



October 19, 2025
Baptism Sunday

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

Please silence cell phones.

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

PRELUDE

Because He Lives!
St. Arbucks Quartet

William and Gloria Gaither

INTROIT

Morning Has Broken
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Jeremiah 31)

One: In the days of Moses, God wrote his law upon stone tablets.

All: Soon, God will write his love directly on our hearts!

One: Instead of being taught, we will be God's teaching.

All: Soon, we will love God exactly as he loves us!

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

* HYMN

I Will Lift the Cloud of Night



1. I will lift the cloud of night be - fore you, what is
2. With an ev - er - last - ing love I'll love you, though with
3. Al - though Sa - tan in a rage would tear you, and with
4. I will lift the cloud of night be - fore you, I will



wrong I'll make it right be - fore you, all your bat - tles I will
tri - als I will test and prove you, still there's noth - ing that can
ev - ery win - ning art would snare you, yet from youth to your old
make the crook - ed straight be - fore you, I will spread my wings pro -



fight be - fore you, and the high place I'll bring down.
hurt or move you; and the high place I'll bring down.
age I'll bear you and the high place I'll bring down.
-tect - ing o'er you; and the high place I'll bring down.

Refrain



When you walk and lose the way I'll lead you; on the



pro - duce of the land I'll feed you; And a home with - in my heart I'll



deed you; and the high place I'll bring down.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Oh God,
You see us and you know us.
Yet we insist on living as if
we were not porous,
as if our hearts were hidden
from you and one another,
as if the best relationships
were shallow and obstructed.
We withhold forgiveness.
We lie to ourselves.
We hide from you.
Touch our hearts, O God!
Change us!
Write your love upon us.
Amen.**

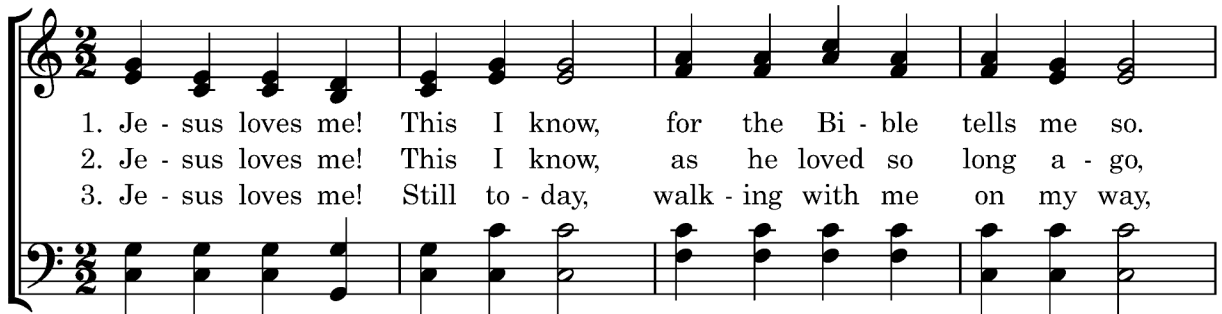
MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me

