

Communion Sunday
September 3, 2017
10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Communion Sunday

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

Far too often confession happens as an empty ritual or guilt inflicting moment. What if we thought of confession as profound truth telling? Hope does not come from illusions or lies. Hope comes from the truth. Truth, as devastating and ugly and as frighteningly beautiful as it is, is precisely what we bring to be offered to and transformed by God.

Christine Smith

PRELUDE

Berceuse

Louis Vierne

Kevin Dzierżawski, organ

WELCOME

Sarah Garcia

*WELCOMING EACH OTHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of every good gift:

All: We come to worship today seeking many things.

One: Some of us are seeking peace,

All: Some are seeking healing,

One: Some are seeking answers,

and others are looking for the right questions.

All: We trust you, that you have given us

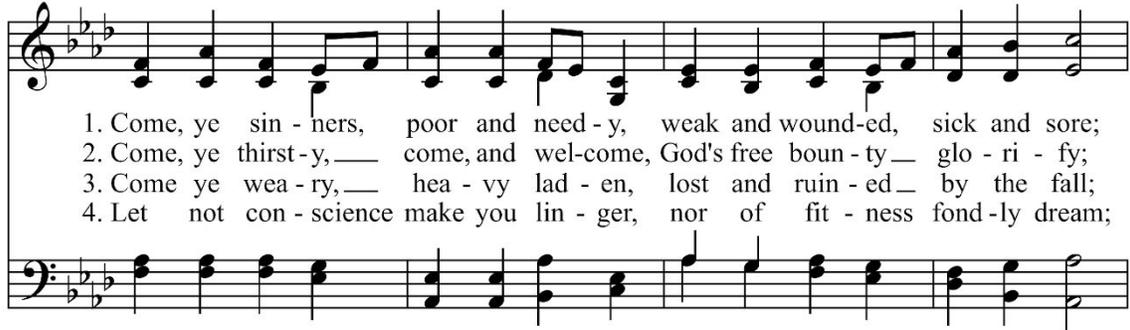
what we need and we will discover this truth. Amen.

**Please stand if you are able*

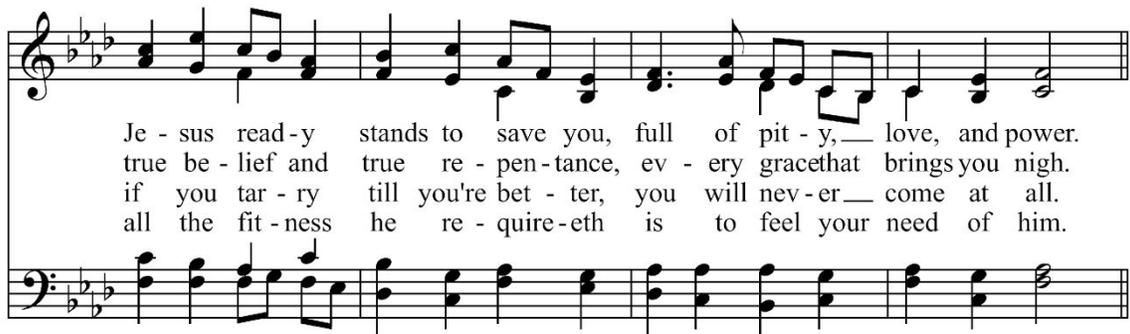
*HYMN

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION



1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;
2. Come, ye thirst-y, — come, and wel-come, God's free boun - ty — glo - ri - fy;
3. Come ye wea - ry, — hea - vy lad - en, lost and ruin - ed — by the fall;
4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond - ly dream;



Je - sus read-y stands to save you, full of pit - y, — love, and power.
true be - lief and true re - pen-tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.
if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er — come at all.
all the fit - ness he re - quire-eth is to feel your need of him.



I will a-rise and go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me with his arms;



in the arms of my dear Sav-ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 23, v. 1

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There's no place where earthly sorrow are more felt than in God's heaven;
There's no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment given.

ANTHEM

Au Matin (at Morning)
from Les Angelus (sung in French)
Kurt R. Hansen, tenor with
Kevin Dzierżawski, organ

Louis Vierne

In my sleeping city, the *Angelus* bells have sounded,
They call us to prayer in homage of Mary:
See how the night flees,
And above my sleeping city,
The joyous archangel greets the dawn.
Like a fawn bounding over the hills,
The sun appears!
The homes of the poor, the rich,
The trees, and the gardens will be gilded,
And the light will play like children with the fawn.
The day once again brings either joy or torment to the heart!
Lord, I adore you in the sublime splendors of the new day,
And you give each new day your blessing again.

