

August 30, 2020
Virtual Worship

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"It is in those places furthest from prosperity, fullness, beauty, honor and power
that Christians have had God revealed most distinctly to them."

Wendy Farley

PRELUDE

Precious Lord
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

W. Held

CHIMES

INTROIT

Oh Be Joyful in the Lord
Chancel Choir

Hebrew melody

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeff Carlson

One: If we are God's children, then we must cry out to Her!

All: Be with us Lord! Our country and our world are reeling!

One: Hold us steady. Give us courage. Jolt our faith.

All: All things come from you!

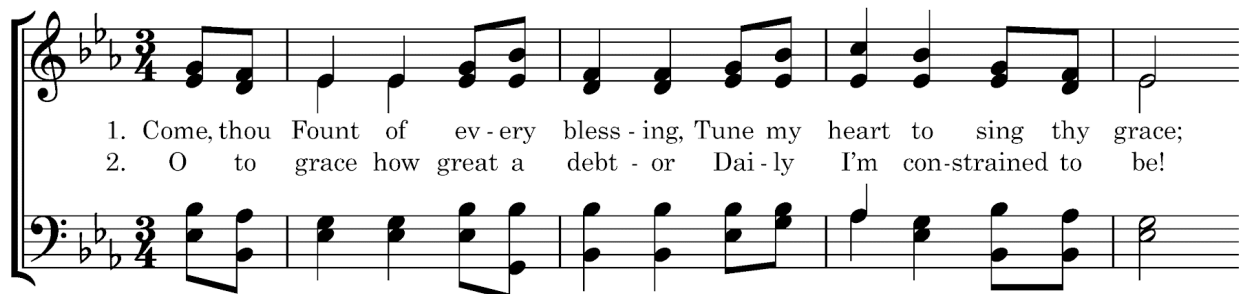
One: All things happen through you!

All: All things are moving toward you!

HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Led by Nathan Streeter



1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2. O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter Bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by_ flam - ing tongues a - bove;
Prone to_ wan - der, Lord, I feel_ it, Prone to_ leave the God I love;



Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, Mount of thy re - deem - ing love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for thy courts a - bove.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

From "Eleven Addresses to the Lord" by John Berryman

**Master of beauty, craftsman of the snowflake,
Endower of Earth so gorgeous & different from the boring Moon,
make me honest.
Induct me down my secrets.
Stiffen my heart against their horrifying cries.
Cushion the first and second shocks
engendered by true confession.
You have come to my rescue again & again.
Accept my amazement.
May I stand until death forever at attention
for your least instruction or enlightenment,
for your blazing mercy.
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Diane Biegert

Romans 11:36-12:3

All things come from God; all things happen through God; all things are moving toward God. So here is what I want you to do, God helping you:

Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

It is important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.

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 “So here is what I want you to do: ” Matt Fitzgerald