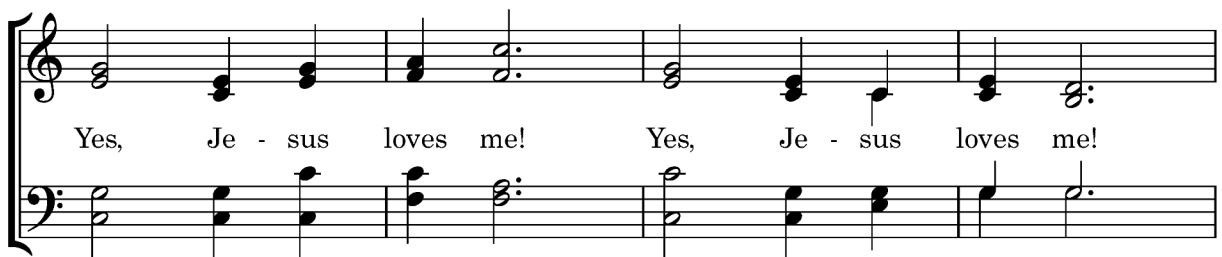
v. 1



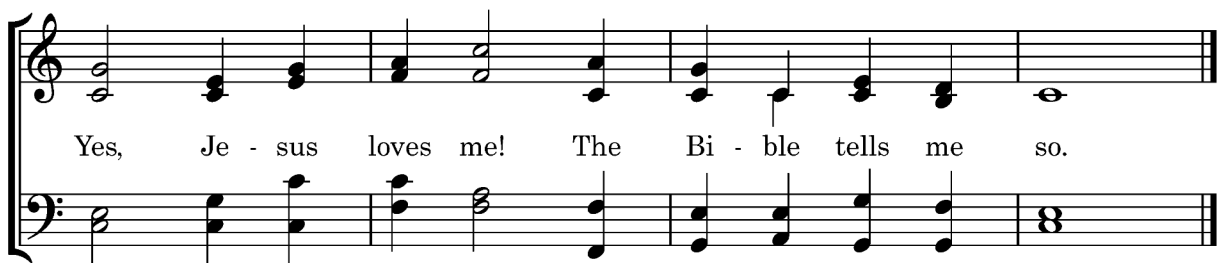
1. Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
2. Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,
3. Je - sus loves me! Still to - day, walk - ing with me on my way,



Lit - tle ones to him be - long; they are weak, but he is strong.
Tak - ing chil - dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."
Want - ing as a friend to give light and love to all who live.



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Luke Albert Plaskota and Luella Storm Sandoval

Pastor Liz: Luke and Luella, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as children of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God.

Pastor: Luke and Luella are now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

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

Pastor Liz: Luke and Luella, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

All: Amen

*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me
See previous hymn

v. 2

SCRIPTURE

Jennifer Kew

Jeremiah 31: 24-16 and 341-34

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Once more they shall use these words in the land of Judah and in its towns when I restore their fortunes:

“The LORD bless you, O abode of righteousness,
O holy hill!”

“I will satisfy the weary, and all who are faint I will replenish.”

Thereupon I awoke and looked, and my sleep was pleasant to me.

“The days are surely coming,” says the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.”

* 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.**

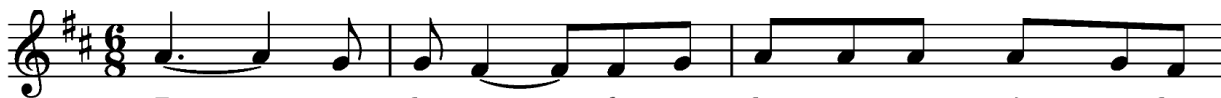
In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

* HYMN

De Colores



1. De _____ co - lo - res, _____ de co - lo - res se vis - ten los
2. Sing _____ of col - ors, _____ sing of col - ors that o - ver the
3. Sing, _____ re - joic - ing! _____ Ev - ery crea - ture that breathes raise a



cam - pos en la pri - ma - ve - ra. _____ De _____ co - lo - res, _____ de co -
hills in pro - fu - sion are spring - ing; _____ Sing _____ of col - ors _____ of the
song to the God of cre - a - tion. _____ Sing, _____ re - joic - ing! _____ Sing to



- lo - res son los pa - ja - ri - tos que vie - nen de a - fue - ra. _____
birds that fly out - side my win - dow their can - ti - cles sing - ing; _____
God who so ear - nest - ly cares, who has of - fered sal - va - tion. _____



De _____ co - lo - res, _____ de co - lo - res es el ar - co
Sing _____ of col - ors, _____ in the rain - bow's bright col - ors God's
Sing _____ the good news! _____ Sing the love of the Sav - ior re -



i - ris que ve - mos sa - lir, _____ Y por e - so los gran - des a -
prom - ise of hope we re - call; _____ Sing of col - ors that make up the
- flect - ing the col - ors of all. _____ Man - y col - ors that shine from God's



- mo - res de mu - chos co - lo - res me gus - tan a mí, _____ Y por
earth and give thanks to the God who cre - at - ed us all. _____ Sing of
face, man - y col - ors that tell us God's love to re - call. _____ Man - y

e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co -
col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the
col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that
- lo - res me gus - tan a mí. _____
God who cre - at - ed us all. _____
tell us God's love to re - call.

SERMON

“No Bible, No Preachers”

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

Jesus Loves Me
See the previous hymn

v. 3

GIVING MOMENT: What More Is Saint Pauls Building?

