

January 10, 2021
Baptism of Christ
Virtual Worship

HYMN

O God Beyond All Praising

Gustav Holst

Led by Lee Lichamer



1. O__ God be - yond all prais - ing, We wor - ship you to - day
2. Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, Ac - cept the love we bring,
3. The flower of earth - ly splen - dor, In time must sure - ly die,



And sing the love a - maz - ing That songs can - not re - pay;
That we who know your fa - vor May serve you as our king;
Its__ fra - gile bloom sur - ren - der To you, the Lord most high;



For__ we can on - ly won - der At__ ev - 'ry gift you send,
And wheth - er our to - mor - rows Be__ filled with good or ill,
But__ hid - den from all na - ture The e - ter - nal seed is sown



At__ bless - ings with - out num - ber And mer - cies with - out end:
We'll tri - umph through our sor - rows And rise to bless you still:
Though small in mor - tal sta - ture, To heav - ens gar - den grown;



We__ lift our hearts be - fore__ you And wait up - on your word,
To__ mar - vel at your beau - ty And glo - ry in your ways,
For__ Christ, your son, from hea - ven From death has set us free



We__ hon - or and a - dore you, Our great and might - y Lord.
And make a joy - ful du - ty Our sac - ri - fice of praise.
And through him you have giv - en The fi - nal vic - to - ry!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Benny VanDerburgh

**Lord our God,
It is not easy to wait for you.
Our world worships power
that acts quickly through force.
Your rule comes slowly through love.
Even as we long for your peace
We bow down to the ways of war.
Forgive us. Renew us. Transform us.
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Geoff Gist

Mark 1:4-11, The Message

John the Baptizer appeared in the wild, preaching a baptism of life-change that leads to forgiveness of sins. People thronged to him from Judea and Jerusalem and, as they confessed their sins, were baptized by him in the Jordan River into a changed life. John wore a camel-hair habit, tied at the waist with a leather belt. He ate locusts and wild field honey.

As he preached he said, “The real action comes next: The star in this drama, to whom I’m a mere stagehand, will change your life. I’m baptizing you here in the river, turning your old life in for a kingdom life. His baptism—a holy baptism by the Holy Spirit—will change you from the inside out.”

At this time, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. The moment he came out of the water, he saw the sky split open and God’s Spirit, looking like a dove, come down on him. Along with the Spirit, a voice: “You are my Son, chosen and marked by my love, pride of my life.”

OFFERTORY

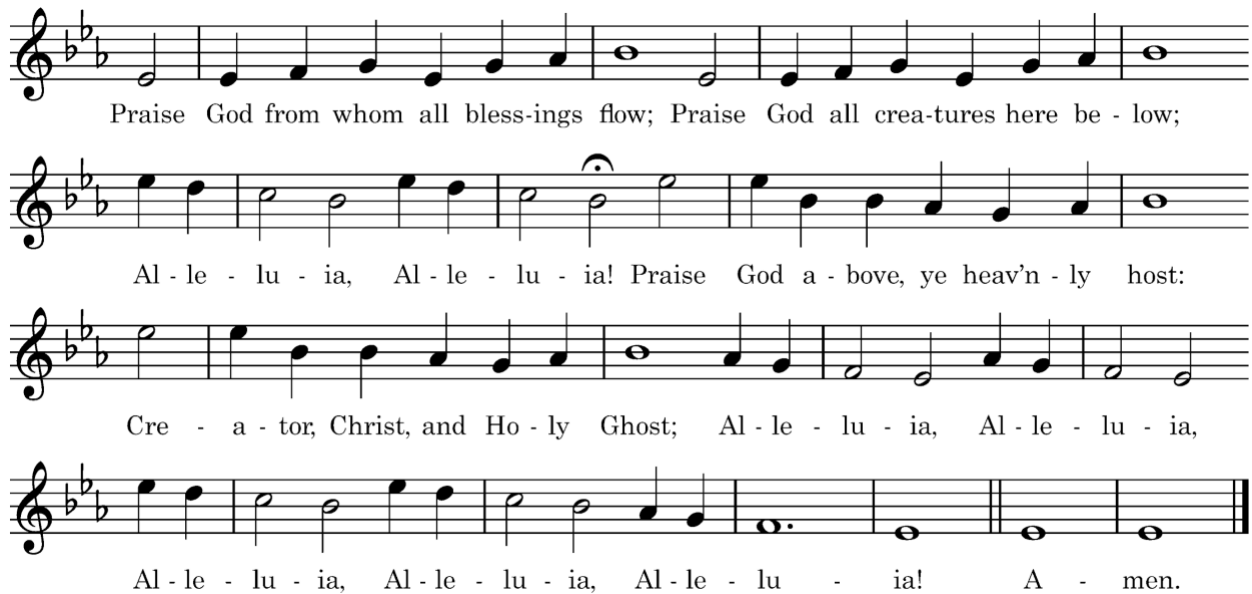
There Shall a Star from Jacob
from Christus Op.97
Chancel Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

There shall a star come out of Jacob,
and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel;
With might destroying princes and nations!
As bright the star of morning gleams,
So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams
Of light and consolation.
Thy word, o Lord,
Radiance darting, truth imparting,
Gives salvation;
Thine be praise and adoration!

