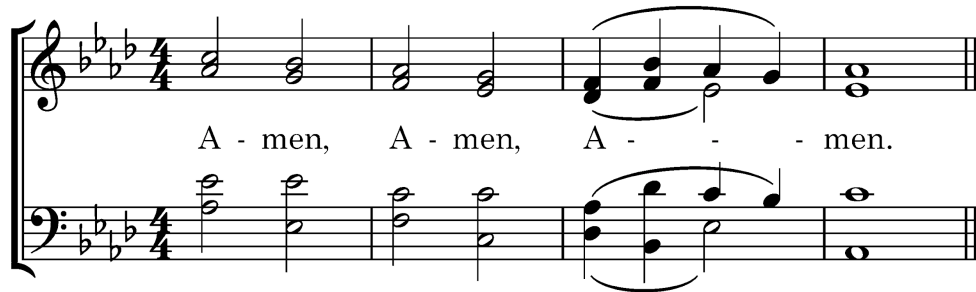
What more can God say than to you has been said,
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand
For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt you; for I have de - signed
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake.



to_ you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."
de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."
your_ soul to make pure just as gold is re - fined."
I'll_ nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Because He Lives!
St. Arbucks Quartet

William and Gloria Gaither

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

- Childcare is available for babies and toddlers up to age 5 during worship from 10 to 11 a.m. downstairs in the Nursery and Toddler Room.
- Activity “busy bags” are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service.
- SUNDAY SCHOOL and CONFIRMATION classes are in session. Students are dismissed with their teachers during the worship service and parents pick up children in their classrooms after the service.
- HIGH SCHOOL class meets on alternating Sundays of the month. Check the High School Group on Church Center for dates. High schoolers meet immediately following the service in Pastor Matt’s Office.
- New visitors with children interested in participating are invited for a meet and greet before worship begins to preview their classroom and meet teachers. Find Erin Fitzgerald or Danielle Mayfield in the main office for a brief tour and to answer any questions you may have.

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: Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson, Liz Nickerson

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: Mark Sancya

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Andre Koepke, Ron Koepke

Greeter: Doug Dunham, Elaine Filus

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

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

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Mark Pellegrino in memory of Betty Pellegrino.

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

SPECIAL DONATIONS:

From Susan Lloyd to the Expand and Elevate Our Openness Campaign in memory of Rebecca M. Blank.

From Karen Schmidt-Hein and Armin Hein in memory of Mead Gifford.

From Char and Larry Damron in memory of Mead Gifford.

BORN THIS WEEK IN OCTOBER

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.

Oct. 12 Jennifer Frei, Shelley Keller

Oct. 13 Julia Brizzolara, Julian Rodriguez

Oct. 14 Trevor Hafner

Oct. 15 Alicia Braun, Andrew Malley, Bennett Roark, Elizabeth Raterman,
Sarah Moulton, Thea Mack, Trevor Sidewand, Wynne Emmrich

Oct. 16 Hannah Barton, Logan Alain Velazco Navarro, Lucille Miller,
Lydia Richardson

Oct. 17 Casey Stulce

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.

You may also share your request at tinyurl.com/3j6sayku.

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.

- Steve Garrett, who has knee surgery on October 15th.
- Loved ones of Evert Martin at his death. An interment service will be held this Wednesday, October 15th, at 3 p.m. in the St. Pauls Memorial Garden.
- Jack and Karen Lyons on the death of Jack's father, Connie Lyons.
- Craig Wilbanks and Monty Kehl on the passing of Craig's father, Rex Wilbanks.
- Meg Tazelaar's grandmother, in her final days of life, for a peaceful passing.
- Grace Stauskas, who is recovering from major surgery on September 25.
- Terry Stumpf, suffering from a pulmonary embolism and other issues.
- Ally S., a college student with double vision and neurological problems.
- Liz Kurman's brother, Fred, healing from injuries after a fall at his home.
- 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, for Angus' father, Ralph, who has entered hospice.
- Karlynn Anderson, a friend of Pastor Liz, who had a heart transplant.
- Pat Kirby, struggling with an infection at home.
- 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.
- Wayne Bradley, pursuing ongoing treatment.

