

January 14, 2018

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.

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

“The church cannot remain silent while mankind faces the threat of being plunged into the abyss of nuclear annihilation. If the church is true to its mission it must call for an end to war.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

PRELUDE	<i>Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie</i> Kevin Dzierzawski, organ	M. Duruflé
INTROIT	<i>King Jesus Hath A Garden</i> Chancel Choir	Dutch Carol
WELCOME		Sarah Garcia

*WELCOMING EACH OTHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 46)

One: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: We will not fear!

One: Even though the earth shudders, we will not fear.

All: Even though mountains shake, we will not fear.

One: We will not fear!

All: “Be still.”

One: “Be still.”

All: “Be still and know that I am God!”

**Please stand if you are able*

*HYMN

God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

Black Hymnal, No. 556

God who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place,
Flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space,
We, your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you;
Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.

We have ventured worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race;
Known the ecstasy of winging through untraveled realms of space;
Probed the secrets of the atom, yielding unimagined power,
Facing us with life's destruction or our most triumphant hour.

As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew,
Children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor, well begun;
Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace.
When we shirk from the task
Christ gives, God forgive us.
Help us make your love real!
Amen.**

(based on *Now the Work of Christmas Begins* by Howard Thurman)

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

O God of earth and altar, Bow down and hear our cry;
 Our earthly rulers falter, Our people drift and die;
 The walls of gold entomb us, The swords of scorn divide;
 Take not thy thunder from us, But take away our pride.

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Mark Weglarz

Genesis 4:1-10

Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced a man with the help of the Lord." Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it." Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the Lord said, "What have you done? Listen; your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground!

*A 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!**

*RESPONSE

Red Hymnal, No. 187 verse 2

From all that terror teaches, from lies of tongue and pen,
From all the easy speeches that comfort cruel men,
From sale and profanation of honor and the sword
From sleep and from damnation, deliver us good Lord!

SERMON

“We... want... tear... gas”

Matt Fitzgerald

*HYMN

This is My Song

Black Hymnal, No. 591

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine.
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine;
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

OFFERTORY

Ninye otpushchaiyesi
Sung in Old Church Slavonic
Gloria Patri
Chancel Choir

Alexander Grechaninov

George Metterling

Now let thy servant depart in peace, O Lord, according to thy word.
For my eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou has prepared before the face of all peoples.
A light as revelation to the Gentiles, and a glory of thy people Israel.
Luke 2: 29-32

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen

*FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*HYMN

God, Whose Love is Always Stronger

Carolyn Gillette
Tune: Beech Spring
Black Hymnal No. 332

God, whose love is always stronger Than our weakness, pride and fear,
In your world, we pray and wonder How to be more faithful here.
Hate too often grows inside us; Fear rules what the nations do.
So we pray, when wars divide us: Give us love, Lord! Make us new!

Love is patient, kind and caring, Never arrogant or rude,
Never boastful, all things bearing; Love rejoices in the truth.
When we're caught up in believing War will make the terror cease,
Show us Jesus' way of living; May our strength be in your peace.

May our faith in you be nourished; May your churches hear your call.
May our lives be filled with courage As we speak your love for all.
Now emboldened by your Spirit Who has given us new birth,
Give us love, that we may share it Till your love renews the earth!

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Gloria Patri
Chancel Choir

George Metterling

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah
St. Arbucks Trio

Leonard Cohen

***Following Worship, all are invited to join us for coffee and snacks in the
Social Hall.***

The Fury of Aerial Bombardment

You would think the fury of aerial bombardment
Would rouse God to relent; the infinite spaces
Are still silent. He looks on shock-pried faces.
History, even, does not know what is meant.

You would feel that after so many centuries
God would give man to repent; yet he can kill
As Cain could, but with multitudinous will,
No farther advanced than in his ancient furies.

Was man made stupid to see his own stupidity?
Is God by definition indifferent, beyond us all?
Is the eternal truth man's fighting soul
Wherein the Beast ravens in its own avidity?

Of Van Wattering I speak, and Averill,
Names on a list, whose faces I do not recall
But they are gone to early death, who late in school
Distinguished the belt feed lever from the belt holding pawl.

Richard Eberhart

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Fred Pearson, Brian Haffner, Bruce Voice, David Baker

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Acolytes: Colleen Kompare, Chloe Combs

Consider the Lilies: Liz Raiman, AJ Smart

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in honor of all those participating and supporting today's Polar Peace March, praying for PEACE.

BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY

Donations to the Birthday Fund support A Just Harvest

We celebrate and give thanks for your life at St. Pauls. A perfect way to celebrate and help St. Pauls: give one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund.

