

January 26, 2020

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

***Please silence cell phones.***

*Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

“Try to retrieve the bright unbearable reality as you might lift the roof off a church in order to remember what you’re worshipping.” Alice Oswald

PRELUDE	<i>Adagio, Op. 159, No. 1</i> Kevin Dzierzawski, organ	Alexandr Grechaninov
INTROIT	<i>When Morning Gilds the Skies</i> Chancel Choir	Joseph Barnaby
WELCOME		Sarah Garcia

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O God, be with us now! Come to us and shape us.

**All: Shrink our despair down to nothing. Erase our vanity.**

One: Show us how great and good you are.

**All: Let this be an hour of light!**

One: Give us brightness. Give us brilliance.

**All: Overwhelm the shadows of this earth!**

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

\* HYMN

*O Worship the King, All Glorious Above*

1. O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove,  
2. O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
3. Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?  
4. Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail;

O grate - ful - ly sing his won - der - ful love;  
Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fall;

Our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,  
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,  
Thy mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.  
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.  
And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
Our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**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.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\* RESPONSE

*Just As I Am*

vs. 1 & 2

1. Just\_ as I am,\_\_\_ with - out\_\_\_ one plea but  
2. Just\_ as I am,\_\_\_ though tossed\_\_ a - bout with  
3. Just\_ as I am,\_\_\_ you will\_\_\_ re - ceive, will  
4. Just\_ as I am,\_\_\_ your love\_\_\_ un - known has

that\_ your blood was shed for me, And that you called\_ in -  
man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears\_ with -  
wel - come, par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise  
bro - ken ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and

- vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

*During this time, Sunday School students are invited to go to the Social Hall for Bible Off Broadway rehearsal. If you would like to accompany your child, you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

#### THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

*Psalm 40: 1-11*

I waited and waited and waited for God.  
 he inclined to me; he listened.  
 He drew me up from the ditch,  
 out of the miry bog.  
 He stood me up on a solid rock  
 making my steps secure.  
 He put a new song in my mouth,  
 a song of praise to our God.  
 More and more people are seeing this:  
 they enter the mystery,  
 and put their trust in God.

Happy are you who give yourselves over to God,  
 turn your backs on the proud, and  
 ignore what the world worships;

O Lord, you have multiplied  
 God-wonders and God-thoughts toward us.  
 Nothing and no one  
 can compare with you!

Were I to tell of your wondrous deeds and thoughts  
numbers and words would fail.  
Doing something for you, bringing something to you—  
that's not what you're after.  
Being religious, acting pious—  
that's not what you're asking for.  
You've opened my ears  
so I can listen.

Then I answered,  
"Here I am. I delight to do your will."  
That's when God's Word entered my life,  
became part of my very being.

I've preached you to the whole congregation,  
I've kept back nothing, God—you know that.  
I didn't keep the news of your ways  
a secret, I told it all, how steadfast you are, how faithful.  
I didn't hold back pieces of love and truth for myself.  
I told it all. I let the congregation know the whole story.

*Now God, don't hold out on me,  
don't hold back your mercy.  
Your love and truth  
are all that keeps me together.*

\* 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)*

\* RESPONSE

*We Have Gathered Jesus, Dear*

1. We have gath - ered, Je - sus dear, we have come to  
2. All our in - tel - lec - tual dreams come to noth - ing,  
3. Born of God, true light of light, Ho - ly Spir - it,

watch and lis - - ten. Fix our minds, our sens - es clear,  
fade at day - break. All our hope - ful plots and schemes,  
pure, un - fail - - ing: All our fac - ul - ties ex - cite,

to re - ceive your heaven - ly les - son. Please im - prove our  
start in pre - tense, end in heart - ache. Thought - ful speech, and  
ears and heart and mouth un - seal - ing: Then, through Je - sus'

con - cen - tra - tion: draw us in - to con - tem - pla - tion.  
ac - tive jus - tice, you ac - com - plish these with - in us.  
me - di - a - tion, God will hear our sup - pli - ca - tion.

