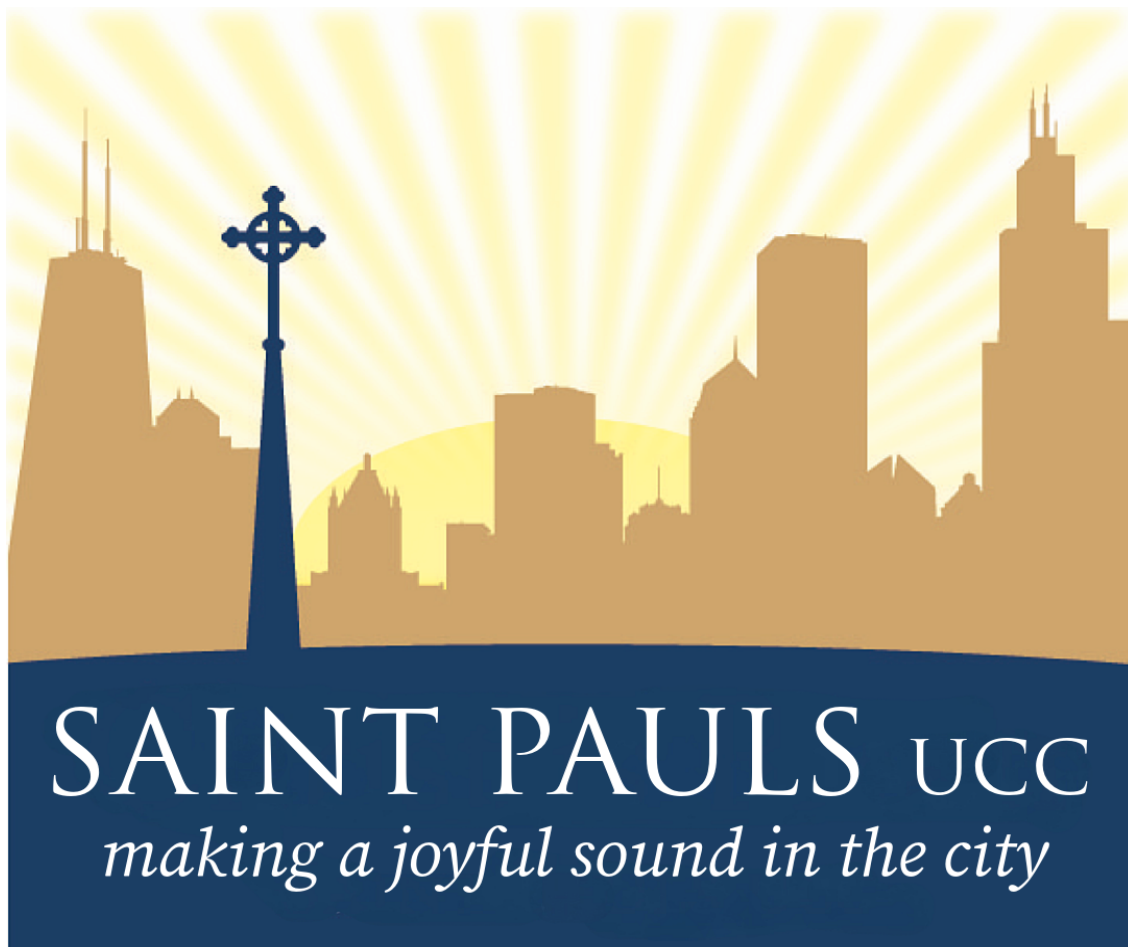




November 16, 2025
How Sweet the Sound

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

"Every nation, every human being that came across earth had a song and sang in some way to their God."

"I sat down at the piano and my hands began to browse over the keys. Then something happened. I felt as though I could reach out and touch God. I found myself playing a melody, one I'd never heard or played before, and words came into my head - they just seemed to fall into place ..."

