

November 29, 2020  
First Sunday of Advent  
Virtual Worship

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

#### THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

The imagination is not only holy, it is precise  
it is not only fierce, it is practical

Diane di Prima, *Rant*

#### PRELUDE

*Veni Emmanuel*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

arr. W. RübSam

#### CHIMES

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

*The Candle of Hope*

Candi Huber & Doug Dobmeyer

#### INTROIT

*God Moves in a Mysterious Way*  
Chancel Choir

William Cowper

#### WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Candi Huber & Doug Dobmeyer

One: The time of waiting and watching is here!

**All: We have reached this season of mystery and joy.**

One: We wait first with holy hope as the peace of God opens our hearts. A baby is coming!

**All: Let us worship the one who loves us dearly.**

One: Let us praise Christ for the hope of Advent. That someone new will arrive here when we least expect it.

**All: Let our love transform us and our world.**

One: Bless the peacekeepers and dreamers! Let us celebrate together what happens when we imagine this season anew.

## HYMN

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2. O come, thou Day - spring, come \_\_\_ and cheer Our spir - its by thine  
 3. O come, thou Wis - dom from \_\_\_ on high, And or - der all things,  
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples in one



Is - - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile \_\_\_ here, Un -  
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of \_\_\_ night, And  
 far \_\_\_ and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show, And  
 heart \_\_\_ and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels \_\_\_ cease; Fill



-til the Son of God \_\_\_ a - pear.  
 death's dark shad - ows put \_\_\_ to flight. *Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -*  
 cause us in her ways \_\_\_ to go.  
 the whole world with heav - en's peace.



- man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Matt Fitzgerald

**We are gifted  
with a world where love  
appears again and again,  
quietly and with the greatest  
show. We are gifted a world  
where we can grieve  
and dream and grow.  
Where we all share  
breath together  
on this earth. All through you.  
Come quickly to us, now!  
Show us how to welcome  
new and eternal life.  
We hope toward the promises  
of Christ. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Graham Hicks

*Mark 13:24-37*

“But in those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,

and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.  
Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from  
the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts  
forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these  
things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you,  
this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven  
and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the  
Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time

will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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)*

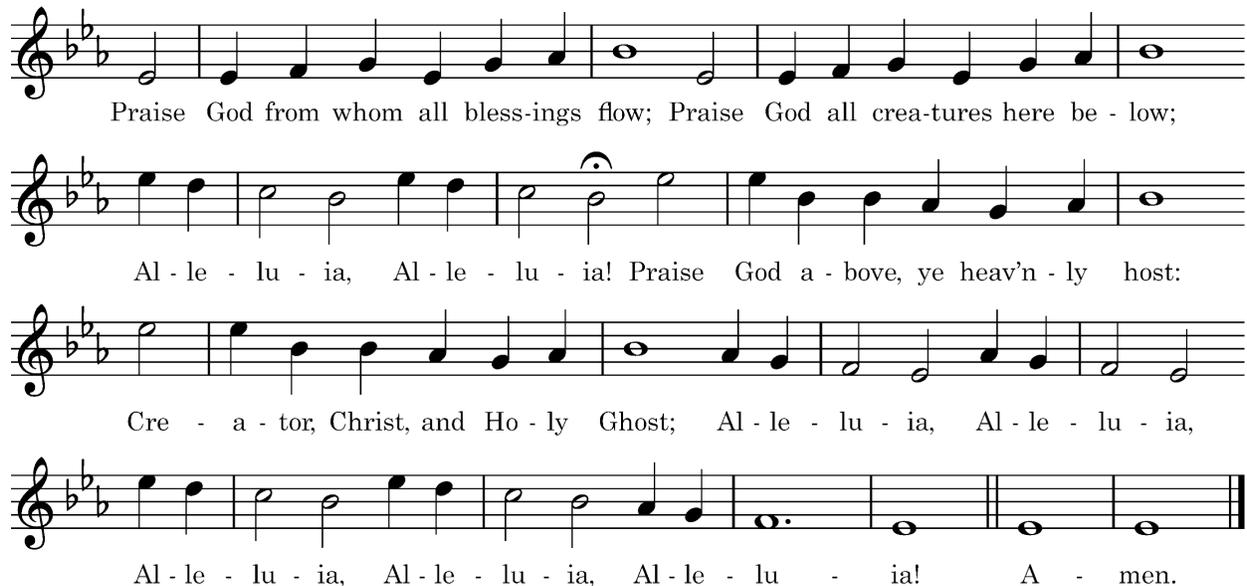
SERMON	“Imagining Advent”	Benny VanDerburgh
MEDITATION	<i>Concert Fantasia on Hanover, Var II</i> Kevin Dzierzawski, organ	E. Lemare
OFFERING INVITATION		Jack Knight
OFFERTORY	<i>E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come</i> Chancel Choir	P. Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him, who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.  
Sing holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,  
Who was and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,  
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon!  
Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;  
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!  
*from Revelation 22*

