



July 22, 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

“There is no place for a colorless God in a society when people suffer precisely because of their color.” James Cone

PRELUDE

Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

D. Buxtehude

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

*WELCOMING EACH OTHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beautiful are the works of God!

All: Beautiful also are all of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the love of Christ!

All: Beautiful also is the church of Christ's people!

One: God made the heavens and the earth!

All: To God be the glory for the things God has done!

**Please stand if you are able*

*HYMN *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* Black Hymnal No. 400

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of our God and precious, binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, today!
With your constant, loving kindness hear your people as they pray.
Give your fullest benediction; grace to follow Christ the Way.

Here renew your servants' vision, that by faith we may attain
Peace and hope, renewed compassion, strength to comfort those in pain,
Tears and grief transformed to gladness in your everlasting reign.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**In Christ's heedless grace,
we see our cautious love;
In his endless giving, our tight grip;
In his equal justice, our strong prejudice;
In his inclusive love, our deep division;
In his innocence, our many sins.**

**Yet, Christ's cross is our forgiveness
and his resurrection is our hope.
We claim both in his name.
Give them to us.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Red Hymnal No. 160, v. 1

Lord, we thank thee for our siblings keeping faith with us and thee,
Joining heart to heart with others, making strong our company.
With the cross our only standard let us sing with one great voice,
Glory, glory, thine the kingdom: churches in thy Church rejoice.

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Marti Pechnyo

Ephesians 2 (MSG)

God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving.

Don't take any of this for granted. It was only yesterday that you outsiders to God's ways had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel, hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large. Now because of Christ—dying that death, shedding that blood—you who were once out of it altogether are in on everything.

The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance. Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody.

Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You *belong* here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

***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!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

***RESPONSE**

Red Hymnal No. 160, v. 2-3

God be praised for congregations coming side by side to thee;
Many tongues of many nations sing the greater unity.
Sweet the psalm and sweet the carol, when our song is raised as one.
Glory, glory, thine the power, as in heav'n thy will be done.

Hallowed be thy name forever! Heal our differences of old:
Bless thy church's new endeavor; for thy kingdom make us bold.
One our Christ and one our gospel, make us one we now implore.
Glory, glory, thine the glory through the ages evermore.

SERMON

"Brick by Brick"

Matt Fitzgerald

*HYMN *In Christ There Is No East or West* Black Hymnal No. 394

In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
But one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
God's service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free;
For men and women live in God, and all are kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;
One joyous, true community throughout the whole wide earth.

OFFERTORY *Sound The Trumpet* Henry Purcell

from Come, Ye Sons Of Art, Away
The Three Hansen Tenors
Alex R., Kris R. and Kurt R. Hansen

Sound the trumpet till around
You make the listening shores rebound.
On the sprightly hautboy [oboe] play,
All the instruments of joy,
That skillful numbers can employ,
To celebrate the glories of this day.

*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 *Not Alone for Mighty Empire* Red Hymnal No. 67

Not alone for mighty empire stretching far o'er land and sea,
Not alone for bounteous harvests, lift we up our hearts to thee:
Standing in the living present, memory and hope between,
Lord, we would with deep thanksgiving praise thee most for things unseen.

Not for bank account or weapons, not for conquests of the sword,
But for conquests of the spirit give we thanks to thee, O Lord;
For the heritage of freedom, for the home, the church, the school,
For the open door to strangers in a land the people rule.

For the churches of the faithful, souls that passed and left no name;
For the glory that illumines Christian lives of deathless fame;
For our prophets and apostles, loyal to the living word,
For all heroes of the spirit, Give we thanks to thee, O Lord.

God of justice, save our people from all sinful lies and greed
From the strife of class and faction, make our people free indeed;
Keep our faith in Jesus' teaching strong as when our faith began,
Till it finds its full fruition
in great love for you again!

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Amen, amen, amen

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

D. Buxtehude

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 downstairs in the Social Hall.

TODAY'S OFFERTORY was written for the birthday of Queen Mary in 1694 and recalls the the text of Psalm 150 in which trumpets and cymbals are used to praise God. "Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord!"

Alex Hansen will begin his sophomore year this fall as a music education major at Elmhurst College. Kris graduated from DePaul University in March with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music. He also composes, sings in rock bands, and is a regular with our St. Arbucks Trio. Kurt and Terry are still trying to figure out how they grew up so fast! Incidentally, the R's are all for Rosborough (ROSE-burrow), which was the maiden name of Kurt's mother.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Layne Lebahn, Lauren Vega, Bruce Voice

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are from Greg and Lois Basil in celebration of their daughter Hannah's wedding to Caleb Bryant, yesterday July 21.

