

Easter Sunday
Virtual Worship
April 12, 2020

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"In resurrection, there is confusion if we start to argue."

Hilda Doolittle

PRELUDE

Aria con variazioni

George Frideric Handel

transcribed by Bernard Fitzgerald

Andantino, Un poco meno mosso, & Poco piu mosso

Jake Nitzsche, trumpet

Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

CHORAL INTROIT

Now the Green Blade Rises

15th Century French Carol

Jennifer Kew, soprano

Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain;
Wheat that in dark earth for many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love has come again like wheat that rises green.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Carlson

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

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

* HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Red Hymnal No. 130

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,
2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - - le - lu - ia!
3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done,
4. Hail the Lord of earth and heav - en!

We with all the an - gels say:—
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - - le - lu - ia!
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
Praise to thee by both be giv - en,

Raise our joys and tri - umphs high,
Once He died, ours souls to save, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Death in vain for - bids Him rise,
Thee we greet tri - um - phant now,

Sing, ye heav'ns and earth re - ply:—
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - le - lu - ia!
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise,
Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**New life springs up all around us Lord;
but we are earthbound still.
We are distracted and numb.
We are worried and afraid.
We are proud and dismissive.
We are ashamed of what we fail to do.
We are appalled at what we've done.
Forgive us, Lord!
Renew us in the resurrection light.
Make us alive to Christ
and to our own lives.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THE DAY

Anna Schloerb

John 20:1 and 11-18, J.B. Phillips translation

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. Mary stood just outside the tomb, and she was crying. And as she cried, she looked into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. The angels spoke to her, "Why are you crying?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have put him." When she had said this, she turned and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in

Hebrew, "Teacher!" Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

* 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)

SERMON

"it's your limbs he comes to fill"

Matt Fitzgerald

OFFERTORY

I Don't Feel No Ways Tired

Rev. James Cleveland

Kris Hansen, soloist

I don't feel no ways tired,
I've come too far from where I started from
Nobody told me that the road would be easy
I don't believe he brought me this far to leave me.

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Nancy Pifer, soprano



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:



Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

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,
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.**

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please ready your bread and wine or juice.

Wait to partake until all are invited. We will eat and drink together.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Oh God we thank you for Easter and its glory!
All things have been made new! All the seas and dry lands.
All the forests and the fields. All the cities and towns.
Everything that swims or flies, even you, and even me!
All have been made new today! Oh God we thank you!
For love is more powerful than fear.
Life is triumphant over the grave.
You have just defeated death. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!**

* HYMN

Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise;
2. Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born;
3. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high;

Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise.
Glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal, On this ho - ly Eas - ter morn;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has won the vic - to - ry;

He who on the cross as Sav - ior For the world's sal - va - tion bled,
Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer By his might - y en - ter - prise,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;

Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead!
We with him to life e - ter - nal By his res - ur - rec - tion rise.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! To the tri - une maj - es - ty.

The Flowering of the Rod

In resurrection, there is confusion
if we start to argue; if we stand and stare,
we do not know where to go;
in resurrection, there is simple affirmation
but do not delay to round up the others,
up and down the street; your going
in a moment like this, is the best proof
that you know the way;
does the first wild-goose stop to explain
to the others? No – he is off;
they follow or not,
that is their affair;
does the wild-goose care
whether the others follow or not?
I don't think so – he is happy to be off –
he knows where he is going;
so we must be drawn or we must fly,
like the snow-geese of the Arctic circle,
to the Carolinas or to Florida,
or like those migratory flocks
who still (they say) hover
over the lost island, Atlantis;
seeking what we once knew,
we know ultimately we will find
happiness; *to-day shalt thou be
with me in Paradise.*

Hilda Doolittle

Easter Instrumentalists: Jake Nitzsche, trumpet

EASTER FLOWERS IN CELEBRATION OF . . .

KEVIN DZIERZAWSKI from Kurt Hansen
MARK & SARAH MOSLEY from The Intergenerational Orchestra
CHANCEL CHOIR from Kurt R. Hansen
LORRAINE MARIE and LEONARDO D'QUINO from Aunt Terry Brancaccio Hansen
ALL SHORT CIRCLES from a grateful participant
YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTORS: NANCY VOIGTS GODINEZ, KAREN JOHNSON, AND KECIA
WALDSCHMIDT from Kurt R. Hansen
ST. ARBUCKS QUARTET from Kurt R. Hansen
OUR GRANDCHILDREN ANNIKA, OSCAR, SOPHIE, NATHANIEL, MARGOT, ELLERY,
and ANDERSON from Marcia Opp and Jon Ekdahl
KAREN WINTER from The Gentzen Family

EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF . . .