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 – GIVING CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

Help us kick off the 2025 giving season by attending and supporting the beginning of our 2026 Giving Campaign. There will be announcements about the nature and timing of this year's campaign, which will run through the end of December. Our Giving Campaign is separate from the Capital Campaign and supports the Annual Fund of the church in its ongoing operational expenses. Pledges are essential to our ability to know how much funding will come from members and, thus, to create a church budget for 2026. We appreciate your support and involvement in this year's campaign!

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

Join us in preparing meals for the Lincoln Park Community Shelter! We meet in SPUCC's kitchen after the service (lunch) and at 4 p.m. (dinner) on the second Sunday of each month. Come chop, chat, and listen to good tunes as we cook for our neighbors. Church Center registration and contributions are required (\$20). If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up: tinyurl.com/y46tn3pp. Reach out to Evie Kling at eviekling@gmail.com with questions.

OCTOBER 14 – 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 are 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. November 11 - *Northanger Abbey*; December 16 - *Persuasion*.

OCTOBER 18 – HALLOWEEN PARTY OPEN GYM - 10-11:30 a.m., Gym

Kids and their families are invited for a Halloween-themed Open Gym including crafts, games, bounce house, and spooky treats. Show off your costume and join in the fun! Suggested donation \$10/family. Register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y26udjdn>.

OCTOBER 19 – MOMS' GROUP - 9:15-10:15 a.m., Room 028

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.

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. Don’t forget to bring your Covid vaccine card and your Medicare or insurance card! **Register now** at tinyurl.com/kroger-scheduler to book your appointment!

1. **Enter the Benefit Code:** Use **STPUCCVAC25** when prompted.
2. **Select Your Vaccines:** Choose which vaccines you want to receive
3. **Find an Appointment:**
Select **10/19/2025** for the date.
4. **Pick Your Time:** Choose your preferred time slot.
5. **Check Your Eligibility:** Provide your information to confirm eligibility for vaccination.
6. **Patient Details:** Enter your contact, address, and basic info for healthcare records.
7. **Complete Consent:** Finish by filling out and electronically signing the consent form

OCTOBER 28 – FOOD FOR THE SOUL - 12-1:30 p.m., Sanctuary
“Faith Symbols Hidden in Plain Sight.” Discussion facilitated by Larry Simpson. Bring your own lunch. 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.

OCTOBER 29 – BAKE COOKIES FOR A CAUSE - 5:30 p.m., Kitchen
Join us at the next cookie baking event on Wednesday, October 29 at 5:30 p.m. This is an evening of fellowship and fun baking lots of cookies that are donated to LPCS and A Just Harvest. We enjoy dinner as a group and work as a team to bake and pack cookies for these two worthwhile organizations. If you are unable to come on October 29, but would like to contribute home baked cookies, contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com or Gloria Joseph at glrjoseph@yahoo.com.

NOVEMBER 9 – PHASE II DEDICATION CELEBRATION–PLEASE RSVP-11:15 a.m., Courtyard & Gym

RSVP today (or soon!) to join the Sunday, November 9 after-worship dedication and luncheon that will celebrate the completion of our bold capital construction project that has made our entire public church complex accessible and created an open-air plaza for church events and gatherings. We want to have plenty of food and beverages for all, so choose an RSVP method: 1) using this QR code, 2) filling out the RSVP card in today’s bulletin and placing it in the offering plate, OR 3) responding to the email you received this week.



NOVEMBER 16 – SAVE LIVES - DONATE AT ST. PAULS BLOOD DRIVE– 8 a.m., Gym
Save the Date to save more lives! St. 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:



St. Pauls, THANK YOU for all your support at our Fiesta for Funds potluck and silent auction! Whether you brought a dish, made a bid, or more, it was truly a group effort from our whole community. Together, we raised about \$28,000 to pay for legal services benefitting our sponsored families. Thank you also to our planning team: Katie Alrutz, Carrie Bruggers, Sally Fletcher, Peg Wander, Kristy Tavas, Jan Bail and Jenny Benefield.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTERING ST. PAULS BETWEEN 9/15 and 10/22 is OK!

