

May 3, 2020
Virtual Worship

* HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together

Lucy Godinez, leader



1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; _____
2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; _____
3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees; _____



Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. _____
Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. _____
Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. _____



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION - based on the hymn *Si Fui Motivo de Dolor, Oh Dios*

**If I have been the source of pain, O God:
if to the weak I have refused my strength;
if in rebellion, I have strayed from you;
forgive me God.**

**If I have spoken cruelly,
if I have ignored someone's pain,
please do not condemn my insensitivity,
but forgive me, Lord.**

Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Winnie Kearns

John 10:7-13; 20-21

“I am the Gate for the sheep. All those others are up to no good—sheep stealers, every one of them. But the sheep didn’t listen to them. I am the Gate. Anyone who goes through me will be cared for—will freely go in and out, and find pasture. A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He’s only in it for the money. The sheep don’t matter to him.”

There was a division among the people because of these words. A lot of them were saying, “He’s crazy, a maniac—out of his head completely. Why bother listening to him?” But others weren’t so sure: “These aren’t the words of a madman. Can a maniac open blind eyes?”

* 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

“Jesus’ weirdest simile”

Matt Fitzgerald

REFLECTION

Cattle Call

Edvard Grieg

Jeff Wagner, piano

OFFERTORY

Sarabande from the French Suite in G Major

J.S. Bach

Jeff Wagner, piano

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

* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

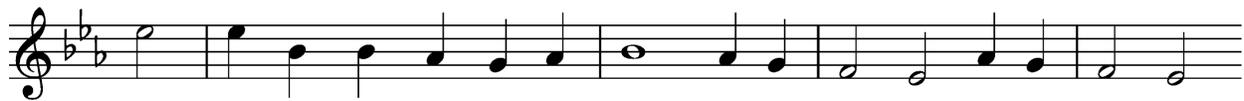
The Virtual Chancel Choir



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



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



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



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

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please ready your bread and wine or juice.

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

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Thank you God, for making us lie down in green pastures,
for leading us into stillness, for restoring our souls.
Thank you for guiding on the right path.
Thank you for giving us courage in this dark valley.
Thank you for protecting us.
Thank you for preparing the table we share.
Thank you for chasing us with goodness
every day of our lives,
and with mercy forever.
Our cup overflows.
Amen.**

* HYMN

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Jennifer Kew and Ashley Saluga, leaders



1. My_ shep - herd will sup - ply my_ need; Je - ho - vah
2. When I walk through the shades of_ death Thy pres - ence
3. The sure pro - vi - sions of my_ God At - tend me



is his name: In_ pas - tures fresh he makes me_ feed, Be -
is my stay; One word of_ thy sup - port - ing_ breath Drives
all my days; O_ may thy_ house be my a - bode, And



-side the liv - ing stream. He brings my_ wan - dering spir - it_
all my fears a - way. Thy hand, in_ sight of all my_
all my work be praise. There would I_ find a set - tled



back, When I for - sake his ways; And_ leads me,_
foes, Doth still my_ ta - ble spread; My_ cup with
rest, While oth - ers_ go and come; No_ more a_



for his mer - cy's_ sake, In_ paths of truth and grace.
bless - ings o - ver - flows, Thine oil a - noints my head.
stran - ger, nor a_ guest, But_ like a child at home.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE

Just a Closer Walk with Thee
Brendan Henry, piano

Anonymous
Arr. Brendan Henry

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 website, spucc.org/streaming

KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL will be on Zoom 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 MAY

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.

- May 3 Chuck Deters, Adam Kornick
- May 4 Michelle Schneir, Alexander Young
- May 5 Allie Sharp, Sonja Rae, Jennifer Stuart, Frank Schmitz, Maia Sanders,
Connor Gallegos
- May 6 David Bueschel, Andrew Ziesemer, Kent Davidson, Kimberly Cochran,
Denise Beitelschmidt
- May 7 Owen Waldschmidt, Carrie Johnson, Myers Emmrich
- May 8 Doug Clark, Francois Millard, Joel Grachan
- May 9 Jill Wachholz, Lydia Murray, Leigh Hamp, Cameron Avery, David Verduin,
Adam McElhinney, John Balevic, Jill Wachter

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 need masks. Here is the link to a pattern: www.nytimes.com/article/how-to-make-face-mask-coronavirus.html?searchResultPosition=2.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES - LPCS is so grateful to all of you who have donated meals or had meals delivered to their two shelters. They need meals for the dates below. Sally Fletcher is coordinating these meals. Please contact her at sletcher1443@gmail.com or (312) 848-5400 for details.

1521 N. Sedgwick: Lunch at 12:30 p.m. - **May 22, 25, 27**

600 W. Fullerton: Lunch at 12:30 p.m. - **May 18, 19, 20, 21, 28**

Breakfast - **May 20**

LAKEVIEW PANTRY - To volunteer: email volunteers@lakeviewpantry.org.
In-Kind Donations: Most needed food items (can be delivered to 3945 N. Sheridan Road): 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 chicagosfoodbank.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. Stay tuned for more!

- Let the pastors know if you're interested in a Zoom Coffee Hour after worship on Sunday mornings.
- 10 a.m. Sunday Worship is now streaming on St. Pauls Website at spucc.org/streaming. Join members and friends in our lively comment section to say "hello!"
- Our Facebook Group, “Saint Pauls Together,” is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share uplifting thoughts and stories.
- Join church members chatting 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.
- 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

MAY 6 - 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.

MAY 7 - 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.