SERMON

“bright, unbearable reality”

Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

*Just As I Am*

vs. 3 & 4

*See previous insert.*

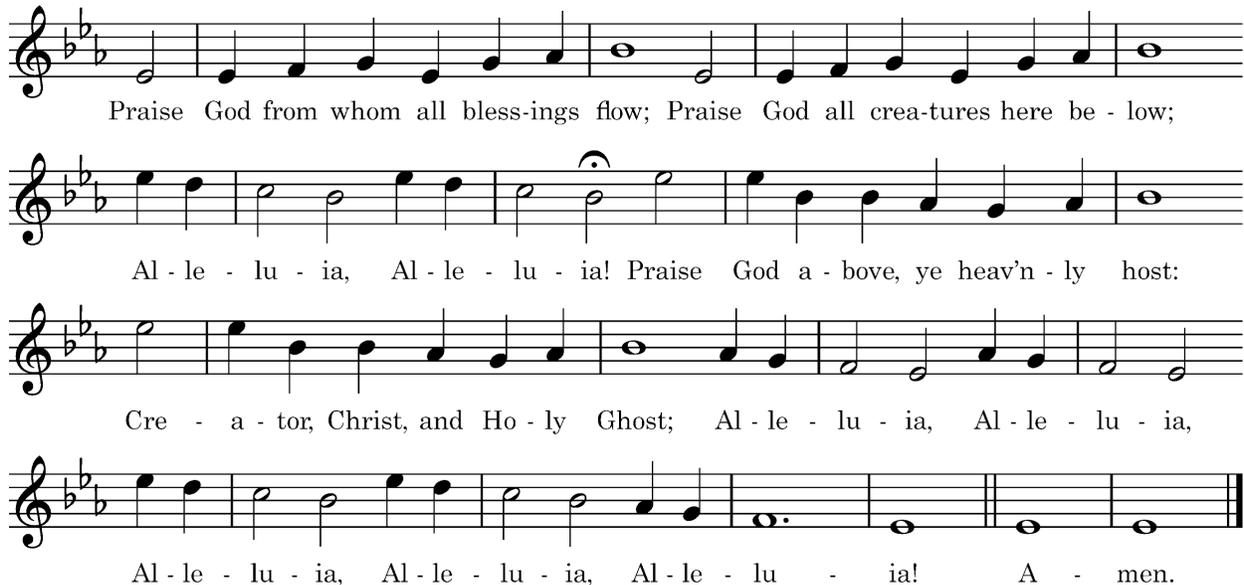
OFFERTORY

*Ninye otpushaiyeshi*  
and *Gloria Patri*  
(sung in Old Church Slavonic)  
Chancel Choir

Alexandr Grechaninov  
George Matterling

Lord, now let thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.  
For my eyes have seen thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples.  
A light as revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.  
*Luke 2: 29-32*  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen  
*from the liturgy*

\* 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.

HAITI MISSION TRIP COMMISSIONING

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

*How Firm a Foundation*



1. How\_ firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,  
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
5. "The\_ soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,



by\_ God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!  
for\_ I am your God, I will still give you aid;  
the\_ riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;  
my\_ grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;  
I\_ will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



What more can God say than to you has been said,  
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand  
For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,  
the flame shall not hurt you; for I have de - signed  
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake.



to\_ you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."  
de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."  
your\_ soul to make pure just as gold is re - fined."  
I'll\_ nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Gloria Patri*  
Chancel Choir

George Matterling

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen

POSTLUDE

*Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. S. Bach

***If you would like someone to pray with you today, Stephen Ministers are present  
after the Postlude at the right front of the Sanctuary.***

***Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks  
downstairs in the Gym.***

TODAY'S MUSIC - Our Offertory Anthem was composed by Alexandr Grechaninov (1864–1956). Grechaninov is primarily remembered for his liturgical music for the Russian Orthodox Church. This is a setting of Simeon's prayer upon seeing the child Jesus. God promised Simeon that he would live to see the Messiah. Grechaninov moved from the Soviet Union to France in 1925. He immigrated to the United States in 1939 and spent the rest of his life here. The *Gloria Patri* in English is composed in the style of Grechaninov by George Matterling and added to an English edition of the *Nunc dimittis*. The *Gloria Patri* is the prescribed congregational response at the close of any biblical reading except for readings from the four Gospels. The Russian Orthodox liturgy has no such response.