-Thomas A. Dorsey

PRELUDE

Symbiosis
St. Arbucks Quartet

Kris Hansen

INTROIT

This Little Light of Mine
Kinderchapel Singers
Tom Clancy, guitar and director

Black American Spiritual

Ruth Bryant

Carson Honaker

Catalina Smedley

Ariadne Casady

Benjamin Massanek

Hattie Ward

Willow Clancy

Theodore Massanek

Spencer Ward

Jack Dana

Louis Mickelsen

Emily Wood

Isabelle DeMonte

Lucia Piazza

Ryan Wood

Eloise Fromm

Sully Simon

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

CHIMES

* ANTHEM

Glory, Glory African American Gospel
Kecia Waldschmidt, soloist arr. Harriet Ziegenhals
Combined Choirs and St. Arbucks Quartet

Glory, glory, Hallelujah,
Since I laid my burden down.
I feel better, so much better,
Since I laid my burden down.
Glory, glory . . .

I'm going home to live with Jesus,
Since I laid my burden down.
Glory, glory . . .

WELCOME

Kurt R. Hansen

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come to you God knowing that we'll feel better.

All: So much better. Hallelujah!

One: Help us to lay our burdens down so we'll feel better.

All: So much better. Hallelujah!

One: By raising our voices in praise together we know that we'll feel better.

All: So much better. Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

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

* HYMN

Rock of Ages

1. Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide; my shel - ter be!
2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill your law's de - mands;
3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to your cross I cling;
4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my eyes shall close in death,

Let the wat - er and the blood, from your wound - ed side which flowed,
Could my zeal no re - spite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked come to you for dress; help - less, look to you for grace;
When I soar to worlds un - known, meet you at your judg - ment throne,

Be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
All for sin could not a - tone; you must save, and you a - lone.
Stained, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die!
Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide; my shel - ter be!

CALL TO PRAYER

Sweet Hour of Prayer
Pastor Jeff Carlson, harmonium

verses 1 & 2

1. Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
2. Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
3. Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear

and bids me at my Ma - ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.
of those whose anx - ious spir - its burn with strong de - sires for your re - turn!
to One whose truth and faith - ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.

In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,
With them I has - ten to the place where I would know my Sav - ior's face,
And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,

and oft es - caped the tempt - er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!
And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!
I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liz Nickerson

**God, you are our Rock,
But too often we treat your care like an annoying pebble.
Help us to know and seek shelter in your love
 Shelter from stress
 Shelter from guilt
 Shelter of peace
Let us see your door is always open,
 Your arms spread wide to receive us
 We only need to walk in to your loving embrace.
We pray for peace in our homes,
 in our city,
 in our country,
 And, please Lord, in our world.
We ask humbly to be made joyful instruments of your peace.
Open our souls through singing today and crack open our hearts.
Open us so we can let our little lights shine to your GLORY.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

Sweet Hour of Prayer
See previous hymn

verse 3

ANTHEM

Get On Board, Little Children

Black American Spiritual

Children's Choir

arr. Greg Gilpin

Breanna Coe, director

Ross Penniman, piano

Sean Banjavcic

Magnolia DeMonte

Nora Penniman

Charlie Coe

Juniper Fletcher

Josiah Smedley

The gospel train's a-comin'
I hear it just at hand,
I hear the wheels a-rumblin',
And rollin' through the land.

Get on board, little children.
There's room for many-a more!

Rumble, rumble, clickety, clickety,
Rumble, rumble, whoosh!

I hear that train a-comin',
She's comin' round the curve.
She's loosened all her steam and brakes
And strainin' ev'ry nerve.

The fare is cheap and all can go.
The rich and poor are there.
No second class aboard this train,
No diff'rence in the fare.

Get on board, little children.
There's room for many-a more!

Rumble, rumble, clickety, clickety,
Room for many-a more! Whoosh!

SCRIPTURE

Todd Coe

The Message

Psalm 98: 1, 5-9

Sing to God a brand-new song.
He's made a world of wonders!
He rolled up his sleeves,
He set things right.

Shout your praises to God, everybody!
Let loose and sing! Strike up the band!