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

1 John 1:5-9 (NRSV)

Esther Johnson

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with

one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***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**

Black Hymnal No. 23, v. 1 and 2

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word;
And our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

SERMON

The Truth In Us

Sarah Garcia

RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 460, v. 3

O to grace how great a debt or daily I am drawn a new!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it wander from the love I've known:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

OFFERTORY

Au Soir (at Evening)
from Les Angelus (sung in French)
Kurt R. Hansen, tenor with Kevin Dzierżawski, organ

Louis Vierne

As night approaches both in the heavens and our hearts,
Since the hour has come,
When everyone takes stock of his works,
Of his troubles, of his anger;
We pray to you again as night approaches!
O Virgin, be merciful at the last call of the *Angelus*,
As earthly torment is cradled in slumber!
So that we will no longer think of the miseries of the day,
Or upon our human sins,
O Virgin, have mercy upon us.
In eternity, where there is no night
Our *Ave Maria* is carried to you as an offering on wings of spirit,
Fashioned like the pinons of St. Michael,
And sings of our eternal love for you.

*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!

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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,**

Today's Anthem and Offertory music - Louis Vierne was one of the major French romantic composers for the organ. He shares that position along with César Franck and Charles Marie Widor. All three composed for the organ in a symphonic style. Vierne studied with Franck and became an early assistant to Widor. Later he became the organist at Notre Dame. Vierne's major works include six symphonies for solo organ. *Les Angélus* is a cycle of three songs composed at the same time he was working on his Sixth Symphony, his final large work for the organ. The songs reflect on the three times a day that the faithful are called to prayer by the angelus bells. The angelus bells are usually smaller high pitched bells rather than the deep bells that one would associate with the tolling of the hour.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Head Usher: Brian Hafner

Ushers: Bruce Voice

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeepers: Dodd Brown

Communion Coordinator: Jana O'Brien

Communion Servers: Charlie Johnson, Annie Johnson

Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR Today's altar flowers are provided by Larry Damron in honor of the wedding anniversaries of Char Damron and her sisters, Sheila and Shirley.

Corners of My Mind

Carol Penner

*Here is a prayer for the corners of my mind,
littered with unfinished business,
truth hidden in the shadow of lies,
yearnings unmet, opportunities missed,
torn maps of roads not taken.
Regret gnaws away
sharpening its teeth on yesterday's mistakes.
We need your grace like a good cleaning,
opening windows, clearing the dust,
furniture dragged out onto the lawn.
Every surface open and revealed
scoured by soap and crisp winds.
Create in us clean corners, Lord.
A mind clarified, set right
making way for the Spirit
who after a long day's work,
brushes back her hair from her forehead,
lets out a deep breath, and smiles.*

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 4: Beatrix Kompare, Douglas Hamilton, Kristy Hunt

Sep 5: Brent Bunch, Isaiah Fitzgerald

Sep 6: Kathryn Dreves-Hunt, Martha Carr, Nicholas Dreves-Hunt

Sep 9: Sheryl Mooney, Joshua JaQuay, Meg Canfield

LABOR IN THE PULPIT - in the Parlor today after worship. This year St. Paul's is participating in the "Labor in the Pulpit." Former UCC President Rev. John Thomas helps coordinate the event. Today speakers in over 115 congregations throughout Cook County will address the connection between faith and the dignity of work. Today after worship we welcome Luke Sullivan who will speak on the most pressing issues facing workers in Chicago.

CONSTRUCTION - Lincoln Avenue is currently closed between Halsted and Orchard for installation of a large beam, but will only be closed through Friday. There will be additional work that will begin on Monday, September 11 and there will be only one lane of traffic. They will have a flagger in place to help with pedestrians. This work will last through September 13. The next opening will take place on September 14th and finish on September 18th. The work will be Monday through Friday and may have some affect on Orchard for Sunday the 17th.

ONE SERVICE CONVERSATIONS Thanks to each of you who attended this summer's One Service Conversations. We are grateful for your questions and the opportunity to discuss any concerns raised and to lift up your ideas and feedback. To help us continue to shape our One Worship service, please share your experience throughout the fall with a member of Church Council or the pastors. We will review again in January.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will resume on September 10th. Sunday school will take place on Sunday mornings from 10:15-11 a.m. Children will come to worship with their families from 10-10:15 a.m. and then leave for Sunday school. Once a month there will be no Sunday school so everyone can worship together.