*O Worship the King, All Glorious Above* uses the tune LYONS which was originally ascribed to Haydn, but more recent research indicates that the composer was Joseph Martin Kraus (1756–1792), a German who resided in Sweden. The English text is by Robert Grant (1779–1838). He was of Scottish descent, but lived his entire life in India. He was deeply influenced by poetic rendering of Psalms.

*Just As I Am* is set to the tune WOODWORTH which was composed by American William B. Bradbury (1816–1868) in 1849. The text is by Charlotte Elliot (1789–1871), who was British. Sadly, she was frail and sickly most of her life, which makes her text especially poignant and personal. This hymn is often associated with altar calls in revivals.

*How Firm a Foundation*, although of anonymous origin, is a true American hymn first published in Funk's Genuine Church Music in 1832. That hymnal is part of what is often referred to as the Sacred Harp, or shape-note hymnal, tradition in our country which began in the early 19th Century. These treasures gained a rebirth during the bicentennial celebrations in 1976. Did you know that before the revival of this tune, FOUNDATION, this text was most often sung to the tune *Adeste Fideles* (*O Come All Ye Faithful*)? The text is also unattributed, but first discovered by John Rippon (1751–1836), who was an English Baptist clergy. He noted the author as "K."

**POLAR THANK YOU!** Thank you to everyone that marched, volunteered and donated to last Sunday's Polar Peace March! With the matching grant, together we raised more than \$130,000 for UCAN's work among at-risk youth. We'd especially like to thank our planning committee of Pauline Taylor and Rebecca Brown, Co-Chairs, along with Andrea Koepke, Corie Gallemore, Chuck Kent, Mary Brown, Fred Pearson, Mark Clark, Lizzie Rein, Maureen Reilly, Nancy Curotto, Nate Chamberlain, Pastors Sarah and Jeff, as well as our confirmation students and teachers, for preparing the soup.

## Pray for Puerto Rico



Holy God,  
Source of light and life,  
Our hearts are once again grieving  
As we witness the many tragedies around us.

We pray today for our siblings in Puerto Rico  
Who have awakened to the challenges of these  
earthquakes.

We pray for their strength and resilience.  
We pray for those who experienced loss  
And ask their peace and comfort.

Help us to be a source of your presence and love  
with all in this moment. We pray these things in the  
name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **UCC Issues \$250,000 Appeal for Puerto Rico**

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On January 7, 2020, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake caused widespread damage to southern Puerto Rico. Several smaller earthquakes have hit the island since December 28.

Power outages and damages have been reported and people are afraid to go to sleep and stay indoors for fear that another quake will come, or that their homes will crumble due to the damage caused by the quake.

**Pray** for continued strength and resolve for those whose lives have been impacted by this and all disasters. Please also pray for the First Responders, disaster volunteers, and all the people who are working tirelessly to provide relief, now and in the days, months, and years to come.

**Stay up to date** on the UCC Response and Recovery.

[https://www.ucc.org/earthquake\\_recovery\\_puerto\\_rico](https://www.ucc.org/earthquake_recovery_puerto_rico)

**Donate.** The response and rebuilding will be long term. Your generous financial contribution now makes an immediate and long-term response possible. <https://transactions.ucc.org/CampaignForm/UCChrist/Disaster>

**Assemble** CWS Clean-up Kits. The UCC has matching grants available, even if you previously assembled kits.

[http://www.ucc.org/disaster\\_2018\\_matching\\_grants\\_for\\_cws\\_kits\\_home\\_page](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_2018_matching_grants_for_cws_kits_home_page)