Round up an orchestra to play for God,
Add on a hundred-voice choir.

Feature trumpets and big trombones,
Fill the air with praises to King God.

Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause,
With everything living on earth joining in.

Let ocean breakers call out, "Encore!"
And mountains harmonize the finale—

A tribute to God when he comes,
When he comes to set the earth right.
He'll straighten out the whole world,
He'll put the world right, and everyone in it.

*** 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)

ANTHEM

Sisi Ni Moja
(We Are One)

Pauls People

Kecia Waldschmidt, Director

Jacob Narverud

James Mix*
Mabel Fletcher*
Brooke McGuire*
Toby Smedley*

Lee Waldschmidt*
Cece Chamberlain*
Deirdre McGrath*
Thomas Mix

Thea Mack
Clara Wahlstrom
*soloists

We all laugh, we all cry
We all feel hunger, we all feel pain
We all love, we all hate
We all hope, and we all dream

We are one world, one people
And we all breathe the same
A tribe of many languages
A group of many heartaches
Fighting for peace among the land

Heja, heja, sisi ni mojah
Heja, heja
We are one

We all want, we all need
We all seek passion, we all seek joy
We all bruise, we all scar
We all fail, but learn to thrive

We are one world, one people
And we all breathe the same
In the darkness of the night
And in the glory of the morning
We walk along the path and find our way

Heja, heja, sisi ni mojah
Heja, heja

Now we stand here together
And lift our hearts in song
To the rhythm of this moment in our lives

Heja, heja, sisi ni mojah
Heja, heja
We are one

* HYMN

In My Heart There Rings a Melody

1. I have a song that Je - sus gave me, It was sent from heav'n a -
2. I love the Christ who died on Cal - v'ry, For He washed my sins a -
3. 'Twill be my end - less theme in glo - ry, With the an - gels I will

- bove; There nev - er was a sweet - er mel - o - dy, 'Tis a
- way; He put with - in my heart a mel - o - dy, And I
sing; 'Twill be a song with glo - rious har - mo - ny, When the

mel - o - dy of love.
know it's there to stay. In my heart there rings a mel - o - dy, There
courts of heav - en ring.

rings a mel - o - dy with heav - en's har - mo - ny; In my heart there

rings a mel - o - dy. There rings a mel - o - dy of love.

GIVING MOMENT: What More is Saint Pauls Building?

Eithne McMenamin

OFFERTORY

The Battle of Jericho

Black American Spiritual

Chancel Choir

arr. Moses Hogan

Joshua fit the battle of Jericho
And the wall come tumbalin' down

Talk about your kings of Gideon,
Talk about your men of Saul,
But none like good old Joshua,
At the battle of Jericho. That mornin'...

Joshua fit the battle....

Right up to the walls of Jericho,
He marched with spear in hand.
"Go, blow that ramhorn!" Joshua cried,
'Cause the battle am in my hand. God almighty..
Then the lamb, ram, sheep horns begin to blow,
And the trumpet begin to sound.
Joshua commanded the children to shout!
And the walls come a-tumbalin's down.
Oh lord you know that...

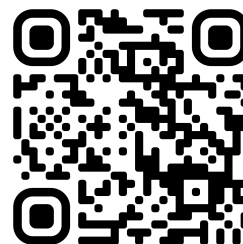
Joshua fit the battle....

You can give to St. Pauls electronically:

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.



