



September 17, 2017

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

Worship begins with chimes.

The prelude is a time of reflection and preparation for the worship of God.

Please silence cell phones.

Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"The deepest human intentions are set in the context of God's unyielding intent."

Walter Brueggemann

CHIMES

PRELUDE

A Change Is Gonna Come
St. Arbucks Trio

Sam Cooke

INTROIT

Jesus, Priceless Treasure
Chancel Choir

Traditional German Hymn
Red Hymnal No. 281

WELCOME AND WELCOMING EACH OTHER

Jeff Carlson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O Lord, you are the song the whole earth sings!

All: You are the good news resurrection brings!

One: Your love makes whole whatever in us is bruised or broken.

All: Move against us and fight for us, until your peace is in our hearts.

One: Not just our hearts, but our church, our families, our whole lives.

All: Not just our lives, but our city, our leaders, our nation, the world!

**Please stand if you are able*

*HYMN

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Black Hymnal, No. 12

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of our God that filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word, and then pronounced them good.
Oh, how your wonders are displayed where'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glory known.
The clouds arise and spread their showers by order from your throne.
All life is but a gift from you and ever in your care;
Wherever people gather, you, O God, are present there.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgive us into new lives, Lord.
When we nurse old grudges,
love us into mercy.
When we believe our wounds will always ache,
love us into healing.
When we hang on to yesterday, fearful of tomorrow
Love us into confidence.
When we're rung out, overwhelmed, despairing,
Resurrect us into new life.
Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Children are now invited to go to Sunday School. Teachers will lead them to their classrooms.
If you would like to walk your kids to class you are welcome to go and come back.*

RESPONSE

Red Hymnal, No. 130, verse 1

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing ye heavens and earth reply: Alleluia!

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Julian Jarzebowski

Romans 8:28

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God.

Genesis 50:15-21:

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your Slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*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. 130, verse 2

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, he all doth save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

SERMON

God's Unyielding Intent

Matt Fitzgerald

*HYMN

I've Got a Feeling

Black Hymnal, No. 458

I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right
O I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right
I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right
O I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right
Be all right, be all right, be all right.

Jesus already told me, everything is gonna be all right
O Jesus already told me, everything is gonna be all right
Jesus already told me, everything is gonna be all right
O Jesus already told me, everything is gonna be all right
Be all right, be all right, be all right

The Spirit confirmed it, everything is gonna be all right.
O the Spirit confirmed it, everything is gonna be all right
The Spirit confirmed it, everything is gonna be all right.
O the Spirit confirmed it, everything is gonna be all right
Be all right, be all right, be all right.

OFFERTORY

He Watching Over Israel from Elijah
Chancel Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish;
He will quicken thee.
He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.
from Psalm 121

*FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE DAY

Sarah Garcia

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 is Working His Purpose Out

Red Hymnal, No. 57

God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year;
God is working his purpose and the time is drawing near;
Nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west, where'er our foot hath trod
By the mouths of many messengers goes forth the voice of God;
Give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles give ear to me,
That the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

March we forth in the strength of God with the banner of Christ unfurled
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth may shine throughout the world
Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin to set their captives free
That the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea

All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed;
Vainly we hope for the harvest tide till God gives life to the seed;
Yet, nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be
When the earth is filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Amen, amen, amen

POSTLUDE *Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne* D. Buxtehude

Following Worship, all are invited to join us for coffee and snacks.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Brian Hafner, Fred Peterson, Doug Clark, Cheryl Kennedy, Bruce Voice

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR Donated by Mead Gifford in memory of John M. and Kathryn J. Gifford from their children.

Reformation Introits - Each Sunday leading up to October 29, when we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, the Chancel Choir will sing a hymn associated with the Reformation. All hymns are from our German heritage. Some will be familiar, some will be new to us, some will be from our Red Hymnal, some will be from our Black Hymnal, and some will be from other hymnals. Enjoy this musical preparation for Reformation 500.

BORN THIS WEEK IN SEPTEMBER

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.