Good news! Our "Expand and Elevate" project is unfolding beautifully. Exterior construction will soon expand to the south end of the courtyard. As a result, our two primary doors will be inaccessible for four weeks. The temporary accessibility entrance on Fullerton for those using walkers and wheelchairs will remain unchanged.

Now through October 22, both the office entrance and the main Sanctuary entrance on Orchard are closed. During this time, we will enter St. Pauls through the Kemper Sanctuary door and through the alley door. The Kemper Sanctuary door is at the corner of Orchard and Kemper. If you get confused, remember that entering the church on Sunday is "OK!" On weekdays and evenings, the alley entrance will be used. This door is equipped with a doorbell, intercom, and camera. After you ring the doorbell, the door will automatically unlock. In the evenings, staff will be nearby to assist when meetings are scheduled. On Sunday mornings, the alley entrance will remain a good way to enter the building. Additionally, the Kemper Sanctuary entrance will be available.

The alley entrance is behind the building. The alley runs east and west parallel to Fullerton, and then doglegs left when it reaches the east end of our building, running north and south along the back of St. Pauls. We can enter the alley via the back of the church parking lot on Kemper or at the alley opening between St. Pauls and the home at 644 W. Kemper.

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 CONCERT SATURDAY EVENING, 11/15

Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band", will present their 10th Anniversary Concert in the gymnasium at St. Pauls UCC on Saturday evening November 15th at 7:30 pm. St. Pauls members Mark and Sarah Mosley will conduct an exciting program of music by Beethoven, John Philip Sousa, British composer Haydn Wood, and American composers Alfred Reed and Fisher Tull. To help celebrate this milestone, 20 former WCW members will join the band for the second half of the concert. Admission is free! Looking ahead, please save Friday evening March 13 and Friday evening May 15 for WCW concerts later this season.

SERVICE OF LAMENT

Difficult times require recognition, all welcome to a prayerful Service of Lament and portions of the Build Our Courage program offered by Mennonite Action to help everyday people process and participate in meaningful ways during these dark times. The full Courage program will be offered in Lombard on Friday evening. Service and highlights are Saturday, October 18th at 7 p.m. at Reba Place Church House, 602 Madison Street, Evanston. For more information, email Pat Ruch pmr.ruch@gmail.com.

LGBTQ "HOLY TROUBLEMAKERS" GALA – OCTOBER 19

All are invited to the LGBTQ-RAN (Religious Archives Network) virtual Gala to celebrate and honor "Holy Troublemakers" - outstanding religious leaders from past decades and a few Holy Troublemakers from today. St. Pauls is a sponsor of this event.

Date & Time: Sunday, October 19 at 5 p.m.

Location: Via Zoom

This event is free, but registration is required. For more information and to register, visit tinyurl.com/mr4afk3y.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Besides the celebration of Reformation Sunday, October is also the time we acknowledge the anniversary of St. Pauls' founding – a double birthday, if you will. St. Pauls traces its beginnings to the arrival of German immigrants to Chicago in the early 1840s. "A man died and a church was born" was the concise way our history was written back then. There was no minister to conduct services in the German language, so an original group of nine men (it was always men in those days) in Spring 1843 organized our church during a meeting in a store on Franklin & Lake Streets. More to come from our history over the next months.

PALESTINE STUDY GROUP

Join us as we discuss the new book *One Day, Everyone Will Always Have Been Against This* by Omar El Akkad. In this accessible and powerful work, a novelist examines the West's response to the destruction of Gaza. Contact David Burnett at burnett.db@gmail.com.

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.