NICHOLAS & BERTHA BRANCACCIO from The Hansen Family
GRIGG FOUNTAIN from The Hansen Family
PATRICK FULLER from Kurt Hansen and the Chancel Choir
KERMIT & MARY HANSEN from The Hansen Family
MIKE KOSSACK from The Hansen Family
WILLIAM "BILL" PARKS from Kurt Hansen
LOLA & ALEX RAND from The Hansen Family
GORDON FISHBURN from the Chancel Choir
DONNA BRANCACCIO SEGSCHEIDER from Terry Brancaccio Hansen
JON WELDON from Kurt R. Hansen & the Chancel Choir
HERBERT & ANNE BEECK from Barb Kaiser, Paul, Nathaniel and Maegan Kaiser,
Peter, Rizza and Kyle Kaiser
ARMEL & MELBA OPP from Marcia Opp and Jon Ekdahl
OSCAR & DOROTHY EKDAHL from Marcia Opp and Jon Ekdahl
DELBERT ARSENAULT from The Arsenault Family
MABEL & WARREN ARSENAULT and BERNIECE & JOSEPH BUTTINGER from The
Arsenault Family
SUZANNE FLAXIN from The Canfield Family
HENRY & MILDRED DAMRON from Larry and Char Damron
LEONARD & DOROTHY McFAIL from Larry and Char Damron
PARENTS JAMES & LINDA, SISTERS TARA & TRESSA from Troy Meinders

GRANDPARENTS KUNO & HENRIETTA, BILL & SWANETTA from Troy Meinders
SHIRLEY MOSLEY and SAMUEL GOOD from Sarah Good and Mark Mosley
CAROL STOUB, MARY SACIA, and LLOYD ANDERSON from Hannah and Caleb Bryant
GRANDPARENTS & GREAT GRANDPARENTS from Annie, Jeff and Charlie
LEROY & HENRIETTA DYKSTRA from Andrew and Lynn Davis
EDWARD SEELEY DAVIS from Andrew and Lynn Davis
DOROTHY & FRANK MYNARD from Suzanne and Frank Mynard
BEN & LOUISE YUNKER from Suzanne and Frank Mynard
EDWARD ZASADIL from Larry Simpson
CARL VESPA from Hazel Vespa

BORN THIS WEEK IN APRIL

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.

- April 12 Marcia Opp
- April 14 Jay Abraham, Kaitlyn Randolph, Lisa Henry, Mark Huddle, Michael Toomin
- April 15 Matthew Randolph, Suzanne Mynard
- April 16 Mark Lefens, Ray Manasia
- April 17 Avery Vahey, Charles Busker, Deon Fayhee, Eric Cittadine, Linda Riportella, Oliver Reich, Sam Reich, William Beck
- April 18 Betty Voice, Jessica Ashley, Nathaniel Weglarz, Olivia Weglarz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GET CONNECTED – Aptly put by our Stephen Minister, Deon Fayhee, “The church as a place is closed until further public health authority notice. The church as a connected community of individuals moved by faith to thrive in an imperfect world is very much open for business.”

We have a group chat on MarcoPolo at onmarcopolo.com/groups/bknWay6XQYqQ/spucc.

The St. Pauls Zoom account is available to continue or start groups virtually. Email Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org to schedule your meeting.

Our new Facebook Group, “Saint Pauls Together”, is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share.

We have a lively comment section each Sunday morning on the worship livestreams. Not tech-savvy? Contact Pastor Jeff to get connected with a volunteer who can help you get set up, jcarlson@spucc.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

APRIL 13 - MONDAY MORNING PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - 9:15 a.m., Zoom with Pastor Sarah. Now more than ever we are in need of prayer and we need each other. Start your week sharing your joys and concerns and praying with and for each other. You can participate online, or call in from your phone. Email Pastor Sarah for more information and to join, sgarcia@spucc.org.

APRIL 15 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoom
Pastor Jeff is holding a Bible Study on Wednesdays at noon on Zoom. You can participate online, or call in from your phone. Email Jeff with questions or to get the meeting invitation and instructions, jcarlson@spucc.org.

APRIL 16 - THURSDAY PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES NIGHT OUT/IN - 8 p.m., Zoom
We know it is tough to be stuck inside with small children at home and we need to support each other. Tune in on Thursdays to see what is working for other moms and dads. Pour yourself a glass of wine and enjoy some adult conversation. Contact Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

Most of these opportunities are currently suspended due to our stay-at-home, and some of them are happening virtually.

We look forward to the time when we can enjoy them all in person again.

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 by emailing Claire Higgins to check open Sundays in 2020, chiggins@spucc.org.

COLLEEN HENRY WRITING CENTER – Tutors Needed

Tutors volunteer two hours once a week, Monday through Thursday. Training and mentoring are available. For more information or to volunteer, contact Linda Patton, lpattton21@yahoo.com.

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 – Some people call it showing up for a protest. Others call it public witness for the values inherent in our faith. Most of us appreciate being able to do both with like-minded congregational members. We are continually building a Faith-in-Action list of people who wish to receive notice of such protests and gatherings – frequently on short notice due to swift governmental action. Please join this email list by contacting Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES – Help us connect our faith to critical public issues. Do you wish you knew more from a faith perspective about current issues that are important to our public life? Racism, climate change, immigration, to name a few. FPI programs provide opportunities to ask questions, help us understand issues in depth, and discuss possible action. The FPI Task Force plans these programs and we could use your ideas. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for information about meetings.