MEDITATION *Lost in the Stars* Kurt Weill
Lee Lichamer, bass

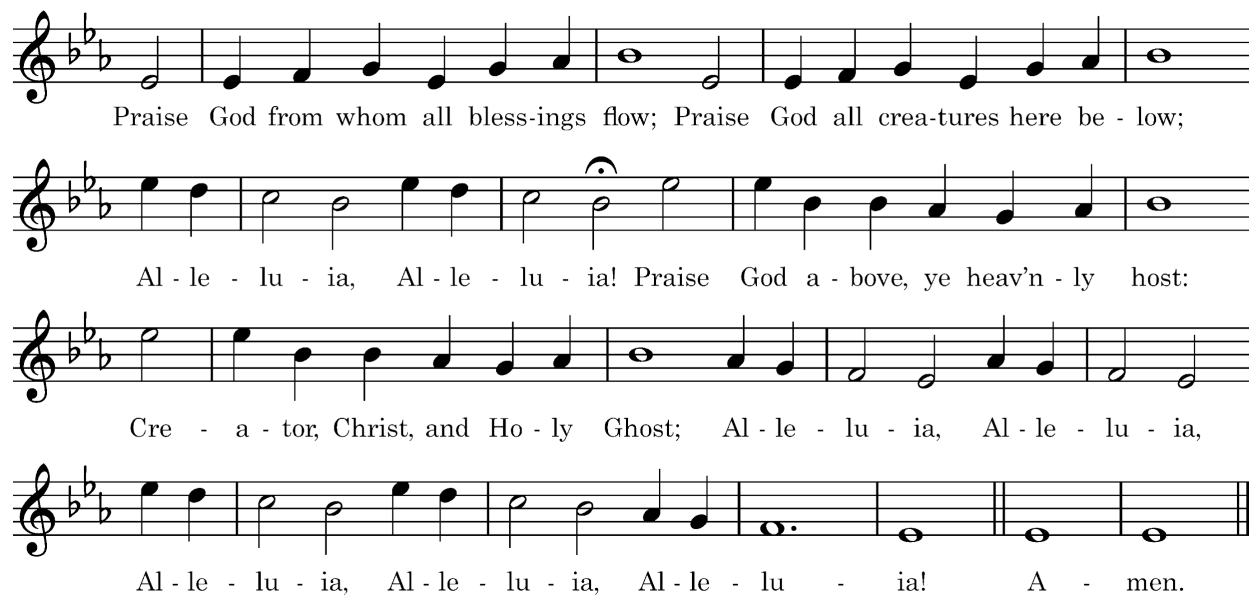
OFFERING INVITATION

Sarah Garcia

OFFERTORY *In Bright Mansions Above* Traditional Spiritual
The Sopranos of the Chancel Choir arr. K. Lee Scott

Give to St. Pauls with Zelle: giving@spucc.org or spucc.org/about-us/giving-to-st-pauls

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God above, 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! A-men." The music ends with a double bar line.

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Guide My Feet

Led by Jeff Carlson and Joe JaQuay

1. Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet
2. Hold my hand while I run this race, hold my hand
3. I'm your child while I run this race, I'm your child
4. Stand by me while I run this race, stand by me

Yes, my God.

while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
while I run this race, hold my hand while I run this race,
while I run this race, I'm your child while I run this race,
while I run this race, stand by me while I run this race,

Yes, my God.

For I don't want to run this race in vain.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE



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

POSTLUDE

Lord Don't Move a Mountain
St. Arbucks Trio

Mahalia Jackson

To help contain the spread of COVID-19, worship at Saint Pauls is suspended until further notice. Worship services are streamed Sundays at 10 a.m. Central, and re-streamed on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Central, on Saint Pauls website, spucc.org/streaming.

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

BORN THIS WEEK IN AUGUST & 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.

Aug 30 Edward Keller, Laura Mergl, Tracy Nach
Aug 31 Cecilia Badanes, Riley Conway
Sept 1 Nick Zager, Jill Lawrence, Brent Carstensen
Sept 2 Mary Train, Gretchen Althen, Carol Weston, Drew Heller
Sept 3 Natalie Mutch, Erika Keegan
Sept 4 Beatrix Kompare, Kristy Hunt, Douglas Hamilton
Sept 5 Hayley Leaf, Isaiah Fitzgerald, Brent Bunch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UCAN THANKS YOU! - A big thank-you from all of the students of UCAN who were the recipients of backpacks generously contributed by members of St. Pauls. Beginning college at any time is challenging, but this year those challenges are multiplied tenfold. Having a brand new backpack is a great way to start!

COFFEE HOUR IS ON ZOOM - Join one of our pastors weekly after worship for a Zoom coffee hour. Chat with old and new friends, and connect with Saint Pauls during this hour of fellowship.

- To join from a computer or smartphone app, use Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Password: **Coffee**.
- To call in by phone, dial **(312) 626-6799**, and use Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Password: **530750**.

Zoom is free and does not require an account for meeting participants. If you do not have a Zoom account, you can simply go to zoom.us and click "join" in the top right corner of your screen to enter the above meeting details.