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

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



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

Jeff Carlson

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

Beautiful Savior 18th Century Silesian Hymn
Led by Kecia Waldschmidt

1. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Cre - a - tion's sov - 'reign
2. Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands,
3. Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light,
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, O'er all the na - tions,

One with God and one with us! Tru - ly I'd love thee,
Robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er,
Bright the spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er,
One with God and one with us! Glo - ry and hon - or,

Tru - ly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
Je - sus is pur - er, He makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
Je - sus shines pur - er, Than all the an - gels in the sky.
Praise, ad - o - ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be thine.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A Gaelic Blessing
Virtual Chancel Choir

John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars, pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.

POSTLUDE

L'inverno (Winter)
Allegro
Hannah Barton

Vivaldi

Coffee Hour is on Zoom!

*Using a computer or smartphone app, use Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Pswd: **Coffee**
By phone, dial **(312) 626-6799**, Meeting ID: **882 5733 7213**, Password: **530750**.*

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

*You can also call in to listen to our services at **(312) 626-6799** at 10 a.m. Central on Sundays and use Meeting ID: **816 5093 8507**, Password: **459359***

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

VIRTUAL WORSHIP PRODUCTION TEAM

Chuck Kent

Mary Beth Hughes, Big Thinking By The Hour

Jim Courtright, Big Thinking By The Hour

VIRTUAL MUSIC PRODUCTION TEAM

Kevin Dzierzawski

Breanna Coe

Kristofer Hansen

BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY

We celebrate and give thanks for your life at St. Pauls.

*A perfect way to celebrate is by giving one dollar for each year of your life to our
Birthday Fund, which supports A Just Harvest.*

Jan 10 Adrienne Lundquist, Bethany Grachan, Matt Crowley

Jan 11 Julianne Prangley

Jan 12 Lauren Fangman, Petrine Ashley, Susie Rodriguez, Charlie Coe,
Harper Skowron, Serena Garcia Knotts

Jan 13 Ginger Hecht, Molly McGrath, Phil Canfield, Sune Millard, Max Waldschmidt

Jan 14 Katie Huber

Jan 15 Larry Simpson, Adrian Broderick, Jonah Schloerb, Julia Frisch

Jan 16 Alan Cramb, Kristin Lane Mack, Rachel Adams

Saint Pauls “Church Center”

I'm excited to introduce SPUCC Church Center, our new portal for the Saint Pauls community! Visit spucc.churchcenter.com on a computer or smart device, and download the “Church Center App” on your [Apple](#) or [Android](#) device to stay connected on-the-go. Below are just a few ways Church Center will simplify and expand our ability to connect with each other.

- Check out the [Calendar](#) for upcoming event information and RSVP links. See what events you're signed up for in your profile under "My Registrations."
- Use the [Give](#) page to give online one time or set up a recurring donation. Click your profile icon to view “My Giving” – see giving history (including Zelle, cash, and check), track pledge progress, and download statements.
- For members and friends, opt-in to the [Directory](#) and select what personal and family photos and information to securely share with other members and friends.
- In the near future, we'll also have a "Groups" page featuring group-specific event calendars, messaging, and more!

Church Center automatically informs you of important changes to your giving profile. Consequently, you may receive some automated emails as the office finalizes our database and giving record transition. *Unless there is an error or concern, you do not need to respond to these emails.*

If you do have any questions or need help getting started, please email Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org for profile or general assistance, or Melissa Miller Furgeson at bookkeeper@spucc.org for pledge and donation assistance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEER TO READ SCRIPTURE

While we worship virtually, volunteers are needed to send in a recording of the scripture reading each week. The week before the service you've volunteered for, the pastor who is preaching that Sunday will send you the scripture passage and recording/uploading instructions.

Sign up here: <https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988>

CALLING ALL STORYTELLERS - There have to be a lot of good, unusual, true stories in our congregation. St. Pauls Social is looking to plan a "Moth Radio Hour" type event for those stories to be told. If you've got a story to tell, or if you'd like some help writing your story, let Pastor Jeff know in order to help us plan, jcarlson@spucc.org.

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 volunteers to provide meals during this time. Open dates are: **January 12, 14, 25, 27, 31 and February 3, 10, 17.** Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 20 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.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP) - CEP meals in the St. Pauls courtyard have been discontinued until warm weather returns. We are currently offering laundry services to street-based guests - hygiene services are particularly important during the pandemic. If you are looking for other ways to help our neighbors experiencing homelessness, please contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com.

PASTORS' VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Want to talk? We are here for you! You can always reach out to one of our pastors, but we are also offering regularly scheduled virtual office hours, beginning next week. To "drop in" during virtual office hours, contact a pastor to make an appointment.

Benny, Pastoral Intern: Mondays, 3-5 p.m.