- Sep 18: Sean Patton, Miles Van Denburg, DJ Watson
Sep 19: Paquita Mueller, Avena Ward, Chuck Kent
Sep 20: Cody Connolly, Ethan Ashley-Ferguson, Steve Peterson
Sep 21: Julian Jarzebowski, Grace Stauskas
Sep 22: Nathan Bultemeier, Annika Hull, Jonathan Charlton, Brooke Roark,
Phillip Elkins, Charlie Rodriguez
Sep 23: Sally Kinnamon, Seth Davis, Monica Williams, Beatrice Jaji, Cosette Millard,
Stefan Millard
Sep 24: Johnny Busker, Robert Castle, Donna Braden, Jennifer Saltarelli,
Glen Timmerman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you enjoy interesting people? Do you like to eat? Are you curious about God? Join Saint Pauls! Our next new membership classes take place on October 1 and October 8 at 4:30. Contact Pastor Matt to register: mfitzgerald@spucc.org

WINDY CITY WINDS will perform for the residents of St. Pauls House, 3800 N. California, Sunday September 24, 2 pm. Members of St. Pauls Church are invited to attend. The concert will be conducted by music directors Mark Mosley and Sarah Good Mosley, and will feature Paddy Homan as vocal soloist.

FIRST WEDNESDAY LUNCHEONS will resume October 4 from 12-1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Deborah Rose will be presenting on worship art. All are welcome to attend. Cost is \$10/person. Please RSVP to Anna Sardar asardar@spucc.org

SAINT PAULS BASKETBALL RETURNS WEDNESDAYS AT 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL is offered for children from birth to high school from 10:15-11 a.m. Children should come to worship first with their parents and they will be dismissed to their classes. We will have Sunday school three times a month with no classes one Sunday each month so that families can worship together. Contact Pastor Sarah for more information at sgarcia@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.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES If you have a son or daughter in college please send us their address so the St. Pauls Connectors can send them a care package. Email Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 17 - THE WORD OF THE DAY - Beginning Sept 17, we'll have a new Bible-centered gathering for adults from 9-9:45 a.m., "The Word of the Day." We'll take a dive into the Bible passage that our pastors will preach on at the 10 a.m. service, getting into its background and meaning before worship. Reflecting on scripture with a group enriches our worship. It also benefits those who bring questions and perhaps not a lot of experience with the Bible to church. God is still speaking, and we believe that the primary way God speaks to us is through scripture. Join us as we listen together. Childcare is provided in the nursery. For more information contact Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

SEPTEMBER 17 - MONTHLY YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH KICKOFF, 11 a.m. Join us for brunch after worship and share your ideas for what Young Adults group events you'd like to see this year. We will gather during Social Hour and walk to Hopcat, 2577 N Clark St. See you there!

BOOK NOOK: It's time to restock the Book Nook in the Social Hall. Simply place books you no longer want (no more than one bagful, please) on the shelves in the book case on the north wall of the Social Hall. General fiction, broad interest nonfiction, youth and children books are ideal along with large print and audio books. Anytime you want a book, simply take one; no need to return it. If you have any questions, please contact Tilly Wilhoite at Tilly1017@gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER 23 - OKTOBERFEST, 3-9 p.m. Prost! It's Munich meets Chicago as St. Pauls hosts Oktoberfest in celebration of our German heritage. Come and celebrate with an evening of authentic German food and beer, live music and dancing, a jumpy-house, and games for all ages. This year's live entertainment will once again feature everyone's favorite oompah band, *Die Musikmeisters*. This event is open to the public and family friendly so invite your neighbors and friends. Free admission. In the case of rain, the event will be held in the gymnasium. Stay tuned for fun volunteer opportunities!

SEPTEMBER 24 - MATERIAL WITNESS, 11:15-Noon. Our new altar cloths and companion fabric art hangings are the work of church member Rev. Dr. Deborah Rose. After worship on Sept. 24, she will lead a Faith Formation Conversation in the Sanctuary about her art ministry, Material Witness. She will focus on the creative process of her latest works. School age children and youth are also welcome.

SEPTEMBER 30 - SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY - *Ezekiel* A valley of skeletons, flying angelic beasts, and spinning UFOs. This fall we're taking a wild ride into this peculiar book by a strange and psychotic prophet who nevertheless managed to speak hope to a people who had lost all hope. Meets one Saturday a month 10-11:45 a.m. RSVP jcarlson@spucc.org.