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*Give through your local UCC Congregation, or  
make your checks payable to the United Church of Christ with  
"2020 Puerto Rico Earthquake Response" on the check and mail to:*



Financial Services, 700 Prospect Avenue,  
Cleveland OH 44115

Direct Questions to: 216-736-3215

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Bruce Voice, Fred Pearson, Lauren Vega, Layne Lebahn

**Head Greeter:** Greg Mooney

**Greeter:** Sheryl Mooney

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**St. Arbucks Quartet:** Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums

## BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY

### **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.*

Jan 26 Dan Martin

Jan 27 Lorne Frank

Jan 28 Candace Huber, David Duvall

Jan 29 Veronica Tong

Jan 30 James Hammac, Carrie Gleason, Jana O'Brien, Stephen Winters

Jan 31 Vanya Weglarz

Feb 1 Kendra Zager, Zoe Gardner, Rick Sensenbrenner

## TODAY

**TODAY & FEB 9 - NEW MEMBER CLASSES** - 11:30 - 1:30 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room  
Come after worship to these meetings and talk with pastors and members about faith and the community here at St. Pauls. Lunch and childcare are provided. Joining Sunday is February 23. Contact Pastor Matt for more information or to RSVP at [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org).

**PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES PRESENTATION** - 11:15 a.m., JK/Kindergarten  
“Little Ones, Big Feelings – Helping Young Children Regulate Emotions & Show Empathy” Regulating our emotions and showing empathy enables us to build strong relationships and strengthen communities and this development starts early. Jesse Ilhardt, Managing Director of Programs at VOCEL, will join us to discuss how parents can foster empathetic relationships among children and set them up for a lifetime of success. In this interactive workshop, we’ll discuss how empathy develops, learn about strategies you can use at home, and reflect on our unique role as the primary people supporting little ones’ development beyond the ABCs.

**FAITH & PUBLIC ISSUES 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** - Join us during social hour for some cake and refreshments as we celebrate 20 years of education and advocacy in support of our most important public issues.

**ST. PAULS SOCIAL BRUNCH** - Jan and Joe Womack are hosting a brunch in their home in Bucktown, adjacent to the 606, on Sunday, January 26, after the 10 a.m. service. Food and beverages will be provided. Bring a willingness to get to know other St. Pauls members. Reservations are limited to the first 20 people who respond. RSVP to Jan at [womack.jan@gmail.com](mailto:womack.jan@gmail.com) or (405) 202-7704.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**2020 CHURCH COUNCIL** - St. Pauls Nominating Task Force is currently working to identify and nominate members of St. Pauls who wish to serve on our Church Council. Open 2020 Council positions include: Vice President (2-year term), Treasurer (2-year term), Worship, Formation and Education Ministry (3-year term), Care and Connection Ministry (3-year term), and two At-large Member positions (3-year term). If you are interested in serving on St. Pauls Church Council, or have questions regarding the responsibilities related to certain Council positions, please contact one of the following Nominating Task Force members: Sheryl Mooney, Lois Basil, Mary Brown, Nathan Chamberlin and Emma Peterson. You may also contact current Council President, Karen Johnson, or Pastor Matt Fitzgerald. Contact information is available in the church office member directory, or by calling (773) 348-3829.

**BIBLE OFF BROADWAY** - Our annual tradition of taking this month to explore and use our creative talents continues with our Bible Off Broadway Musical Revue (formerly Bible Story Theatre). Sunday School students from JK to high school all participate, and any adults who would like to be involved are encouraged to join in. Our last rehearsal is today from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Even if you cannot make it to all the rehearsals, you can still be in the performance on February 2 at 10 a.m. To get involved, please contact Pastor Sarah at [sgarcia@spucc.org](mailto:sgarcia@spucc.org).