Jan. 14 Bridget Hayes

Jan. 15 Carleigh Joseph, Durham Barnes, Jonah Schloerb, Larry Simpson

Jan. 16 Alan Cramb, Allie Underwood, Kristin Lane Mack, Rachel Adams

Jan. 17 Allison Roehm, Angela Miller, Mark Weglarz

Jan. 18 Anne Dronen, Brian Nach, Cara Hotz

Worship on Sunday, February 4th is at 11 a.m. for Bible Story Theater

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on March 4th immediately following our 10 a.m. worship. Please plan to attend.

New Giving Option - Text: 773-825-6816

You can now text your offering to 773-825-6816. The Vanco-based system will ask you to enter your dollar amount (example: 100 -- no dollar sign needed). You'll then be sent a link. Click on the link to complete your gift and receive a receipt. Thank you for your generous support of St. Pauls!

TODAY

4th ANNUAL POLAR PEACE MARCH TODAY - Join us as we honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at our 1.5 mile walk to benefit UCAN and its violence prevention initiative in Chicago. This family friendly event will start with a program in the Sanctuary at 4 p.m. and conclude with a cup of soup in the Gym. Invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers and family to be a part of your team. YOU CAN be part of the solution to a more peaceful Chicago.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAKE YOUR "GIVING ODDLY" COMMITMENT SOON AND AVOID THE PHONE-A-THON! For those who have yet to submit your 2018 St. Pauls giving intentions, we ask you to avoid the dreaded upcoming reminder phone calls (you know, those ones that none of us really wants to make!) by completing a giving card from the pew rack/church office or going online to SPUCC.org and clicking on "GIVE" at the top of the home page. We welcome any gifts of time, talent, and/or treasure and want every household to be counted. Thank you in advance for your generous support of St. Pauls in 2018!

BECOME A SAINT PAULS MEMBER! Do you enjoy interesting people? Do you like to eat? Are you curious about God? Join Saint Pauls! Our new membership classes take place on Sunday, January 21 and 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel and the Parlor. Contact Pastor Matt to register at mfitzgerald@spucc.org

BAPTISM CLASS FOR PARENTS January 21 at 9:00 in the Parlor

If you have a child that you want to have baptized, come to this 45 minute class. Infants are welcomed to attend. Come learn how to schedule a baptism, how to get your child ready, what godparents actually are and what it all means for you and your little one. Contact Pastor Matt to register at mfitzgerald@spucc.org

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE- Beginning Tuesday, 1/9/18, work on the water main continues through Wednesday, 1/17/18. One lane of traffic will be maintained at all times. Construction area will be barricaded during work hours from 9 a.m-4 p.m. There will be no parking signs set up from Kemper Avenue to Lincoln Avenue on both sides of the street during our construction.

BIBLE STORY THEATRE WORKSHOPS take place instead of Church School for the month of January. Children in Jr. Kindergarten through high school embrace the creative process bringing Bible stories to life through drama, music and dance. BST

Workshops with the Church School are Sunday mornings from 10-11:30 a.m. on January 14, 21, and 28. BST performance Sunday is February 4 at 11 a.m.

BIBLE STORY THEATRE NEEDS GROWNUPS TOO! Whatever your gifts and skills, there is a role for you in the creative process of developing BST 2018. Contact Sharon Phillips TODAY and let her know how you'd like to participate. Email: sphillips.7340@gmail.com Mobile: 773-547-1943.

SUNDAYS 9-9:45 a.m. - THE WORD OF THE DAY - God is still speaking, and the primary way God speaks to us is through scripture. In this class, we take a dive into the Bible passages that our pastors will preach on, because reflecting on scripture with a group enriches our worship and understanding. No Bible experience necessary. Your questions are welcome. We meet in the parlor. Childcare is provided.

JANUARY 21 - WHY BAPTISM? THE BIG IDEAS. 11:15 a.m. Parlor. Baptism is central to Christianity but raises many questions. What does baptism mean, especially in a UCC context? Do you have to be baptized to be saved? This Adult Faith Formation is for everyone who has questions about this sacrament, so bring yours. Led by Gregg Taylor.

JANUARY 26 - YOUNG ADULTS GAME NIGHT - 7 p.m. Scott and Shannon Banjavcics' Home. Join the Young Adults Group for the fifth Winter Game Night! Bring your favorite game, a beverage to share, and \$10 to chip in for pizza. Wine Night will move to March. Please RSVP to the Punchbowl invitation.

JANUARY 27 - BIBLE STUDY: EZEKIEL. One of the strangest books of the Bible is oddly encouraging; this month we enter the Valley of Dry Bones as the prophet speaks a word of new life to people whose hope is all dried up. 10-11:45 a.m. Newcomers welcome. RSVP Pastor Jeff: jcarlson@spucc.org

FEBRUARY 4 - BIBLE STORY THEATRE SUNDAY, 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary. Come join this year's exploration of the Bible with our St. Pauls children and young people as we work together to bring the scripture from the page to the stage.