REFUGEEONE

Their Winter Coat and Boot Drive is back! Winter may seem years away given our warm weather lately, but RefugeeOne is already making plans to help their clients with warm winter clothes. There is an Amazon Registry at tinyurl.com/yx8fpyvr that has the items RefugeeOne is looking for. If you're interested in participating, please use this list and have the items shipped directly to RefugeeOne by selecting the *RefugeeOne (Winter Coat Drive)* address when you checkout. Please order your items by Thursday, October, 23, so that RefugeeOne will receive them in time to distribute. Thank you!



NEW MEMBER CLASS – NOVEMBER 16

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: November 16 at 11 a.m. See other upcoming dates here: spucc.org/new_member_classes.

VOLUNTEER AT UCAN FAMILY THANKSGIVING

St. Pauls members are invited to help UCAN celebrate Thanksgiving with its staff and residents. Volunteers will decorate, serve food, play games and clean up. Our support of the event will help UCAN's staff relax and make the event more special, and it will be a wonderful opportunity to connect with the youth they serve. All ages and abilities are welcome. If you are interested, please contact Pauline Taylor at Paulinetaylor933@gmail.com.

YOUTH CHOIRS ARE BACK!

Does your child like to sing? Sign them up for one of our youth choirs! We rehearse Sunday mornings: Kinderchapel Singers (preschool) 9:50-10 a.m., Social Hall. Children's Choir (K-3rd) 9:30-9:55 a.m., Chapel. Paul's People (4-8th) 9:30-9:55 a.m., Parlor. Reach out to Tom Clancy (KS) tm.ferrin@gmail.com, Breanna Coe (CC) breannacoe@gmail.com, or Keci Waldschmidt (PP) keciagerman@hotmail.com for more information. Come make a joyful sound in the city with us!

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.



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.

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.

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 yet met. 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.

ST. PAULS MIGRANT HOUSING PROJECT LEGAL FUND

Saint 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.

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. 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 Saint 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

Caring for Creation and Remembering St. Francis

St. Francis was a 11th century aristocrat who founded the Franciscan order, which emphasizes humility, poverty and a closeness to nature. October 4th was his feast day.

In 2023, the City of Chicago's animal shelter euthanized 2,455 animals. Most days the shelter is full; by April 2025, shelter inhabitants had increased by 20% over 2024.

There are concrete solutions to this heartbreak: 1) increase access to spay and neuter programs; 2) sanction backyard breeding; 3) support low-income animal owners; 4) expand the adoption and fostering pipeline; 5) increase funding and volunteer support.

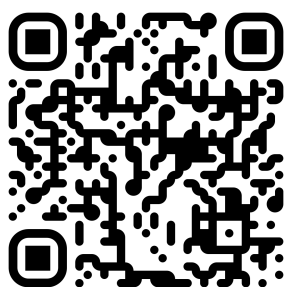
STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS

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.

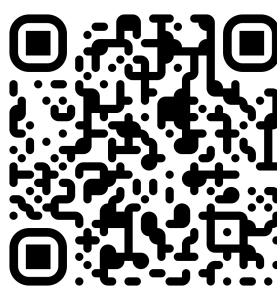
WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

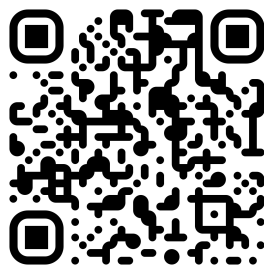
JOIN A GROUP



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

Because He Lives! was jointly composed and text written by William (b. 1936) (music) and his wife Gloria (b. 1942) Gaither. They have been married since 1962 and partners in creating Christian music. Both are singers and often perform together. They have performed their gospel music on TV and revival meetings for many years.

The text, ***O Day of Radiant Gladness***, was composed in 1862 by Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885). He was the nephew of the famous poet William Wordsworth and had a long career as a priest in the Anglican Church. The tune, ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN is a 17th century German folk melody first published in a manuscript found in Memmingen.