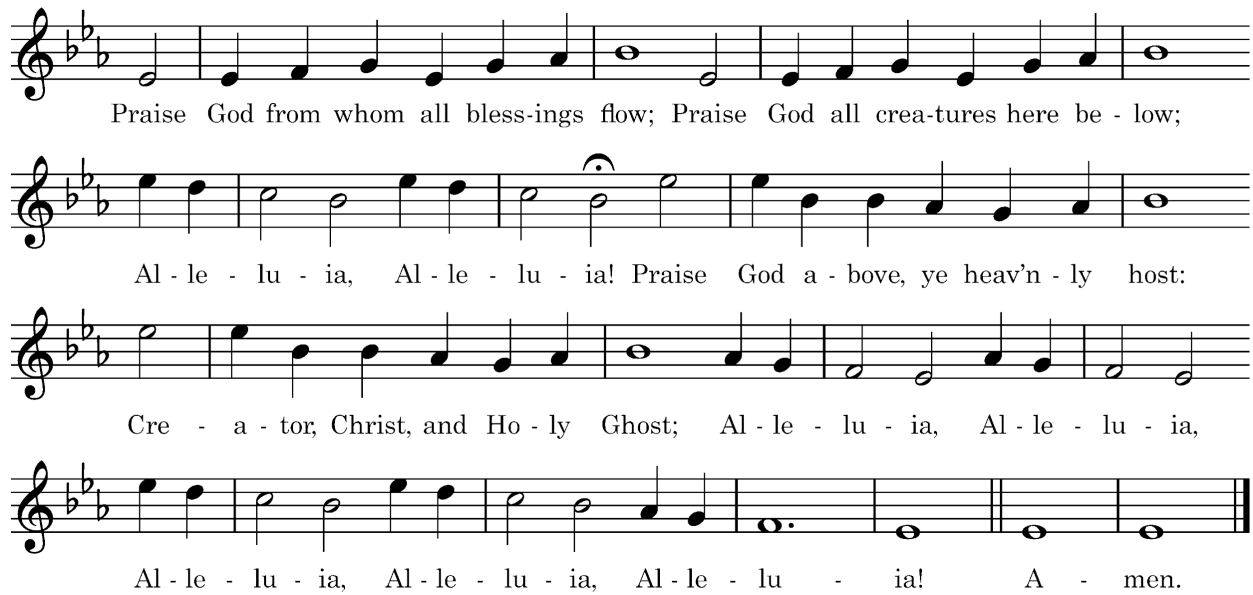
WELCOME CARD

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

*If 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

Matt Fitzgerald

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

* HYMN

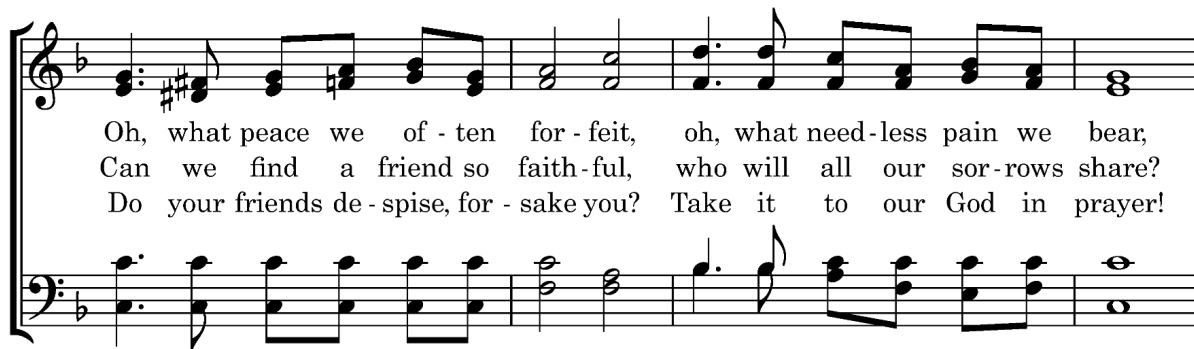
What a Friend We Have In Jesus



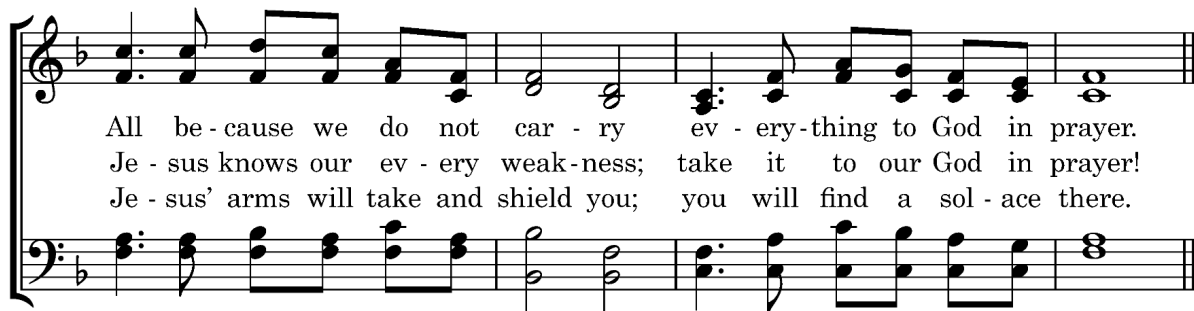
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, bur - dened with a load of care?



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



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



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

* BENEDICTION

Jeff Carlson

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

This Little Light of Mine

Africa American Spiritual

Kris Hansen, soloist

arr. Sam Hill

Combined Choirs and St. Arbucks Quartet

Refrain - This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3 times)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine. (3 times)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All around the neighborhood. I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse - On Monday he gave me the gift of love,

On Tuesday peace came from above,

On Wednesday he told me to have a little more faith,

On Thursday gave me a little more grace,

On Friday he told me to watch and pray,

On Saturday told me just what to say,

On Sunday he gave power divine,

Just to let my little light shine.

Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse - Some say the time's too late,

This old world's in a sorry state,

We've got another story;

We say the world is bound for glory.

There's a little whitedove, a-flying in the blue,

Gonna show what power of love can do.

Where there's a dark corner in this world,

I'm gonna let my little light shine.

Refrain...

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: Kurt Hansen, Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

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: Todd Coe

Giving Moment Speaker: Eithne McMenamin

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Fred Pearson, David Faulkner