**JOIN OUR ORCHESTRA** - The St. Pauls Intergenerational Orchestra will perform in worship on Sunday, March 1. This year, we celebrate our church's German heritage with an all-Beethoven program. Orchestra members include teens and adults of all ages and abilities. We rehearse immediately after church in the Oscar Mayer Room on February 9, 16 and 23. If you are interested, please contact our conductor Mark Mosley at (773) 732-0625 or [mwmosley@gmail.com](mailto:mwmosley@gmail.com). If you play a string, woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument, please join us as together we "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!"

**2020 READING GROUP SELECTIONS: Four Novels by African American Women**

This year, the "Long, Classic Novels Reading Group" will be reading selections from the Zora Canon:

*Moses, Man of the Mountain*, Zora Neale Hurston (1939) - Discussion date: March 16

*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

All discussions at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Anyone is welcome to join us for one or all four. Please RSVP to Pastor Jeff for email updates: [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**FEB 3 - NEW! YOUNG ADULTS SPIRITED DISCUSSION** - 7:30 p.m., at Lincoln Station, 2432 N. Lincoln Avenue -- The St. Pauls Young Adults Group is starting a new quarterly event combining theological discussions with social connection. If you are a 20-30-something looking to meet other young adults at church and connect with Pastor Jeff, this is a great way to do so! At our kickoff event, we will discuss our personal theological journeys and what brought us to St. Pauls. Table for 12 is reserved, RSVP to Julia at [juliaqmercer@gmail.com](mailto:juliaqmercer@gmail.com).

**FEB 9 - NEW MEMBER CLASSES - 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room**

Come after worship to these meetings and talk with pastors and members about faith and the community here at St. Pauls. Lunch and childcare are provided. Joining Sunday is February 23. Contact Pastor Matt for more information or to RSVP at mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

**FEB 13-20 - 2020 HAITI ADULT MISSION TRIP** - Greg Mooney has reserved this week for an adult mission trip to volunteer at Three Angels orphanage and school with the hope that current tensions will have subsided to make it safe for travel. The need in Haiti is great. If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Greg at greg-mooney@msn.com, or look for him greeting in the Narthex.

**FEB 14 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL POTLUCK DINNER** - Join Saint Pauls Social and collector Susann Craig on Friday, February 14, 6-9 p.m. at her Logan Square loft designed by world famous architect Jeanne Gang. This potluck dinner is limited to the first 25 people who register by calling her at (312) 399-8843. Each guest should bring a dish or drink.

**FEB 15 - LOVELY WINE AND CHOCOLATE TASTING PARTY** - 7:30 p.m. at Hannah and Caleb Bryant's home in Edgewater. Join the Young Adults Group for a wine tasting party! In honor of Valentine's Day, bring a favorite bar of chocolate along with a bottle of wine to share. Toast Hannah's final Young Adults Group event she's planning as she transitions her role. People single, partnered and everywhere in between are welcome. RSVP to the Punchbowl evite. Space is limited to the first 20 people who RSVP.

**MARCH 15 - CONFRONTING RACISM AND WHITE PRIVILEGE WITH *WHITE FRAGILITY*** - 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room

The Faith and Public Issues book study group has decided to continue meeting and has selected *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* as its next discussion text. *White Fragility* is the 2018 New York Times bestseller that explores the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged and how these reactions maintain racial inequality. The author, Robin DiAngelo, a white antiracist educator, explains how white privilege develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively. Questions: please contact Rick Peterson at rnpeterson2017@gmail.com.

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

**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 in the Social Hall or email Claire Higgins to check open Sundays, [chiggins@spucc.org](mailto:chiggins@spucc.org). There are many Sundays available, but be sure to sign up early so you can bring flowers on your preferred date!

### **COLLEEN HENRY WRITING CENTER - Tutors Needed**

This program at Lincoln Park High School was initiated by St. Pauls and developed in connection with the English and Social Studies Departments. Tutors volunteer two hours once a week, Monday through Thursday. Training and mentoring are available. For more info or to volunteer, contact Linda Patton, [lpatton21@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:toby@rogers-home.com) for information about meetings.