Pastor Matt: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Pastor Jeff: Fridays, 3-5 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JAN 12 - BOOK DISCUSSION OF BEST SELLER, *CASTE* - 7 p.m., Zoom

Join us for our third and final discussion on *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. No need to have attended the other sessions to participate! We'll cover pages 263 through the end. Please contact Rick Peterson, rnpeterson2017@gmail.com, to RSVP or for further information.

JAN 13 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK - 12 p.m. Zoon

We finish our series on the birth and childhood of Jesus with the story of the boy Jesus visiting the temple. A new study will begin on January 20. Email Pastor Jeff if you'd like to sign up, jcarlson@spucc.org.

JAN 17 - 7TH ANNUAL POLAR PEACE MARCH - 10 a.m.

Even though we are unable to march in person, we can still participate in this year's march by joining other members of St. Pauls for our virtual program immediately following worship. Let's all help raise awareness of the impactful work that UCAN does every day, and raise money to support their programs. For more information, and to set up your own fundraising page, visit polarpeacemarch.org. Your donations will be matched 2 for 1 by an anonymous family foundation. Together we can make a difference in the lives of so many young people in Chicago.

JAN 24 - SPIRITUALS AND CULTURAL APPROPRIATION - 3 p.m., Zoom.

Join us for a lecture and discussion with internationally known composer, conductor and educator Dr. Rollo Dilworth. Dr. Dillworth will speak about the history of spirituals and also address the important issue of cultural appropriation. Register at spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/685602.

JAN 26 - WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - 7:30 p.m., Zoom

Please join us for the women's book group. We will be reading *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. All are welcome. Email Corie Gallemore for more information: corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

JAN 28 - LEARN TO KNIT WITH LEE AND ST. PAULS SOCIAL - 7 p.m., Zoom

Have you ever wanted to learn to knit? Or perhaps in another life you enjoyed knitting, and during this pandemic, when we are staying home more than we would like, you would like to refresh your skills. Well, our very own knitting guru, Lee Lichamer, will be teaching the art of knitting on Zoom. Have needles and a favorite color of yarn, sit back, and to learn how to cast on, knit, and pearl. RSVP to Lee at lichamer@ameritech.net by the 27th. You will be sent the Zoom link on that date.

OPPORTUNITIES

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/signup 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, 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.

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.

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year olds. We are now accepting applications for 2021. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

LONG, CLASSIC NOVELS READING GROUP –

This year we read four books from the Zora Canon, written by African American women. Our meetings for 2020 have concluded and readings for 2021 are being set, so stay tuned! Anyone is welcome to join us. 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 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.

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 start or continue groups. 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. To have your prayer request included, 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.

- Nial, Gloria Joseph's husband, who is dealing with a cancer diagnosis and beginning treatments.
- Marci, Gloria Joseph's friend, who recently suffered a stroke.
- Sheryl Mooney and family, as she starts hospice care at home.
- Prayers for our democracy.
- Carrie Brugger's brother, Steve, and family at the death of his wife, Barb.
- Juanita Barlow's sister, Maria Dolores Guadalupe, recovering from a stroke.
- The Rieck family at the death of Shirley.
- The Nietzsche family at the tragic death of Dan.
- Kristin Mack and family at the deaths of her grandfather, Dennis Carlson, and granny, Charlotte.
- Ninon Freeman at the death of her mother, Alba Young.
- Jan Bail's sister, Marty, diagnosed with cancer.
- Michael VanZeyl's Aunt Betty, hospitalized, and Laura VanZeyl's parents, Lionel and Donna, coping with isolation.
- Molly Dierks, in the hospital.
- Erick, an Army friend of Bruce Voice.
- Bruce Voice, recovering from surgery.
- A mother and her two children going through a very difficult time.
- Patty, friend of Petrine and Garold Ashley, as she undergoes a third knee transplant.
- Mark Huddle at the death of his father, Mike.
- Mary Train, recovering from a broken wrist.
- Amy Newman, being treated for cancer.
- Rob and Shannon Castle's friend, Mike, in treatment for cancer.
- Pat Ruch's sister, Aline, beginning treatment for brain cancer.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.

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!

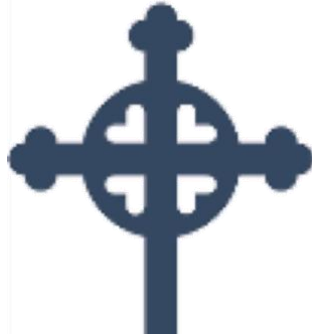
Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBTQ women and men.

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 177 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
Tom Henry, *Pastor Emeritus*, emeritushenry@gmail.com
Benny VanDerburgh, *Pastoral Intern*, bvanderburgh@spucc.org
Karen E. Johnson, *President of the Congregation*, kejplano@aol.com
Maddy Lockhart, *Director of Operations*, mlockhart@spucc.org
Melissa Miller Furgeson, *Bookkeeper*, bookkeeper@spucc.org
Kurt R. Hansen, *Music Director*, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com
Kevin Dzierzawski, *Organist*, kdzierza@att.net
Brendan Henry, *Pianist*, brendanhenrypiano@gmail.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.