



April 26, 2020
Virtual Worship

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"Our God will not tire. She has not fallen asleep on the job and will not quit. She has not forgotten you. God's glory will shine like the noonday sun and no one will be lost. We will be the people of life, not death. And we're setting up an outpost of God's Kingdom here and now."

Sarah Bessey

PRELUDE

It Is Well

Phillip Bliss

arr. James Michael Stevens

Shannon Banjavcic, flute, and Scott Banjavcic, piano

CHIMES

INTROIT

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J. Rosamond Johnson

Virtual Chancel Choir

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day you have made, life-giving God.

All: We will give thanks for it.

One: You surprise us in places we thought you were absent.

All: You take our endings and make new beginnings.

One: You challenge us to reconsider what is possible.

All: Living Lord, Saviour Christ, we praise you, for there is a new creation emerging and, by your grace, we are part of it! Alleluia!

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

* HYMN

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Lead by Leslie and Nathan Chamberlain

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, Born to set thy peo - ple free;
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth thou art;
3. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and yet a king!
4. By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;

From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.
Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
By thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts and fears override our hope and faith. Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your love and instead fall into despair and gloom. Lift up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now, not just the hope of resurrection for the future. We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ, who continues to offer us new life, who continues to turn us around and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life. Forgive us, restore us and renew us. In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Luke 24:13-24

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?"

He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him."

Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

* 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

"Slow of Heart"

Sarah Garcia

OFFERTORY

I' Goin' Up A-Yonder
Pauls People
Kecia Waldschmidt, director

Walter Hawkins
arr. Martin Sirvatka

Please use Zelle - "giving@spucc.org" or visit spucc.org/about-us/giving-to-st-pauls

* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Matt Fitzgerald

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

How Great Thou Art
Led by Terry and Kurt Hansen



1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der and hear the
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion and take me



all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played:—
gran - deur, and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze:—
bear - ing, he bled and died to take a - way my sin:—
-ra - tion, and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art."—



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee:— how great thou



art,— how great thou art!— Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee:— how great thou art,— how great thou art!—

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

POSTLUDE

Poème Héroïque
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ
Cosmopolitan Brass and Percussion

M. Dupré

To help contain the spread of COVID-19, worship at Saint Pauls is suspended until further notice. Worship services will be streamed Sundays at 10 a.m. on St. Pauls Facebook page, facebook.com/saintpaulsucc.

KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL will be streamed on St. Pauls Facebook page on Sundays at 11:15 a.m. This will be geared towards preschoolers and young elementary school students. Stay tuned and join in!

If you would like someone to pray with you this week, Clergy and Stephen Ministers are available for phone calls.

*Small groups and committee meetings are encouraged to reach out to church pastors and staff for alternative ways to stay connected, or for assistance holding virtual meetings during this time.
Watch your email for updates.*

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 26 Elysia Sheehan, Kecia Waldschmidt, Oscar Hull

April 27 Carole Knuti

April 28 Charlie Johnson, Sullivan McGrath

April 29 Braden Van Zeyl

April 30 Ethan Fitzgerald, Harley Houser, Kelly Sensenbrenner, Margaret Arden,
Tommy Schmitz

May 1 Karen Fisher, Kris Hansen, Sherrie Kobak, Thomas Clancy

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

The need for goods, volunteers and donations continue to increase. If you have time, talents or treasures to help, below are a few options. If you have any questions, please contact Pauline Taylor at paulinetaylor933@gmail.com or 312-497-4401.

CALLING ALL SEWERS - UCAN and The Night Ministry are in need of masks. There will be a drop-off in the church parking lot on Thursday, April 30 at 6 p.m. Here is the link to a pattern: www.nytimes.com/article/how-to-make-face-mask-coronavirus.html?searchResultPosition=2.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES - Volunteers are needed to prepare a meal at home and drop it off or order a meal from a restaurant for delivery. Sally Fletcher will be coordinating these meals. If you are interested, please contact Sally at sfletcher1443@gmail.com or 312-848-5400 to schedule your drop off or delivery.

St. Pauls has committed to the following:

May 3, 4 & 6 - Lunch at 600 W. Fullerton, drop off by 12:30 p.m.
22 guests for each meal (3-4 vegetarian)

LAKEVIEW PANTRY -

To volunteer: email volunteers@lakeviewpantry.org.

In-Kind Donations: Most needed food items (can be delivered to 3945 N. Sheridan Rd.): Peanut Butter, Canned Tuna, Canned Vegetables, Oatmeal, Canned Fruit.

THE NIGHT MINISTRY - Needs gift cards for Aldi, Jewel-Osco, GrubHub, and Family Dollar. Email Brittany Caine-Conley at BrittanyC@thenightministry.org for delivery or pick-up options.

GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY - Volunteer at greaterchicagofooddepository.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOMEWORK HELP AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS - Are you busy working and don't have enough time to help your kids with school work? Do your kids whiz through their work and then end up bored and lonely? We will be offering Zoom Homework Help and Zoom Afterschool Clubs. If you are interested, email Pastor Sarah sgarcia@spucc.org.

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 ongoing, weekly, and individual opportunities to stay connected in our time apart.

There is a group 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 Facebook Group, “Saint Pauls Together,” is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share uplifting thoughts and stories.

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 28 - WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - 7:30 p.m., Zoom

Please join us for the third meeting of a women's book group, during which we will discuss the third chapter of the book *Inspired*, by Rachel Held Evans. All are welcome even if you missed the other meetings or haven't read the chapter. Email Corie Gallemore for more information: corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

APRIL 29 - 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 30 - 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, lpatton21@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.

Verbal announcements are due by Wednesdays at noon.

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.

- Patty, friend of Petrine Ashley, hospitalized with a very serious knee infection.
- Debbie, friend of Petrine Ashley, recovering from an operation for breast cancer.
- 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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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.