PHONE-IN SUNDAY WORSHIP - Are you or someone you know unable to watch the Sunday service on our website? You can now phone in and listen. Call (312) 626-6799 by 10 a.m. Central on Sundays and use Meeting ID: **832 5646 7176** Password: **388462**

NOMINATE A SAINT PAULS HERO! – Do you know a dedicated, essential worker you would like to nominate as a St. Pauls Covid-19 Hero? With the covid crisis far from over, we'd like to pay tribute to those among us who have made and continue to make valuable contributions on the front lines of the pandemic. We'll feature these heroes on our Facebook page. If there is a doctor, nurse, teacher, food provider, or other hard working "hero" you'd like to nominate, simply complete the form at the link below to provide us information. Or, you can email Wendy Love at wlovecommunications@gmail.com.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfqcowCY_-rUePhWbmg9QiliNq9oagykLZXGn3Hd6_1Mya8Vg/viewform?usp=pp_url

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AUG 31 – YOUNG ADULTS SPIRITED DISCUSSIONS – 7:30-8:30 p.m.

The Young Adults group will be having an event called "Spirited Discussions" this Monday over Zoom. Bring your own beverage and chat about theology. Please email Julia if you need the Zoom link at juliaqmercer@gmail.com.

SEPT 2 – 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.

SEPT 3 – WINE AND WHINE PARENTS NIGHT – 7:30 p.m. Church Parking Lot

Bring a lawn chair and your favorite beverage for this socially distanced gathering for parents who would like to talk over the joys and challenges of life with kids during this pandemic. RSVP to Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org.

SEPT 17 – ST. PAULS SOCIAL VIRTUAL COOKING CLASS – 6:30-8 p.m., Zoom

Join St. Pauls Social and Chef Molly McGrath as you learn how to make a great meal inspired by the flavors of the Mediterranean. The meal will consist of braised chicken with walnuts and olives, quick garlic kale, and a light malabi custard with seasonal fruit. A full ingredient list and recipes will be provided before the call so everyone can cook along! RSVP to: mollymcgrath906@gmail.com.

SEPT 19 – YOUNG ADULTS SOCIAL DISTANCE PICNIC – 11 a.m., Clarendon Park

Please bring your own food and seat. We are asking attendees to wear a mask unless seated and eating or drinking. For those comfortable doing so, there will be enough room to break off to play catch or kick a ball around, while leaving plenty of space for those who prefer not to. Questions? Email youngadults@spucc.org.

SEPT 21 - BOOK DISCUSSION of *THE SOWER* - 7 p.m., Zoom

Join the “Long, Classic Novels Reading Group” to discuss this science-fiction novel by Octavia E. Butler. It’s the third in this year’s selections from the Zora Canon of Literature by African American Women. RSVP to Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org, for the Zoom link.

HELP OUR COMMUNITY

The need for goods, volunteers and donations continues 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.

AMERICAN RED CROSS - The need for blood, plasma or platelets is always urgent. This is an easy way to make an incredible difference in a person’s life. Contact: redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time to make an appointment.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP) - CEP meals at St. Pauls have resumed in a new outdoor format! Volunteers are needed **September 6, 13, and 20** to provide bag lunches with beverages. St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to enjoy a meal and get access to health services as part of the Community Engagement Program (CEP). Volunteers drop off 30 bag lunches at 1 p.m. on Sundays in the St. Pauls courtyard. Each Sunday’s meal can be provided by a single household or split with another volunteer. To sign up or get more information, contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY RENEWAL - For those interested in supporting an organization at the forefront of driving the change we need to achieve racial equity, consider Chicago’s **Community Renewal Society**:

<https://www.communityrenewalsociety.org/donate>. This UCC-affiliated organization is “Working together, with one voice and many hearts, we fight for what we believe—life, justice and equality. Together, with many hands, we work every day to become a region free of race and class barriers.”

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS YOUR HELP! - This St. Pauls founded organization provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for individuals to provide meals during this time and Saint Pauls has signed up to provide lunches on the following Wednesdays in **October: 7, 14, 21, and 28**. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or 312-848-5400. Needed are 24 lunches, including 3 vegetarian, at the 600 W. Fullerton location on each of these days. For other LPCS volunteer opportunities, visit their website at lpcschicago.org to get involved, or contact volunteer coordinator Jameela Chaudhry at volunteer@lpcschicago.org.