FEED THE HUNGRY – Community Engagement Program (CEP) Suppers at St Pauls are cancelled until future notice. In the interim, please support our friends at Lincoln Park Community Services. Information on how to donate food, supplies and money can be found on their website: lpcschicago.org/get-involved

GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS – If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, we still need to hear from you. Please go to forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8 to fill it out. This is an important component of our overall member engagement initiative, as mentioned in the November 10, 2019 congregational meeting. If you prefer to complete a paper document, they are available on the front counter of the office next to the labeled return box. Thank you in advance for your participation.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES HAS EXPANDED! – This St. Pauls founded organization serves homeless individuals for breakfast and dinner at two locations: 1521 N. Sedgwick and 600 W. Fullerton. Serving meals at two facilities means that LPCS is looking for new individuals and groups to volunteer to provide food. It's a great way to gather your friends, family, or colleagues together for an engaging and rewarding opportunity. For more information on how to get involved, email Abby at volunteer@lpcschicago.org, or call 773-549-6111 ext. 208.

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year olds. We are now accepting applications for 2020. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

LONG, CLASSIC NOVELS READING GROUP – 2020 Selections are Four Novels by African American Women

This year, the “Long, Classic Novels Reading Group” will be reading:

Oreo, Fran Ross (1974) - Discussion Date: June 15

Parable of the Sower, Octavia E. Butler (1993) - Discussion Date: September 21

A Mercy, Toni Morrison (2008) - Discussion Date: December 14

Anyone is welcome to join us for one or all four. Please RSVP to Pastor Jeff for email updates: jcarlson@spucc.org.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES – We have new member classes throughout the year. Come after worship to these meetings – announced in the calendar section – and talk with pastors and members about faith and the community here at St. Pauls. Contact Pastor Matt for more information at mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS – If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie Gallemore know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.). Email Corie at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

OUTREACH AND BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love to have you join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information contact Pauline Taylor, paulinetaylor933@gmail.com, or Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES (POLO) has play dates, Moms night out, Dads night out, family pizza parties, prayer groups, and more activities to support families with little ones between the ages of 0 and 5. If you have young children and would like to get involved, please contact Joanne Tong at jctong@yahoo.com.

SARAH'S SIBS gather Wednesday mornings to make 40 bag lunches to distribute to homeless people. Come to the church kitchen at 9:30 a.m.

ST. PAULS BASKETBALL – 7 p.m. Wednesdays
Our weekly pick-up games are co-ed. Ages range widely and skill levels go from enthusiastic to “I think she played in college.” All are welcome!
mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

ST. PAULS SOCIAL – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com.
Subscribe to the distribution list at eepurl.com/gQ4Eg1, or look out for future events announced in the bulletin calendar.

SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY – Now meeting every Wednesday at noon via ZOOM. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org to get the ZOOM link.

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).

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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page 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 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.

- Dear friend of Jenny Benefield who has chronic depression and is currently experiencing severe problems.
- Juanita Barlow recovering from surgery.
- Stacie B., sister of Mark P., and her sons at the unexpected passing of their husband/father, Ken.
- Andreas Hecht, whose father passed away suddenly at his home in Brazil.
- Hugo Osorio, whose son, Julio Esteban Sanchez Fierro, was killed in gun violence in Brazil.
- Polly Sippy, in hospice care.
- Denese S., friend of Pat Kirby, dealing with significant health problems.
- Rob and Shannon Castle's friend, Mike, in treatment for cancer.
- The Corbin family as they get settled in D.C. and navigate Ann's health issues.
- The Basil family at the death of Lois's mother, Carol Stoub.
- Pat Ruch's sister, Aline, beginning treatment for brain cancer.
- Prayers of healing for the young patients at Lurie and Comer Children's Hospitals.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.
- Veterans and those in wars.

You are beloved – to others, to the world you live in, and most important, 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.

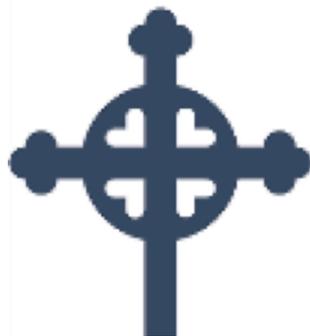
ABOUT ST. PAULS
Making a Joyful Sound in the City!

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" LGBTQ 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 important, over the past 176 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
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Jeff Carlson, *Associate Pastor*, jcarlson@spucc.org
Sarah Garcia, *Associate Pastor for Children and Youth*, sgarcia@spucc.org
Karaçan Sayrun-Thomas, *Children's Program Coordinator*, kara@spucc.org
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Brendan Henry, *Pianist*, brendanpherry@hotmail.com
Nancy Voigts, *Children's Choir Director*, nvoigtsgod@att.net
Kecia Waldschmidt, *Youth Choir Director*, keciagerman@hotmail.com
Mark Mosley, *Intergenerational Orchestra Director*, mwmosley@gmail.com
Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator*, kkobrien48@hotmail.com



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.