OCTOBER 14- BIKE TO THE BOTANIC - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join other St. Pauls cyclists on a moderately-paced 32-mile round trip bike ride up the North Branch Trail from Caldwell Woods to the Chicago Botanic Gardens. We'll meet in the Caldwell Woods parking lot at 9 a.m. and be led by experienced cyclist Nancy Curotto, who has ridden this route many times. Bring your lunch, or eat in the Garden Cafe, before we ride back to Caldwell Woods. Ride will be postponed in the event of rain. Please RSVP to Nancy by October 12 at ncurotto21@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 18- Join *A Just Harvest* for their 14th ANNUAL AWARDS BENEFIT- Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 6:00 p.m. for an evening of music, food, and fun to celebrate their accomplishments in 2017 at The Mayne Stage in Rogers Park. Contact Maggie Williams at 773-262-2297 or purchase tickets online <http://www.ajustharvest.org/>

OPPORTUNITIES

FLU AND PNEUMONIA SHOTS AT ST. PAULS - October 22, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Pharmacist Lily from Walgreens on Clark Street will provide the shots. Flu shots are covered under Medicare Part B with a valid Medicare card. Under 65 and want the flu shot? Bring your insurance card. No insurance? The flu shot costs \$31.99 or High or double flu for \$59.99. Pneumonia shots are also covered by Medicare Part B with a valid Medicare card. There are two different kinds of Pneumonia shots: Pneumazvaz @ \$109.99 or Prevanar @ \$229.99 if you don't have insurance. You can pay by check or cash.

UCC EMERGENCY APPEAL for HELP HURRICANE HARVEY VICTIMS - The United Church of Christ has launched an emergency appeal to help with long term recovery following Hurricane Harvey—a monster storm that has already displaced thousands of Texans and left at least 70 people dead. Donations can be made to the '[Emergency USA Fund](#)' and marked for Hurricane Harvey. The UCC Global Sharing of Resources team has created a [Hurricane Harvey disaster page](#) that will be updated as the storm continues, with suggestions on ways people in the wider church can help going forward. Prayers for all in the wake of Harvey, and many thanks and blessings on those who will volunteer and/or give to help others in need.

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP - If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar please go to our link at <http://tinyurl.com/h55pl82> and sign up. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

ADULT MISSION TRIP 2018 - We have reserved the week of February 17-24 for an adult mission trip to volunteer with Three Angels Orphanage and School in Haiti. Contact Pastor Jeff if you're interested in going next year: jcarlson@spucc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS needed for the following classes: JK/K, 1st and 2nd, Confirmation. Please contact Pastor Sarah if you are interested sgarcia@spucc.org

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 - 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 GLBTQ 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 Rachel Adams at adams.rachellynn@gmail.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 in scheduling a tour or have any questions please visit our website www.spucc.org/littlelights or email Virgie Berry-vberry@spucc.org.

LONG CLASSIC NOVEL READING GROUP is discussing Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina," this fall. To join in on the discussion contact Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org. Meets in the parlor. Discussion dates: Sept. 27 and Dec. 5.

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.

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 Luerssen, jenluerssen@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! More regular events will resume in fall. Any ideas for future events? Email youngadults@spucc.org.

YOUTH GROUP - 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

- Ed Zasadil's caregiver, Madeline, with severe back pain.
- Mary Beth Canfield at the death of her sister.
- Sandra Benedict and her family at the death of Ann Benedict.
- Ed Zasadil, with nerve damage restricting use of his left arm.
- Doug Dobmeyer, at the death of his sister.
- Bobbi Gannello, diagnosed with lymphoma.
- Lance, a friend of Sally Fletcher's, facing serious health problems.
- Amy Newman recovering from surgery, & sister, Linda, starting chemotherapy.
- Sandra Benedict, recovering from surgery.
- Jan Exworthy and her mother Lucille.
- Rosemarie Hau being treated for a heart condition.
- 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 her husband, Karl Wirsum, and her brother, Jim.
- Mary Train and her nephew Carl and family.
- Jonah, Sean, and 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.
- Steve Warsh, undergoing chemotherapy.
- Tom Palkon being treated for cancer.
- For young adults as they make their way in life moving away (physically) from family.
- 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 October 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 173 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*, kejpliano@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, *Joyful Sounds Choir Director*, brendanphenry@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*, kob48@att.net

Free Parking is available on Sundays 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.