BORN THIS WEEK IN JULY

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.

July 22 Geoff Gist

July 23 Benjamin Hamm, Chris Kohler

July 24 Scott Craig

July 25 Deborah Bayly, Dianne Witkowski

July 26 Annabel Jackson, Eloise Stonikas, Patricia Calore

July 27 Jill Minetz, Milana Jozwiak, Patricia Kirby

July 28 Margot Frank, Sue Reddel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EPHESIANS SUMMER SERMON SERIES - This summer's sermon texts are from the book of Ephesians. This letter invites an incredibly diverse group of Christians to expand our imaginations. Our lives are part of something vast, hopeful and wonderful that God is up to in the universe and we're invited to grow together into God's dream for the world.

REFUGEE CHILDREN DONATIONS DELIVERED - St. Pauls put out the call for donations for the 66 unaccompanied refugee children who are being cared for by the Heartland Alliance - and we have been overwhelmed by your generosity. On July 18, we delivered 14 large boxes of materials to Heartland, including games, puzzles, books, art supplies, 12 inflatable beach balls and 14 soccer or basket balls of various sizes! Any donations not meeting the specific needs identified by Heartland were donated to the Brown Elephant, the charitable resale shop of Howard Brown Health. Thanks for your generosity and support.

UPDATE! LINCOLN AVENUE PARKING GARAGE CONSTRUCTION - Starting Friday, August 17, the main north entrance of the Lincoln Avenue parking garage will be closed for construction for approximately three months. The parking lot will be accessible via the south entrance of the garage also located on Lincoln Avenue. Visit LincolnCommon.com for additional project details.

CHURCH GRANDPARENTS - We will pair Saint Pauls "grand members" with church families who have infants and young children. As these new friendships form, each will take its own shape. Activities could include praying for each other, reading stories, visiting, etc. Saint Pauls older members are incredible people! Saint Pauls young families are remarkable, as well. Let's get to know each other. You can still sign up by emailing Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED FOR NEXT YEAR - If you enjoy being with children and are interested and willing to explore the Christian faith with them, you should consider being a Sunday School teacher. We have teaching teams so you do not have to teach every Sunday. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Sarah sgarcia@spucc.org.

FEED THE HUNGRY - Open dates in July, August, and September for Community Engagement Program (CEP) meals. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner. Volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To find available dates and to sign up, contact Brent Carstensen at bcarsten959@yahoo.com.

ST. PAULS SUMMER CAMP FOR KIDS, July 5 - August 3.

We're offering half-day camp for 2 and 3-year-olds and full day camp for 4 to 12-year-olds. Also, we're offering before and after-care. Campers play in the local parks, go to the zoo, beach, museums, pool, and have tons of fun! Email Sarah Garcia at sgarcia@spucc.org for more information.

July 28 - SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Parlor. We continue our study of the book of Ephesians, an early Christian document attributed to Paul. But did he really write it? Newcomers always welcome. RSVP: jcarlson@spucc.org.

JULY 28 & 29 - VOLK'S FARM WEEKEND GETAWAY, Starved Rock.

St. Pauls women are invited to the Volk's farm the weekend of July 28-29. You may hike at Starved Rock, tour an old mansion, pick wildflowers, zipline, watch the birds, visit farm animals, or just enjoy the great companionship. Carpools usually available. Bed available for the first 12 to sign up. Email Marcia Volk for details at marcia@volkonline.com or call 773-307-6866.

AUGUST 6 - CHRISTIANITY 101, 7:30 p.m., Parlor.

Join Pastor Jeff and fellow 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. Email Hannah at youngadults@spucc.org with RSVP or questions.

OPPORTUNITIES

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

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. You can sign up in the Social Hall or 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 - Support St. Pauls when buying Amazon products, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible purchases to St. Pauls. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/2179808>.

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 two hours 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@gmail.com.

FAITH IN ACTION - Saint Pauls Strategic Plan calls us to be “Increasingly bold and active as we try to live out our faith in an age of rising injustice.” If you would like to receive advance notice of protests and actions that call for our faithful witness, join the Faith in Action email list by contacting Anna Sardar at asardar@spucc.org.

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.

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 or call 773-549-6111.

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year-olds. We are now accepting applications for 2018-2019. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Virgie Berry at vberry@spucc.org.