FEBRUARY 7 - CHRISTIANITY 101, 7:30 p.m. Parlor. Join Pastor Jeff and young adults for a lively discussion of the real-life questions we face in our daily lives. There is no need to prepare in advance. Please contact Hannah Basil at youngadults@spucc.org with questions and to RSVP.

FEBRUARY 7 - FIRST WEDNESDAY, 12-1:30 p.m. Parlor. Join Rev. Neil Ellingson, co-founder of Root and Branch, a church serving mostly young adults in Chicago for a conversation about “the future church and religious innovators.” Cost is \$10/person. Please contact Anna Sardar at asardar@spucc.org with questions and to RSVP.

FEBRUARY 24 - IMPROV COMEDY NIGHT, 8:30 p.m.. Share a burger and a belly laugh at Young Adults improv night! We'll meet at Big & Little's at 8:30, then walk to ComedySportz for the 10 p.m. show. Tickets are \$25 and both dinner and the show are just off the Belmont Red Line. RSVP to the forthcoming Punchbowl invitation. Email Derek (derekjaydiemer@gmail.com) or AJ (ajs92780@yahoo.com) with Q's.

OPPORTUNITIES

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP - Providing flowers for the altar is a great way to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or honor someone special in your life. A sign-up calendar is located in the social hall or you can sign up online at <http://tinyurl.com/h55pl82>. There are many Sundays available but be sure to sign up early so you can bring flowers on your preferred date. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

AMAZON SMILE - Use <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2179808> if you would like to support St. Pauls when buying Amazon products. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible purchases to St. Pauls.

BIBLE STUDY - Meets one Saturday a month. This in-depth study explores a book of the Bible from start to finish, looking at its original context as well as its meaning for us as Christians today. No December study. Next Study: January 27. Contact Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org

COLLEEN HENRY WRITING CENTER- Tutors Needed

This program at Lincoln Park High School was initiated by St. Pauls and developed in connection with the English and Social Studies Departments. Tutors volunteer once a week, Monday through Thursday. Training and mentoring are available. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Nancy Brandt, nhbrandt@sbcglobal.net

CONNECTORS reach out providing networking and support for members and friends of St. Pauls Membership is open to all who have the time and the inclination to help. Contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com

CONSIDER THE LILIES - Deliver our Sunday Altar Flowers to members and friends who need to know St. Pauls is thinking of them. If you would like to be part of this initiative, please contact Maureen Grunst at mvgrunst@aol.com. Join us!

FAITH IN ACTION/FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES - Whether you're interested in supporting women or LGBTQ persons or immigrants and refugees, or interested in planning programs on critical issues, you can find St. Pauls people involved and join them now. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for more information.

FEED THE HUNGRY - Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner. To volunteer to prepare and serve dinner to guests of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter, contact Brent Carstensen at bcarstensen@ameritech.net

FOOD FOR THOUGHT - Visit our Food for Thought blog <http://www.spucc.org/blogs/food-for-thought>

GET YOUR NEW NAME TAG! - Email Virgie at vberry@spucc.org

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER NEEDS OVERNIGHT VOLUNTEERS
- To sign up: volunteer@lpcsonline.org 773-549-6111

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls preschool program with classes for 2 and 3-year-olds in our church nursery with options for two or three mornings per week. Our standard application deadline has passed. However, we are still working with applicants on a rolling basis. If you are interested, email Virgie Berry- vberry@spucc.org

NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS - If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.) and so that we can inform you of opportunities in our Parents of Little Ones (POLO) group. Also let us her know if you have small children and are new to the church. Contact Corie Gallemore at corie.gallemore@gmail.com

SARAH'S SISTERS gather every Wednesday morning to make 40 bag lunches to be distributed to homeless people. Come to the church kitchen at 9:30 a.m.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS - If you're in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you're feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson jcarlson@spucc.org , Marti Pechnyo mpechnyo@gmail.com , or Diana Laskaris dianaminlead@gmail.com

SAINT PAULS BASKETBALL WEDNESDAYS - 7 p.m. Our weekly pickup game is co-ed. Ages range from young and fast to old and not as fast. Skill levels range from enthusiastic to "I think he played in college, you guard him." All are welcome! Contact pastormatt@spucc.org

ST. PAULS PLAY GROUP for children from birth to 3 years old in the church Nursery. Drop in anytime from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Wednesdays. Corie Gallemore at corie.gallemore@gmail.com

ST. PAULS SOCIAL - Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If interested in hosting please contact Jen Luerksen, jenluerksen@yahoo.com and stay tuned for future events.