Greeters: 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.

SPECIAL DONATIONS:

The Sexton Music Fund was made in memory of Margaret Canisius Peters by her grandniece, Barb Nagy.

The Sexton Music Fund was made in memory of Pattie O'Rielly Miller by her husband, Jim Miller.

BORN THIS WEEK IN NOVEMBER

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.

Nov. 16 Brent Mix, Matt Nickerson, Maura Workman-Mandell

Nov. 17 Matt Leimann

Nov. 19 Laura Hochuli

Nov. 20 David Brown, Penelope Patton

Nov. 21 Aidan Ritchie, Ruth Bryant

Nov. 22 Mitch Holzrichter

Nov. 23 Andrew Broderick, Cale Roschen, Tom Hanson

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.

- Families undergoing treatments for infertility.
- Prayers for Rick Sensenbrenner's mother, Marie, as she navigates various health conditions.
- The Camp Mystic families who are suffering unimaginable loss from the July 4th floods.
- Peace for all of God's children.
- Jeffrey Whitridge and Greg Clemons at the death of Jeffrey's brother, Mark.
- Lorri Wirsum's daughter, Ruby, facing health concerns, and her daughter-in-law, Trish, on the death of Trish's mother, Sandy Henderson.
- Meg Tazelaar at the death of her grandmother.
- A neighbor of St. Pauls struggling with fibromyalgia.
- Ally S., a college student with double vision and neurological problems.
- 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.
- Donn Schimp and his family as Donn continues cancer treatment.
- Dianne Witkowski, as she deals with cancer chemotherapy.
- That we each find our role, our voice, in bringing peace forward.

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.

THROUGH THE HOLIDAY SEASON

We are going to “Fill the Sills” throughout the holiday season. Common Pantry has requested:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| ✓ protein | ✓ dish soap | ✓ spices & herbs |
| ✓ diapers (adult and child) | ✓ bath soap | ✓ cooking oil |
| ✓ wipes | ✓ coffee | ✓ shopping bags with handles |
| ✓ feminine hygiene products | ✓ kids snacks | ✓ salt and pepper |

To donate directly to the Common Pantry, go to www.commonpantry.org/.



UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY – SAVE LIVES - DONATE AT ST. PAULS BLOOD DRIVE– 8 a.m., Gym

Save more lives! St. Pauls is sponsoring another blood drive today and hope you can donate! And bring friends! 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. Walk-ins welcome.

TODAY – NEW MEMBER CLASS, 11 a.m. , Oscar Mayer Room

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. See upcoming dates here: spucc.org/new_member_classes.

NOVEMBER 18 – FOOD FOR THE SOUL - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall

Discussion facilitated by Pastor Liz Nickerson; 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. Bring your own lunch. Childcare provided.

NOVEMBER 25 & 26 – THANKSGIVING BREAK PLAY DAYS - 9 a.m.-12 pm., Gym

No school? No problem! We've got you covered. Little Lights teachers are hosting Play Days on Monday and Tuesday mornings during Thanksgiving Break. Open to the community: siblings, alumni, friends, etc. \$55/day, snack provided, 10% sibling discount. Advance registration required. Registration closes November 20. For more details and to register visit here: tinyurl.com/4dpxraj.

NOVEMBER 26 – VOLUNTEER AT UCAN FAMILY THANKSGIVING- 3-7 p.m., 3605 W. Fillmore St.

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.

NOVEMBER 27 – FRIENDSGIVING - 3-6 p.m., Social Hall

Everyone is invited to St. Pauls' first all-inclusive "Day of Friendsgiving" on Thanksgiving Day! Food ~ Fellowship ~ Games! Chiefs/Cowboys on TV, Optional all-age games including Gobble Up Mad Libs, Roll-a-Turkey, Gratefulness Game, Count Your Blessings, Thanksgiving Pictionary, Football Bingo, Pass the Turkey. St. Pauls will provide the turkey, coffee, lemonade and attendees provide the rest of the meal. Sign up on Church Center at tinyurl.com/3fafmd9t. Wendelin will follow up about your potluck item to avoid duplicates. Questions? Contact Wendelin(Lin) at wendelin@wendelindunlap.com.

DECEMBER 10 – LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS CONCERT - 5 p.m., Sanctuary

Our Little Lights students take the spotlight on Wednesday, December 10, as each class performs two songs. This brief show concludes with a group sing-a-long and a hot cocoa bar to celebrate. Get ready to see some stars in action as our littlest ones embody the heart of the Christmas spirit.

DECEMBER 13 – COOKIES WITH SANTA - 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Gym

Join us at St. Pauls for our annual Cookies with Santa event. It is a festive time full of music, cookie decorating, crafts, hot chocolate, and pictures with Santa! This event features live music provided by the Windy City Winds that is guaranteed to get everyone in the holiday spirit! To help plan our cookie count, please register here for this free event: tinyurl.com/3mkn4k53.

DECEMBER 14 – LUNCH MAKING FOR LPCS - 11:15 a.m., Kitchen

Right after church, come to SPUCC's kitchen and help make sack lunches for the residents of Lincoln Park Community Services. We provide all the needed food, but volunteers are asked to contribute \$25 each to help cover food costs for the lunches. Donations can be made via cash, Venmo, or Zelle. We're typically done by 12:15 p.m. If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up: tinyurl.com/e4m9v9zz

DECEMBER 14 – DINNER MAKING FOR LPCS - 4 p.m., Kitchen

Join us in preparing and delivering dinner for residents of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. We meet at SPUCC at 4 p.m. and deliver the meal to LPCS (600 W. Fullerton) around 6 p.m. We provide the needed food, but volunteers are asked to contribute \$25 each to help cover food costs for the dinner. Donations can be made via cash, Venmo, or Zelle.

If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up: tinyurl.com/5dmys5hc

DECEMBER 16 – JANE AUSTEN 250 READING GROUP - 7 p.m., Zoom

December 16, 2025 is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. We'll be discussing her last-published novel, *Persuasion*. Discussion over Zoom. Sign up to participate here: tinyurl.com/yez6ejw6. Contact: Pastor Jeff.