Lynn Dykstra Davis

OFFERTORY

Psalm 150
Chancel Choir

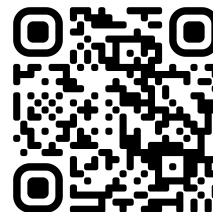
Louis Lewandowski

O praise ye the Lord,
In His sanctuary;
Praise ye the Lord
In the firmament of His power.
Praise ye Him for His mighty acts,
Praise Him for His mighty acts.
Praise ye Him, according to His majesty.

Praise ye Him with the sound of the trumpet
Praise ye Him with the psaltery and harp.
Praise Him with the timbrel.
Praise ye Him with the dance,
Praise Him with the organ and stringed instruments.
Praise ye Him upon the loud cymbals.
Praise ye Him upon the high sounding cymbals.
Let everything that hath breath,
Praise the Lord,
O praise ye the Lord,
In His sanctuary;
O praise ye the Lord
In the firmament of His power.
Praise ye Him for His mighty acts.
Praise ye Him according to His Majesty.
Hallelujah!

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.*

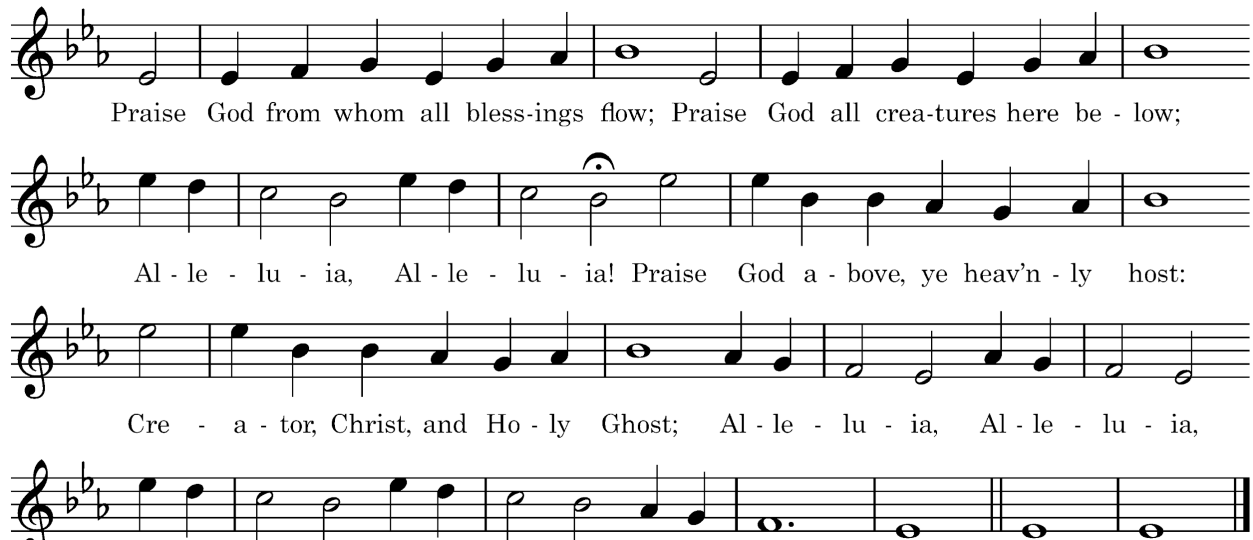


WELCOME CARD

*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



The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. 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 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."

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

What a Covenant

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

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

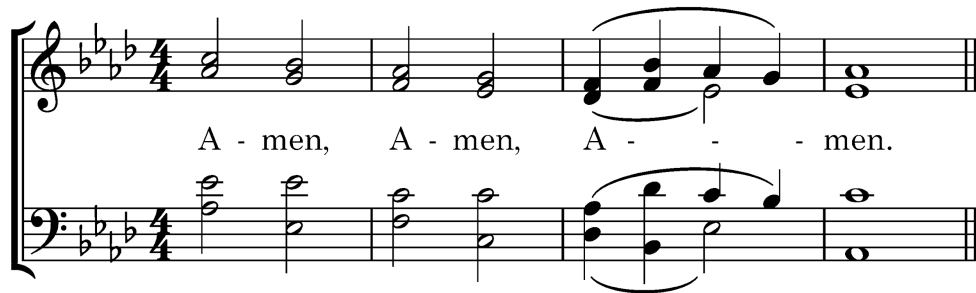
what a peace is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

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

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

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Toccata and Fugue in F, BuxWV 157
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Dietrich Buxtehude

Kris Hansen, member of St. Arbucks Quartet, will be in New York City for the month of October making connections in the music field. He will return in November.