UCC DAILY DEVOTIONAL - To register: http://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional

WANT MORE VARIETY AT COFFEE HOUR? - Sign up to bring it at <http://bit.ly/1RtSUuh>

YOUNG ADULTS - A group for fun and fellowship for folks in their twenties and thirties. All are welcome! Volunteers needed! Any ideas for future events? Email youngadults@spucc.org

YOUTH GROUP for kids in 3rd-8th grade will meet each Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. with pizza dinner, fun and Christian fellowship. Meet in the gym. Resumes in September, most Tuesdays, grades 3-8 from 4-6 p.m. Contact sgarcia@spucc.org

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's Friday email to announcements@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday . Please limit announcements to 70 words. Thank you.

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

- Family, wife Ellen, daughter Annie, and friends of Steve Warsh, at his death.
- Kathie Castle, entering hospice care for advanced Alzheimer's disease.
- Rachel Adams' grandmother Virginia struggling with health problems.
- Rodney Higginbotham's father following a seizure and possible stroke.
- For Stacie B., sister of Mark P., following a difficult diagnosis.
- Larry Simpson, at the death of his spouse, Ed Zasadil.
A memorial service will be held at St. Pauls on January 20th at 11 a.m.
- For Aylmer Gifford's close friend, Mario Dominis facing difficult health challenges.
- For Robin Scott's friend, Michelle, for her physical health and mental well-being.
- For Bruce and Betty who need prayers for their uncle Victor in the hospital.
- For Rod Robert, brother of Susanne Baker, recovering from difficult health challenges.
- Jan Bail's friend, Genel Daley, beginning a second round of chemotherapy.
- Dale Martin and his family.
- Young people working to do the right thing but surrounded by negative influences.
- Bobbi Gannello, diagnosed with lymphoma.
- Amy Newman's sister Linda, being treated for cancer.
- Carole Knuti undergoing treatment for cancer.
- Carole Crowley recovering from a stroke.
- All those struggling to conceive.
- Sylvia Pine's grandfather, Terry Barton, recovering from strokes.
- Candi Huber's niece, Kathryn, continuing treatments for cancer.
- Michelle's friends Michael, Chris and Jerry, all sick with chronic illnesses.
- Lorri Gunn Wirsum, for husband, Karl, and brother, Jim, recovering from surgery.
- Mary Train and her nephew Carl and family.
- Jonah, Sean, Kevin and all homeless individuals with mental illness living in this city.
- For those struggling with mental health issues.
- For all those touched by violence in Chicago.
- Tom Palkon being treated for cancer.
- Pat Kirby, recovering from heart attack and complications.
- Those killed and injured in terrorist attacks around the world and all refugees.

NEARLY 1 IN 5 ADULTS STRUGGLE WITH A MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE. Contact one of the pastors today for information about mental health care advocacy and resources that can help you and your loved ones. Contact information for the pastors is at the back of this Bulletin.

Notes

ABOUT ST. PAULS
Making a joyful sound in the city

Saint 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 to and Affirming of" LGBT women and men.

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 importantly, over the past 174 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.

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614
(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858

www.spucc.org

Matt Fitzgerald, *Senior Pastor*, mfitzgerald@spucc.org

Jeff Carlson, *Associate Pastor*, jcarlson@spucc.org

Sarah Garcia, *Associate Pastor for Children and Youth*, sgarcia@spucc.org

Karen E. Johnson, *President of the Congregation*, kejplano@aol.com

Tom Henry, *Pastor Emeritus*, emeritushenry@gmail.com

Kurt R. Hansen, *Music Director*, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com

Kevin Dzierzawski, *Organist*, kdzierza@att.net

Brendan Henry, *Pianist*, brendanpherry@hotmail.com

Nancy Voigts, *Children's Choir Director*, nvoigtsgod@att.net

Kecia Waldschmidt, *Youth Choir Director*, keciagerman@hotmail.com

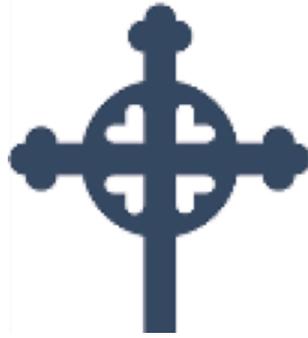
Kristopher Hansen, *Joyful Sounds Choir Co- Director*, TheBeatB0xer1995@gmail.com

Mark Mosley, *Intergenerational Orchestra Director*, mwmosley@gmail.com

Tom Vaitsas, *Pianist*, tomvaitsas@gmail.com

Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator*, kob48@att.net

Free Parking is available on Sundays from 9am-1pm at Children's Memorial Hospital
2300 Block of North Lincoln Ave. – Vouchers Not Needed



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 each and to everyone.
We are an Open and Affirming church.

We welcome all.

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