DEDICATION/OKTOBERFEST THANKS!

Thanks to all who helped make the November 9 Phase II Dedication a huge success, from our pastors and staff to Alderman Timmy Knudsen to Rev. Mary Stainton to the streaming/audio experts to the Chancel Choir to the volunteers who led us and fed us so well. Shout-outs to Lorne Frank and Greg Basil for leading the lunch team that included Scott Banjavcic, Lois Basil, Deborah Bayly, Andrew and Adrian Broderick, Carrie Bruggers, Nathan Chamberlain, Todd Coe, Char Damron, David Faulkner, Brandon Fletcher, Marcia and Margot Frank, Ninon Landaverry Freeman, Jeff Johnson, Barb Kaiser, Jen Kew, Pat Kirby, Kelly Martin, Jana O'Brien, Wayne Parman, Pat Ruch, Ashley Saluga, and Michael Sanders. And endless thanks to the Capital Campaign Committee and Council members from 2016-25, Wheeler Kearns Architects, Bulley & Andrews and the nearly 400 generous donors who shepherded Phase II to a wondrous reality!

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!



TOTENFEST MEMORIALS – NOVEMBER 23

Totenfest will be Sunday, November 23. During worship, we will give thanks for the lives of the members and friends of our congregation who died during the past year. Totenfest is a German word meaning “Festival of the Dead.” You can make a memorial gift honoring a loved one online at the link below, or by any of our other giving methods. Please complete the Totenfest Dedication Form at spucc.org/totenfest-form and submit your gift using the link provided in the form **by tomorrow, Monday, November 17.**

ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED

The Advent Market is on Sunday, December 14, and will help fund our outreach and benevolence to provide legal support for our migrant family friends and church members. We need new or gently used items such as jewelry, candles, frames, handmade items, Christmas decorations, toys, etc. (Please, no clothing unless it is holiday specific.) Drop-off dates are **December 6:** 9 a.m. -12p.m., **December 7:** 9 a.m.-12 p.m., **December 12:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and **December 13:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Questions, please text or email Carrie Bruggers at (773) 294-4446 or crbruggs@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.



NOVEMBER BLAST FROM THE PAST

Did you know that the people of St. Pauls have founded several other organizations doing good work in our city? Many of you know UCAN, which St. Pauls founded to care for Civil War orphans and is still working for today's youth. The next generation, wanting to do something for the elderly, founded St. Pauls House, "A Churchly Home for the Aged." Our members were there for the founding of the Common Pantry, the Night Ministry and Lincoln Park Community Services, organizations we continue to support today with our time, talent and treasure. What's next?

UCAN HOLIDAY GIFT TRAIN

This holiday season, the Advocacy and Activism committee is gearing up to help St. Pauls join UCAN's Gift Train once again. Starting November 2, stop by our table during Social Hour to sign up and shop from a wish list. But you don't have to wait, as donations can now be made now by mail. Once we receive your gift card, we'll match it with a name from the wish list. This is a wonderful way for virtual and long-distance members to get involved.

This year, we're requesting \$75 gift cards. Accepted cards include Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Target, or Walmart. Please send your gift cards to the church by December 1 at 2335 N. Orchard Street, Chicago, IL 60614. Thank you for helping make this holiday season special for those in need!

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.

"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.

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.

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

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 such tasks as 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.

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

Can This Be Made at Home?

Dr. Carlos Monteiro, a Brazilian epidemiologist, has defined four levels of food processing— information to keep in mind for weight control and cardiovascular health.

Level 1: Minimally processed foods, such as packaged frozen vegetables.

Level 2: Ingredients such as rice or pasta, with minimal processing and requiring cooking.

Level 3: Foods such as jerky or apple sauce, to which have been added salt, sugar and preservatives.

Level 4: The ultra-processed items, such as chips, cookies, colas. They do not contain whole foods, only constituents, and are laden with salt, sugar and other chemicals. They cannot be made in a home kitchen

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.