LONG, CLASSIC NOVEL READING GROUP - Summer/Fall book is Victor Hugo's classic "Les Miserables." First half discussion: Sept. 17, 7 p.m., Parlor. New members

are always welcome. For more information or to RSVP: Jeff Carlson at jcarlson@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 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 Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

SAINT PAULS BASKETBALL WEDNESDAYS - 7 p.m. Our weekly pickup game is co-ed. Ages range widely and skill levels go from from enthusiastic to "I think she played in college, you guard her." All are welcome! pastormatt@spucc.org.

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

WANT MORE VARIETY AT COFFEE HOUR? - Sign up to bring it at <http://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=w.ProcessDateWindow>.

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 them at youngadults@spucc.org.

YOUTH GROUP for kids in 4th-8th grade. Meets each Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. in the gym. Pizza dinner, fun, and Christian fellowship. Contact Pastor Sarah for more details at 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

Please clip this page, take it home and pray for those who are named below. We only print requests we receive. To make a request, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email. Our new 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.

- Darlene Braun in the hospital recovering from surgery.
- Larry Howell undergoing chemo with complications.
- Karen Lyons at the death of her father.
- Rob Castle's mother, Kathie, in hospice care for Alzheimer's.
- Ramiro Gonzalez and family at the loss of his brother.
- Loved ones of Rachel Rockwell, friend of Caroline Heffernan, grieving her death.
- Larry Howell, recovering from kidney stone surgery and suffering from lymphoma.
- Julie, friend of Pat Kirby, recovering from hip replacement.
- Ivy's brother and his wife, who are going through serious financial difficulty.
- Don Vossburg, former St. Pauls member.
- Maryn, 6-year-old friend of the Ashley family, with a rare brain tumor.
- Betty Voice, recovering from knee surgery.
- Marti Pechnyo's friend, Jane, being treated for ovarian cancer.
- Dorothy, in hospice care.
- For real change to dramatically reduce gun violence.
- Dede Koldyke, beating cancer.
- Bobbi Gannello, diagnosed with lymphoma.
- Amy Newman's sister, Linda, being treated for cancer.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- All those struggling to conceive.
- All those struggling with eating disorders.

You are beloved - to others, to the world you live in, and most importantly, to God. God knows your struggles and failures, as well as your joys and triumphs. Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. If you or someone you love has lost hope, is feeling completely alone or like life doesn't matter, reach out for help. 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.

St. Pauls UCC 20/20 Vision Implementation
July 1, 2018

Introduction

Over the past two months, we have shared the objectives and tactics of our Vision 20/20 plan with pastors, committees and task forces charged with implementation. Each committee/task force will develop over the summer a specific plan and timeline for implementation. Meanwhile see below for tasks that have been completed or are ongoing, and those that are in progress.

David Baker, Chair, 20/20 Vision Committee

Completed/Ongoing

God is calling us to grow toward each other...

- New “Lectio Divina” prayer groups led by St. Pauls members
- Revised membership process involving longtime members as “Shepherds.”
- On June 22nd, sent 50 St. Pauls adults and youth to Puerto Rico for a ten day work project to help rebuild the hurricane-ravaged island.

God is calling us to growing toward God together...

- Dinner church.
- Pancake Church
- Prayer groups.
- Continue Youth Education Opportunities and ways to fold youth into church life.

Increasing diversity in our partnerships and congregation...

- Ensure Sunday School curriculum and materials are diverse.
- Ensure hiring process is diverse.
- Expand church youth population.

Living our faith in an age of injustice

Initiated a petition to the Governor seeking his signature on gun trafficking legislation.

Formal church participation in the March for Our Lives, one other gun control rally, and the recent rally protesting the separation of families at the Mexican border.

Using our building for service and mission

- Established Building Task Force that met three times and initiated research to determine short term revenue generation and long term use strategies.

Tending our finances faithfully...

- 2018 pledges exceeded 2017 by 6% and grew 36% over 2015. When a \$50,000 special gift in 2017 is subtracted, total dollar change was 6% over 2017, and 25% over 2015. 2017 total giving exceeded \$1 million for the first time in St. Pauls history.
- Initiated "text giving" program for instant giving by visitors and new members.
- Began planning for 2018 capital campaign to be launched in fall, 2018.

In Progress

Increasing diversity in our partnerships and congregation...

- Invite partner ministries to regularly worship at St. Pauls.

Living our faith in an age of injustice...

- Social justice table.
- Social justice in sermons.
- Broaden visibility of existing social justice opportunities.

Using our building for service and mission...

Tending our finances faithfully...

- Educate new members on financial health of the church.
- Develop planned giving approach.

NOTES

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

Kristofer 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*, kkobrien48@hotmail.com

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.