*Give to St. Pauls with Zelle: [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org) or [spucc.org/about-us/giving-to-st-pauls](http://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

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.**

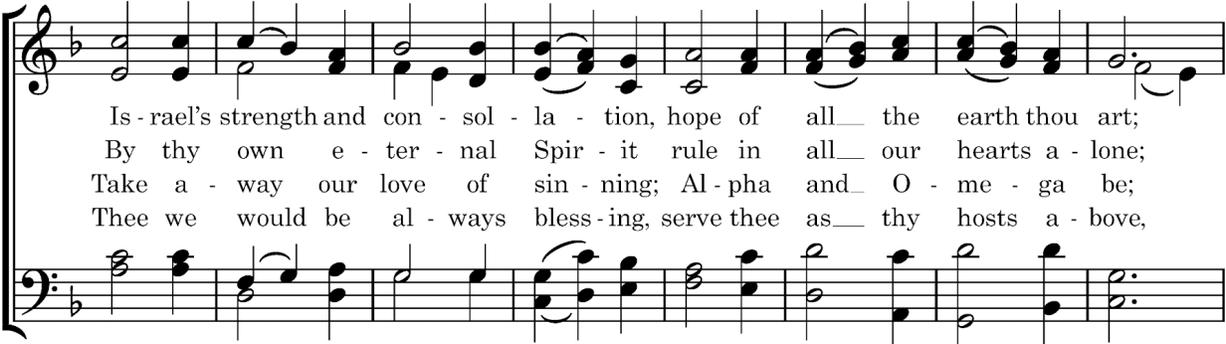
## HYMN

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*


1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet\_ a king!  
 3. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to eve - ry trou - bled breast!  
 4. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life\_ re - ceive;



From our fears\_ and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.  
 Born to reign\_ in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
 Let us all\_ in thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.  
 Sud - den - ly\_ re - turn and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.



Is - rael's strength and con - sol - la - tion, hope of all\_ the earth thou art;  
 By thy own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all\_ our hearts a - lone;  
 Take a - way our love of sin - ning; Al - pha and\_ O - me - ga be;  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as\_ thy hosts a - bove,



Dear de - sire\_ of ev - ry na - tion, joy of ev - ry long - ing heart.  
 By\_ thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to\_ thy glor - ious throne.  
 End of faith, as its\_ be - gin - ing, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 Pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in\_ thy pre - cious love.

## BENEDICTION

### BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## POSTLUDE

*Grand Choeur*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

C. Franck

*Coffee Hour is on Zoom!*

*Please join our pastors and other members after worship for this hour of fellowship. 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](http://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: **856 9946 6278**, Password: **2335***

*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 NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

*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.*

- Nov 29 Lillian Mooney
- Dec 1 Brooke Walvoord, Dodd Brown, John Reed, Leo Lawrence, Rex Lawrence
- Dec 2 Frank Mynard, Richard Wu, Bill Kennedy
- Dec 3 Jack Knight, Mehgan Keeley
- Dec 4 Katherine Schuller, Laura Van Zeyl, Linhard Stepf, Mark Smith
- Dec 5 Christopher McGuire, Jason Colosi-McCann, Joel Finkle

## **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS**

*All events will be virtual, due to COVID-19.*

### **WEEKLY ADVENT WORSHIP**

*Sundays at 10 a.m. Central  
on [spucc.org/streaming](https://spucc.org/streaming)*

#### **First Sunday of Advent**

November 29

*Lighting the Candle of Hope*

#### **Second Sunday of Advent**

December 6

*Lighting the Candle of Peace*

#### **Third Sunday of Advent**

December 13

*Lighting the Candle of Joy*

*Readings and Carols*

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 20

*Lighting the Candle of Love*

### **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**

December 24

*5 p.m. Family Service*

*9 p.m. Candlelight Service*

*on [spucc.org/streaming](https://spucc.org/streaming)*

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

*See announcements for details*

#### **Tuesday Evening Prayer**

December 1, 8, 15, 22

*8 p.m. Weekly prayer with pastors*

#### **Wednesday Bible Study**

December 2, 9, 16, 23

*12 p.m. with Pastor Jeff*

*Stories of Advent*

#### **Christmas Poetry Open Mic**

December 10

*7 p.m. Share and listen*

*with Benny & Saint Pauls Social*

#### **Virtual Polar Peace March**

Sunday, January 17, 2021

*10 a.m. Worship*

*11:15 a.m. Virtual Peace March*

*Support UCAN and honor Dr. King*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **UCAN's ANNUAL GIFT DRIVE**