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, tune FAITHFULNESS, dates from 1923 and was composed by William M. Runyan (1870-1957). He finished his ministry in Kansas and was particularly fond of the poet Thomas Chisholm (1866-1960), who wrote this text. Runyan set 25 of Chisholm's poems to music. Chisholm based this text on Lamentation 3:22 & 23: *Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed*.

There Is a Balm in Gilead is a Black Spiritual. In the Hebrew Bible, Gilead was the name of the mountainous region east of the Jordan River. This region was known for having skillful physicians and an ointment made from the gum of a tree particular to that area. Many believed this balm had miraculous powers to heal the body. In the book of Jeremiah, God tells the people of Israel that though many believe in the mysterious healing power of this balm, they can't trust in those powers for spiritual healing or as a relief of their oppression. For slaves in our country, crossing the Jordan River was code for escaping their bondage by escaping to the north over such rivers as the Potomac and Ohio.

Now Thank We All Our God is a translation by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) of the original German by Martin Rinkart (1586-1649) written 1636. Winkworth, although born in England, spent many years in Dresden, which is why she was so adept at translating German chorales. She was also a tireless fighter for women's

rights. Rinkart became a scholar at St. Thomas School in Leipzig where Bach would later be Kapellmeister. The tune, NUN DANKET, takes its name from the first words of the German text. It is most often attributed to Johann Crüger (1558-1662), who in reality was the publisher of the psalter where this hymn tune first appeared.

The Road Home was composed in 2001 by Stephen Paulus (1949-2014). He received a commission from the Dale Warland Singers to write a short folksong type arrangement. Paulus fell in love with the tune, PROSPECT, from one of the great American shape-note hymnals of the early 19th century, *The Southern Harmony Songbook*. Paulus composed more than 600 works for choirs, opera, and chamber music and received numerous Grammy nominations and awards. Michael Dennis Browne (b. 1940), a long-time friend and collaborator of Paulus, created three stanzas to fit the melody. Browne was born in England of Irish ancestry and moved to Minnesota in 1965. He is now Professor Emeritus at the University of Minnesota. This anthem was donated to the Chancel Choir by Nancy Pifer in memory of her mom, Dolores Pifer. Dolores was a beloved member of St. Pauls and our tenor section. It is also offered in memory of Oscar, who passed away last week after 18 years and was with Dolores from age 80 through the end of her life. Oscar will be missed by Nancy, Mark, Nadia, and Oliver.

How Firm a Foundation, although of anonymous origin, is a true American hymn first published in Funk's *Genuine Church Music* in 1832. That hymnal is part of what is often referred to as the Sacred Harp, or shape-note hymnal, tradition in our country, which began in the early 19th century. These treasures gained a rebirth during the bicentennial celebrations in 1976. Did you know that before the revival of this tune, FOUNDATION, this text was most often sung to the tune *Adeste Fideles (O Come All Ye Faithful)*? The text is also unattributed, but first discovered by John Rippon (1751-1836), who was an English Baptist clergy. He noted the author as "K."

The ***Andante espressivo*** was composed in 1963 by William Walton (1902-1983). He was one of the most prominent British composers of the 20th century. Among his most recognised works are the oratorio *Belshazzar's Feast* and the stirring march *Crown Imperial*. In 1942, he composed the *Spitfire Prelude and Fugue* dedicated to the RAF and the Spitfire fighter plane they flew. He also composed many film scores.

Joyful Sounds

Enjoy another year of special music during worship services.

Advent/Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 7, 2025

***Magnificat* - John Rutter**

with orchestra in worship

Lenten Cantata

Sunday, March 8, 2026

***Jesu meine Freude* - Bach**

June 13, 2026 - 7 p.m.

***Gospel Mass* - Robert Ray**

A benefit for the National Gospel Music Museum
with Pilgrim Baptist Church, UCAN and St. Sabina Church.
Greater Harvest Missionary Baptist Church
5141 South State Street
Chicago, IL

Mark these dates in your calendar!

ABOUT ST. PAULS

Making a Joyful Sound in the City!

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

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

Most important, during the past 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.