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 Gym.
If you’re visiting, be sure to stop by the Welcome Table so we can greet you and you can find out more about St. Pauls!***

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Jeff Carlson, Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

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

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Scripture Reader: Jennifer Kew

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Jeff Johnson, Fred Pearson

Greeter: Norma Borcharding, Elliott Maschmeyer, Mercedes Ridao

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.

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. 19 Bob Ball

Oct. 20 Jeff Carlson

Oct. 21 Elizabeth Beck, Elsie Bartels, Gloria Joseph, Linda Patton, Mike Lohnes

Oct. 22 Carolyn Grunst, Jack Brizzolara, Jennifer Heiney, Leah Mooney

Oct. 23 Henry Winking, Jack Kahan, Troy Harrington-Meinders, Wendy Love

Oct. 25 Anne Pechnyo, Mary Frances Winking

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.

- Jeffrey Whitridge and Greg Clemons at the death of Jeffrey's brother, Mark.
- Steve Garrett, who had knee surgery on October 15.
- Lorri Wirsum's daughter, Ruby, facing health concerns, and her daughter-in-law Trish on the death of Trish's mother, Sandy Henderson.
- 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.
- A neighbor of St. Pauls struggling with fibromyalgia.
- 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 – MOMS' GROUP - 11:15-12:15 a.m., Room 028

Come learn about a technique called Gentle Parenting and how it can short-circuit children's tantrums. Meet other moms, make new friends, learn from each other, get advice, pray, and get renewed! Each month has a relevant topic on an issue you face as a mom. Free professional childcare is available. Babies can stay with their moms. RSVP to lnickerson@spucc.org.

TODAY – 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 11 – 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. December 16 - *Persuasion*.

NOVEMBER 13 – THE STORY OF PLASTIC (SAVE THE DATE)

Plastics in the environment are one of the most compelling issues of our time. Join Lincoln Park's Green Teams to learn more about the problem and how you can take action.

Time: Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Format: Film plus discussion with Brian Sauder of Faith in Place and Carter O'Brien, Commissioner of the Environment, City of Chicago.

Location: Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 600 West Fullerton Parkway.

Refreshments and snacks will be provided.

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 10/31 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 31, 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!



UCC ILLINOIS CONFERENCE CELEBRATION: OCTOBER 30- NOVEMBER 1

With the theme "For Such a Time as This: Faith in the Time of Upheaval," the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC) will conduct its Annual Celebration October 30 - November 1 at First Congregational UCC in Dekalb, Illinois. The gathering promises inspiring worship, workshops, fellowship and visioning for the future of the church. This will be Rick Peterson's last year of service as the St. Pauls Lay Delegate to the Illinois Conference; please contact him if you would be interested in this or other positions within the UCC.

CTS CELEBRATES 170 YEARS OF ACTION

In 1855, the United Church of Christ-related Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS) was established by Congregationalists in the boomtown of Chicago. Innovative and activist from the beginning, it was formed to bring and support churches in the "west" and to promote the abolition of slavery. In recent years, distinguished CTS graduates at St. Pauls include Revs. Tom Henry, Avena Ward and Jeff Carlson, as well as Colleen Henry. St. Pauls members who have served as trustees include Dave Bueschel, Jana O'Brien, Rick Peterson and Ted Tetzloff. St. Pauls continues to support CTS financially with an annual gift from our Activism and Advocacy Ministry. Congratulations to CTS as it continues to reimagine and transform religious education and society in the real world.

WINDY CITY WINDS CONCERT SATURDAY EVENING, 11/15

Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band", will present its 10th Anniversary Concert in the gymnasium at St. Pauls UCC on Saturday evening, November 15 at 7:30 p.m. 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.

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.

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/yx8fpvyvr 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 – NOVEMBER 26

St. Pauls members are invited to help UCAN celebrate Thanksgiving with its staff and residents. We'll meet on Wednesday, November 26 from 3-7 p.m. 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.

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.