Toys, games, gift cards, and more can be purchased through their Walmart Gift registry, [www.ucanchicago.org/gift-drive](http://www.ucanchicago.org/gift-drive). All items will be shipped directly to UCAN's headquarters and distributed to participants in programs such as Foster Care, Violence Intervention and Prevention Services, Counseling and Youth Development Services, and Teen Transitional Services. Each child, teen and young adult will receive \$50 worth of gifts or a \$50 gift card. Please make your donation by Monday Dec. 7, so UCAN staff have enough time to organize and distribute the gifts.

### **CHRISTMAS TREES AND WREATHS**

You can decorate your home this year and the proceeds of this sale will be split between Three Angels Children's Relief in Haiti and the ongoing outreach work of St. Pauls. Order a gorgeous Wisconsin-grown tree or wreath at [spucc.org](http://spucc.org). Pick up your purchase in our church parking lot on December 5 from 11 a.m - 3 p.m. We will do everything necessary to ensure that picking up trees and wreaths is as safe as possible. There's even a socially-distanced home delivery option.

### **NIGHT MINISTRY STOCKINGS**

Sign up to fill a stocking for people served by The Night Ministry. The stocking stuffing lists can be found in the information page of the signup. [www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084baaac2daaf94-night](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084baaac2daaf94-night).

### **PASTORS' VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS**

Want to talk? Ask for a prayer? Share an idea? Be consoled? Seek forgiveness? Think through a problem? Hear a word of hope? Start a church program? Find a referral to a therapist? Think about the future? Search for God? 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 Claire Higgins to make an appointment: [chiggins@spucc.org](mailto:chiggins@spucc.org) 773-348-3829.

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

Pastor Sarah: Stay tuned!

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

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

**SAVE THE DATE: 7TH ANNUAL POLAR PEACE MARCH, JANUARY 17, 2021**

Join us in honoring the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with Peace Sunday Worship, followed by a Virtual Polar Peace March to benefit UCAN. Before the event, do your own mini-march in your neighborhood and invite others to sponsor your walk for UCAN. Take a video of you, your friends and family walking for peace and we'll include it in the program. This year's theme: Five Simple Steps for Justice: (1) Create a Fundraising Page; (2) Pick up your Polar Peace March yard sign, face mask and shirt; (3) Put your PPM yard sign in your yard or window; (4) Take photos or videos of yourself marching in your neighborhood; (5) Watch yourself on the webcast of the virtual Polar Peace March. Visit **POLARPEACEMARCH.ORG** for details and to support UCAN's work in reducing violence in Chicago. If you'd like to post a video of your mini-march, please contact Rebecca Sandoval at [Rebecca.Brown@ucanchicago.org](mailto:Rebecca.Brown@ucanchicago.org), or Pauline Taylor at [paulinetaylor933@gmail.com](mailto:paulinetaylor933@gmail.com).

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)** - CEP meals at St. Pauls continue in an outdoor format! Volunteers are needed **December 13, December 20, and December 27** to provide individually packed lunches with beverages. St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to enjoy a meal and get access to hygiene services as part of the Community Engagement Program (CEP). Volunteers have the option to drop off 30 lunches at 1 p.m. on Sundays in the St. Pauls courtyard or stay onsite to serve guests in person. 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](mailto:CEPsupper@gmail.com).

**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: **December 9th and 23rd, January 13th, 20th, and 27th**. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at [sfletcher1443@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://lpcschicago.org) to get involved, or contact volunteer coordinator Jameela Chaudhry at [volunteer@lpcschicago.org](mailto:volunteer@lpcschicago.org).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### **DEC 1, 8, 15, 22 - TUESDAY EVENING PRAYER - 8 p.m., Zoom**

Join with other members, friends, and a pastor each Tuesday of Advent for an evening time of prayer. The Zoom link will be sent to RSVPs each Tuesday afternoon. RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/p6id7bwGjGiLJUhd9>.