St. Pauls UCC
Giving Campaign 2026
October 12, 2025 - January 11, 2026
Total: \$511,480

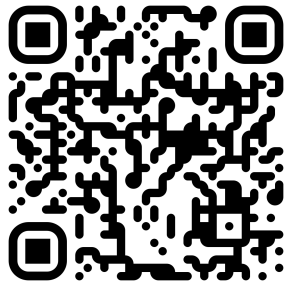
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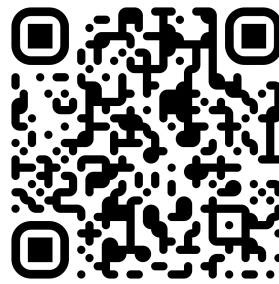
WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

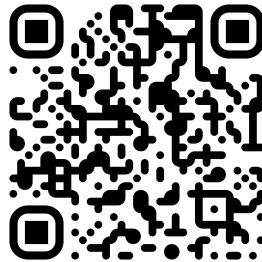
JOIN A GROUP



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

Symbiosis was composed in 2023 by Kris Hansen (b. 1995). The music expresses a collective experience of support. Kris, a member of our St. Arbucks Quartet, was raised, baptized and confirmed at St. Pauls. He is an active singer, music producer, composer, trumpet player, and keyboard player in his own group, Semi-Cycle. He also performs regularly with other bands, including, The Walters, Kweku Collins and Othersides.

Glory, Glory! Hallelujah! is a truly exuberant African American spiritual. Long time St. Pauls members will recognize it has one of our touchstone songs sung over the years on “How Sweet the Sound,” our Gospel music Sunday. The arrangement we sing is by Harriet Ziegenhals (1925-2016). Ziegenhals was the Director of the Community Renewal Chorus in Chicago for many years and often collaborated with Sam Hill, beloved St. Pauls Music Director and remarkable gospel pianist from 1971 until his death in 1991.

The memorable text to ***Rock of Ages*** was written in 1776 by Augustus Toplady (1740-1778). The tune name, TOP LADY, obviously takes its name from its author. Born in England, he had a conversion experience while a student at Trinity College in Dublin. He was ordained into the clergy of the Church of England and also authored many hymn texts. The tune is also often called HASTINGS after the composer Thomas Hastings (1784-1882). The date of the composition is unclear. Born in Connecticut, he authored nearly 200 hymn texts and spent his final 40 years in New York City directing a number of church choirs. In the 19th century, more hymns by Hastings appeared in American hymnals more than any other native author. *Rock of Ages* has survived and remained a constant favorite.

The music for ***Sweet Hour of Prayer*** was composed in 1861 by William Bradbury (1816-1868), a prodigious composer of hymns with many authors, including Fanny Crosby (1820-1915). William W. Wallingford (1772-1850) composed the text in 1845. He was a blind English self-taught preacher.

Sisi Ni Moja means “We Are One” in Swahili. It was commissioned in 2015 by the Michigan State University Youth and Children’s Choir and has become quite popular and widely performed. The lyrics call all of us of diverse backgrounds to come together as one. Jacob Narverud (b. 1986) holds degrees in voice and choral conducting.

Get on Board Little Children is another spiritual from the rich tradition of Black American worship. The music and text are unattributed and it was passed from church to church and family to family aurally. Greg Gilpin is an active composer and arranger who was born and educated in Missouri. He is in demand as a choral clinician and has composed commercials, church music, for Disney, and Broadway.

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

This Little Light of Mine has been a St. Pauls favorite for more than 40 years. It has an uplifting and spiritually powerful message that celebrates the sharing of faith. This is another example from the deep well of spirituals from the African American tradition. The arrangement that we are used to singing was created by Dr. Sammie “Sam” Hill, who was the Director of Music and Organist at St. Pauls from 1971-1991. Sam, and our current Director of Music, Kurt R. Hansen, both studied with the same teacher at Northwestern University, Grigg Fountain.

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.