**FEED THE HUNGRY** - Volunteers needed February 16 and February 23. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner as part of the Community Engagement Program (CEP). Teams of 4-6 volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To sign up, contact 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](https://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 SHELTER NEEDS OVERNIGHT VOLUNTEERS**

To sign up: [volunteer@lpcsonline.org](mailto:volunteer@lpcsonline.org) or call 773-549-6111.

**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](http://www.littlelightslp.org). Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at [littlelights@spucc.org](mailto:littlelights@spucc.org).

**LONG CLASSIC NOVEL READING GROUP - Four Novels by African American**

**Women** This year, the "Long, Classic Novels Reading Group" will be reading:

*Moses, Man of the Mountain*, Zora Neale Hurston (1939) - Discussion date: March 16

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Anyone is welcome to join us for one or all four. Please RSVP to Pastor Jeff for email updates: [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 every Wednesday morning to make 40 bag lunches to be distributed 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 interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com and stay tuned for future events.

**SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY** - One Saturday a month, 10-11:45 a.m. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible in this monthly study. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org.

**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.*

- The Basil family at the death of Lois's mother, Carol Stoub.
- Pat Ruch's sister, Aline, who was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor and scheduled for surgery.
- Pat Kirby, who is rehabbing at Wesley Place.
- Jenny, who lost both her daughter (who leaves behind three children) and her brother in the days before Christmas.
- Jenny Benefield, grieving her mother's death.
- Tom Klein, grieving his mother's death.
- Nancy Bingaman's niece, Julia, continuing to have a difficult recovery from serious liver surgery.
- Gary Ashley and family at the death of his mother, Frances.
- Stephen Anderson at the death of his wife, Sally.
- John Schloerb at the death of his father, Robert.
- Nina Whitsel, recovering from surgery.
- Lisa, sister-in-law of Libby Braband and aunt of Emma, as she battles breast cancer.
- Jim Brandt and family at the death of his beloved wife, Nancy.
- Diane Biegert at the death of her father, Rev. John Biegert.
- Karen, aunt of Layne Lebahn, who is going through cancer treatment.
- Carol B., sister-in-law of Mark P., as she undergoes treatment for cancer.
- Mary Train, recovering from her second knee surgery.
- Mike, friend of Rob and Shannon Castle, in treatment for cancer.
- Pastor Sarah's sister-in-law, Tina, diagnosed with skin cancer.
- 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.

**IT'S NEVER BEEN QUITE SO**

**E**

**ASY**

**TO GIVE**

**TO ST. PAULS**

**AND SUPPORT OUR 2020 VISION**

Make an annual pledge to St. Pauls, of money, time and talent, and you'll bring our 2020 vision into sharp focus. New ways to give make the process quick and easy. Watch for a pledge card in the mail, look for one in the pews, or get details on our website.

**[spucc.org/2020](http://spucc.org/2020)**

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

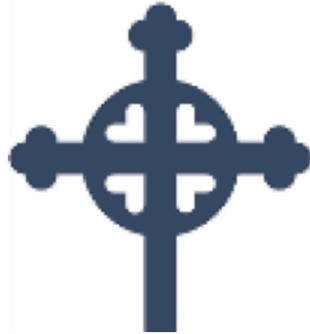
Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open to and Affirming of" LGBTQ women and men.

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**  
**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**  
**Karaçan Sayrun-Thomas, Children's Program Coordinator, kara@spucc.org**  
**Karen E. Johnson, President of the Congregation, kejpiano@aol.com**  
**Maddy Lockhart, Director of Operations, mlockhart@spucc.org**  
**Tom Henry, Pastor Emeritus, emeritushenry@gmail.com**  
**Kurt R. Hansen, Music Director, kurtsingsbach@gmail.com**  
**Kevin Dzierzawski, Organist, kdzierza@att.net**  
**Brendan Henry, Pianist, brendanphenry@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**

Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2300 block of North Lincoln Ave. – Parking validation is available in the Narthex.



## 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.