CHILDCARE Starting Sunday, September 10th, we will begin to have childcare from

9-12 p.m. each Sunday so parents can participate in activities before and after church.

YOUTH GROUP for kids in 3-8th grade will begin again on Tuesday September 12 . Youth group will meet each Tuesday from 4 - 6 PM with pizza dinner, fun and Christian fellowship.

AMAZON SMILE - St. Pauls recently applied to receive additional funds via AmazonSmile. We invite all St. Paul members and friends to use this link, <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2179808>, if you would like to support St. Pauls when buying Amazon products. There is no cost to St. Pauls or to any Amazon users. Members will have access to the same products, features, services, and great low prices as on Amazon.com. The shopping experience is identical to Amazon.com with the added benefit that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible AmazonSmile purchases to St. Pauls when selected by a customer. We encourage everyone to research this link if you have any further questions: <http://smile.amazon.com/about>. Thank you for supporting St. Pauls.

UPCOMING EVENTS

RUMMAGE SALE IS BACK - September 9, 8-12 p.m. We are now one week from the rummage sale. We are in need of 6' laminate folding tables for the checkout area. If you are able to lend us one of your tables please contact Beverly Petrunich at uncabev@aol.com. We also need your help to make the sale a huge success. Go to the link below and sign up to help us volunteer on the day of the sale. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084baaac2daaf94-rummage>

RUMMAGE SALE - MANY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU who have so generously donated to this year's rummage sale! We once again have an amazing array of great items for our shoppers. Many people in the Lincoln Park community have also generously donated to us. They very much appreciate both giving to and shopping our Shop the Steeple sale because they feel it benefits so many people. Please tell your family and friends to come shop. We have flyers available that you can post at your office, in the neighborhood and, of course, post on Facebook.

SEPTEMBER 11 - CHRISTIANITY 101, 8 p.m. Join Pastor Matt 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. Note the time change and please contact Hannah Basil at youngadults@spucc.org with questions and to RSVP.

SEPTEMBER 12 - YOUTH GROUP BEGINS AGAIN! 4-6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 17th - 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 somewhere close. Have a suggestion of where we should go? Email Hannah at youngadults@spucc.org with your idea and RSVP.

SEPTEMBER 17- CONFIRMATION BREAKFAST, 11:15 a.m. For parents and students in Confirmation 1 and Confirmation 2 to receive an update about the Confirmation breakfast.

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 30 - SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY - *Ezekiel* A valley of skeletons, flying angelic beasts and spinning UFO's, 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.

OPPORTUNITIES

UCC EMERGENCY APPEAL for HELP to 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 more than 30 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

COLLEEN HENRY WRITING CENTER at Lincoln Park High School, initiated by St. Pauls, needs a few tutors. Help students with academic writing that makes their claim and finds evidence to support it. Lunch times and after school. Training is available. 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 - 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 2 or 3 mornings per week.
www.spucc.org/littlelights or email Pastor Sarah - sgarcia@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, jenuerssen@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 3-7 from 4-6:00 p.m. and 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

- Veterans who have served at war.
- Ed Zasadil, with nerve damage restricting use of his left arm.
- Doug Dobmeyer, at the death of his sister.
- Larry Butcher, recovering from a fall over the weekend.
- Bobbi Gannello, diagnosed with lymphoma.
- Lois Basil recovering from hip replacement.
- Hannah Basil recovering from skin cancer surgery.
- Lance, a friend of Sally Fletcher's, facing serious health problems.
- Nancy Heffernan's dear friend, Leona, in hospice care during her final days.
- Amy Newman recovering from surgery.
- Sandra Benedict, recovering from surgery.
- Ann Benedict, entering Hospice.
- Jan Exworthy and her mother Lucille.
- Nancy Heffernan's sister-in-law, Theresa with advanced melanoma.
- Rosemarie Hau being treated for a heart condition.
- Carole Knuti undergoing treatment for cancer.
- Amy Newman's sister, Linda, starting chemotherapy treatments.
- Carole Crowley recovering from a stroke.
- All those struggling to conceive.
- Dirk R. and family, uncle of Laura Nowack, who has multiple myeloma.
- 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

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 door.

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.