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 Kecia Waldschmidt (PP) keciagerman@hotmail.com for more information. Come make a joyful sound in the city with us!

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

Microplastics and Heat: Plastics are a ubiquitous part of our lives, particularly in food storage. When used, plastic breaks down into small parts, or microplastics, and contaminates the environment or are ingested.

“Microplastics are released by exposure to heat...Pour coffee into a plastic foam cup and pieces will leach out into the coffee itself...”

The leaching of particles is even stronger in plastics that are older and degraded. This is due to the fact that when plastic is exposed to heat, the polymers break down into smaller pieces through the vibrations in the polymer chain caused by heat.

To decrease ingesting microplastics, do not store hot food in plastic containers and above all, do not reheat food in plastic. This is particularly important for babies and children. Instead, use porcelain and heat resistant glass.

“Microplastics are everywhere...” Washington Post, October 13, 2025.

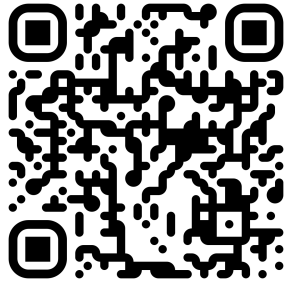
STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS

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.

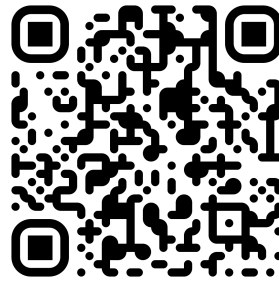
WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

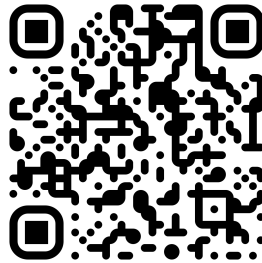
JOIN A GROUP



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 are partners in creating Christian music. Both are singers and often perform together, having performed their gospel music on TV and revival meetings for many years.

The text for ***Morning Has Broken*** was written by Elinor Farjeon (1881-1965), who also wrote children's books. The tune, BUNESSAN, that we know so well is a Gaelic melody.

I Will Lift the Cloud of Night was composed and written by Charles P. Jones (1865–1949) in 1910. The tune is the composer's last name, JONES. The Reverend Jones was African American and founder of the Church of Christ. He composed more than 1,000 gospel hymns, both music and texts.

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know is one of the first hymns many children learn. The words, both simple and profound, were written in 1859 by Anna Bartlett Warner (1824-1915). Born in New York City, she wrote many hymn texts and collaborated with her sister Sarah on novels. The composer of the tune, JESUS LOVES ME, was William Bradbury (1816–1868), who penned this sweet melody in 1861. He also composed the famous hymn, *Just As I Am*.

De colores is a folk song from the rich resources of Mexican music. It gained wide popularity when it was sung at meetings and marches of the United Farm Workers. Our *New Century Hymnal* was the first to share it with a wider audience; however, the translation is unattributed.

Psalm 150 was set in 1871 by Louis Lewandowski (1821-1894). Originally, the text was in Hebrew. Born in Poland, he moved to Berlin after his mother's death because of the family's extreme poverty. He was aided by Alexander Mendelssohn, cousin of Felix. The first Jew admitted to the Berlin Academy of the Arts, he decided to devote his life to composing music for the synagogue after recovering from serious health problems. He was in the forefront of the growth of Reform Judaism. In 1882, he wrote the first complete setting of the Jewish Sabbath liturgy for cantor, four part choir and organ.

E.A. Hoffman (1839-1929) wrote the text for ***What a Covenant*** in 1877. Many of us learned that hymn as *What a Fellowship*. An ordained minister, he wrote more than 2,000 gospel songs during his lifetime. The tune bears two names, LEANING, which

is the first word of the refrain, and SHOWALTER in honor of the composer, A. J. Showalter (1858-1924). He actually began teaching shape-note singing at age 14. He attended a number of private Christian music programs to learn his craft.

The *Toccata and Fugue in F Major*, BuxWV 157 was composed by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637?-1707). Buxtehude's music and his skill as an organist had a profound effect on Bach. A true story is that Bach, age 20, walked (!) nearly 250 miles from Arnstadt to Lübeck just to hear and work with Buxtehude. That would be like walking from St. Pauls to Toledo, Ohio.

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.