THE NIGHT MINISTRY - St. Pauls has always supported the work of this organization since its founding more than 40 years ago. They are in need of hygiene kits to be distributed to their clients. Collect all or some of these items in travel or sample size and assemble into kits packed into gallon-size resealable bags: shampoo, conditioner, comb/brush, soap, body lotion, toothbrush, tooth paste, deodorant, mouthwash, lip balm, disposable razor, shaving cream, wash cloths, moist towelettes and sunscreen. Assembled kits may be dropped off at the church office (Orchard Street entrance) M-F between 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

REDUCING VIOLENCE - For those interested in supporting organizations in the city working to reduce and/or prevent violence:

UCAN: ucanchicago.org/donate/

Chicago CRED: charity.gofundme.com/donate/charity/chicagocred

Get In Chicago: getinchicago.org/

Gary Comer Youth Center:

app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/GaryComerYouthCenter_1/donation.html

SUPPORT ARTISTS - Thousands of artists are now out of work due to the pandemic. You may donate to **The Arts of Illinois Relief Fund** at artsforillinois.org/donate.

OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SUPPORT 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 support groups led by our licensed school psychologist and Zoom Afterschool Clubs led by our Children's Program Coordinator. If you are interested, email Pastor Sarah sgarcia@spucc.org.

COFFEE HOUR - Coffee hour is right after Sunday Worship, and now on Zoom – see the announcements for details. Join one of our pastors and other members and friends for this weekly hour of fellowship!

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.

EMAIL LIST SIGN-UP - Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected, or have you been a longtime friend and missed signing up for our email? Either way, you can go here: spucc.org/connect-learn/signups to fill out our virtual fellowship card to begin receiving our weekly email and special congregational emails, introduce yourself and receive a call from a pastor, and request more information about Children and Youth Programming and more!

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 welcome homeless and hungry people to enjoy a meal and get access to health services each week. Volunteers drop off 30 bag lunches at 1 p.m. on Sundays in the St. Pauls courtyard. Each Sunday's meal can be provided by a single household or split with another volunteer. See the “Help Our Community” bulletin section for Sundays to sign up, or get more information by contacting Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com.

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 NEEDS YOUR HELP! - This St. Pauls founded organization provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for individuals to provide meals during this time, particularly dinners. Both onsite and offsite volunteer opportunities available! For more information on how to get involved, visit their website at lpcschicago.org to get involved or contact volunteer coordinator Jameela Chaudhry at volunteer@lpcschicago.org.

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:

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 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.

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

SAINT PAULS TOGETHER - Our Facebook Group, “Saint Pauls Together,” is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share uplifting thoughts and stories. Check out our Facebook Page to request an invitation if you’re a member or friend!

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).

WEDNESDAY 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.

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.

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

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.

- Juanita Barlow's sister, Emilia, having a knee replacement.
- Lance Nogle, friend of Sally Fletcher, recently diagnosed with T-cell Lymphoma.
- Patty, friend of Petrine and Garold Ashley, as she undergoes a third knee transplant.
- Mary Stainton, as she anticipates surgery on Sept. 11.
- Surigao del Norte in the Philippines for safety from the Covid-19 virus.
- Mark Huddle at the death of his father Mike.
- Shirley Rieck at the death of her sister Nancy.
- Joe JaQuay's mother, Noor, hospitalized with significant health problems.
- Char Damron asks for prayers for Edmond and Jane, spouse and friend of Tricia who passed away.
- Kathryn, niece of Candi Huber, for a pain free and peaceful dying after her five-year struggle with stage 4 cancer.
- Jill Wachholz at the death of her father, Arthur.
- Mark Mosley at the death of his father, George.
- Sarah Good's brother, David, being treated for throat cancer.
- Sheryl Mooney, who is receiving treatment for leukemia.
- Mary Train, recovering from a broken wrist.
- Nancy Bingaman, recovering from a fall and a broken wrist.
- Amy Newman, being treated for cancer.
- Prayers of well-being for Michelle, who is suicidal.
- Rob and Shannon Castle's friend, Mike, in treatment for cancer.
- 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 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
2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614
(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858
www.spucc.org

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Jeff Carlson, *Associate Pastor*, jcarlson@spucc.org
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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.