### **DEC 2, 9, 16, 23 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: Stories of Advent - 12 p.m., Zoom**

To prepare for Christmas, we'll look at the stories in Matthew and Luke that anticipate the birth of Christ. You can participate online, or call in from your phone. Email Pastor Jeff with questions or to get the meeting invitation and instructions, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

### **DEC 3 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL VIRTUAL WINE TASTING - 7-8:30 p.m., Zoom**

Join St. Pauls Social and Dan Berghoff, a certified sommelier and winemaker, as we hone our tasting skills and expand our appreciation for wine, all while having a good time! Pick up your "mystery" wines from church on December 2 from 5-6 p.m. A voluntary donation to the church of \$15 is suggested. RSVP no later than tomorrow, November 30, to: Jeff Carlson at [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

### **DEC 8 - BOOK DISCUSSION OF BEST SELLER, *CASTE* - 7 p.m., Zoom**

Join us for our second discussion on *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. No need to have attended the first session to participate! In *Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson examines the often unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions. Beautifully written and published in August 2020, *Caste* is a best seller and a 2020 selection of Oprah's Book Club. As part of St. Pauls ongoing discussions of white privilege and racism, St. Pauls members are leading three structured Zoom discussions of the book. December 8, pages 165 - 278; and January 12, pages 279 to the end. Please contact Rick Peterson, [rnpeterson2017@gmail.com](mailto:rnpeterson2017@gmail.com), for further information.

### **DEC 10 - CHRISTMAS POETRY NIGHT - 7-8 p.m., Zoom**

Join St. Pauls Social and Pastoral Intern Benny VanDerburgh (and friends) for a Christmas-centered poetry night! This event is for serious poets and poetry curious folks alike! You are encouraged to bring your favorite piece of writing about the season, yours or another's, to read aloud to us. Perhaps you would like to share something that speaks to the meaning of your favorite week in Advent. We will mimic an "open mic" format and read to each other to get into the spirit, but if you would rather just listen, that is beautiful as well. To RSVP, please email Benny at [bvanderburgh@spucc.org](mailto:bvanderburgh@spucc.org). No need to let us know what you would like to share ahead of time.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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](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** – 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 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 “Announcements” blurb for Sundays to sign up, or get more information by contacting Jennifer Kew at [CEPsupper@gmail.com](mailto: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 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](http://lpcschicago.org) or contact volunteer coordinator Jameela Chaudhry at [volunteer@lpcschicago.org](mailto: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](http://www.littlelightslp.org). Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at [littlelights@spucc.org](mailto: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” is reading books from the Zora Canon. Our fourth and final book is: *A Mercy* by Toni Morrison (2008) - Discussion Date: December 14, 7 p.m. via Zoom. Anyone is welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Pastor Jeff for email updates: [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto: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](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](mailto:paulinetaylor933@gmail.com), or Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jenluerssen@yahoo.com). Subscribe to the distribution list at [eepurl.com/gQ4Eg1](http://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.*

- The Nietzsche family at the tragic death of Dan.
- Jenny Benefield, recovering from shoulder surgery.
- 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.
- Shirley Rieck, hospitalized and in pain.
- Michael VanZeyl's Aunt Betty, hospitalized, and Laura VanZeyl's parents, Lionel and Donna, coping with isolation.
- Jenny Benefield, for her upcoming shoulder surgery and recovery.
- Molly Dierks, in the hospital.
- Larry Simpson, dealing with a cancer diagnosis.
- Erick, an Army friend of Bruce Voice.
- Bruce Voice, recovering from surgery.
- A mother and her two children going through a very difficult time.
- Peter Doerr at the death of his father, Alan.
- A couple in Michigan, friends of Barb Arsenault, who both have had significant medical issues happen at the same time.
- Emilia, Juanita Barlow's sister, having a knee replacement.
- Patty, friend of Petrine and Garold Ashley, as she undergoes a third knee transplant.
- Mark Huddle at the death of his father, Mike.
- 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.
- 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!*

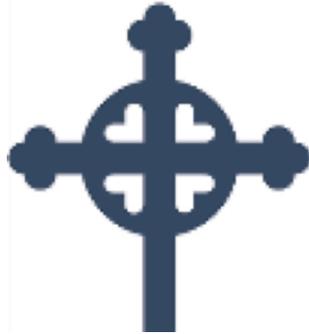
Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBTQ women and men.

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.

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**Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator***, [kkobrien48@hotmail.com](mailto: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.