

October 11, 2020

Virtual Worship

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"Whoever is against Cain is not for God, but is against God."

Karl Barth

PRELUDE

Top of My Head
St. Arbucks Trio

Roy Hargrove

CHIMES

INTROIT

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Chancel Choir

William B. Bradbury

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Benny VanDerburgh

One: Beyond starlight, You are eternal and determined.

All: Crack us like a root cracks sidewalk.

One: We are nothing like you

All: (yet we share an identical capacity for unhinged love).

One: We remember thrown tables and beloved taxmen,

All: You cried for Lazarus and championed Mary Magdalene.

One: You are earthy and determined.

All: Speak to us Jesus. Amen.

HYMN

I Saw the Light
Led by Tim Kim

I've walked in darkness, clouds covered me
I had no idea where the way out could be
Then came the sunrise and rolled back the night
Praise the Lord, I saw the light
I saw the light, I saw the light
No more darkness, no more night
Now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

I've wandered so aimless, life filled with sin
I wouldn't let my dear Savior in
Then like a blind man who got back his sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

Chorus

I was a fool to wander and stray
For straight is the gate and narrow the way
Now I have traded, the wrong for the right
Praise the Lord, I saw the Light

Chorus

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Benny VanDerburgh

**Dear God,
we confess the unnerving truth:
When it comes to killing,
Humanity is no more advanced
Than in our ancient furies.
We can kill as Cain killed,
But with weapons that multiply
Our murderous will.
Save us from ourselves.
As individuals,
we also share Cain's nature,
wishing ill on people
whose illness
dominates the news.
Save us from ourselves.
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Marcia Frank

Genesis 4:1-15

And Adam knew Eve his wife and she conceived and bore Cain, and she said, "I have gotten a man from the Lord." And she bore as well his brother, Abel, and Abel became a herder of sheep while Cain was a tiller of the soil. And it happened in the course of time that Cain brought from the fruit of the soil an offering to the Lord. And Abel too had brought from the choice firstlings of his flock, and the Lord regarded Abel and his offering but He did not regard Cain and his offering, and Cain was very incensed, and his face fell. And the Lord said to Cain.

"Why are you incensed
and why is your face fallen?
for whether you offer well,
or whether you do not,
at the tent flap sin crouches
and for you is its longing
but you will rule over it."

And Cain said to Abel his brother, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose against Abel his brother and killed him.

And the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?"

And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

And He said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the soil. And so, cursed shall you be by the soil that gaped with its mouth to take your brother's blood from your hand. If you till the soil, it will no longer give you its strength. A restless wanderer shall you be on the earth." And Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is too great to bear. Now that You have driven me this day from the soil and I must hide from Your presence, I shall be a restless wanderer on the earth and whoever finds me will kill me." And the Lord said to him, "Therefore whoever kills Cain shall suffer sevenfold vengeance." And the Lord set a mark upon Cain so that whoever found him would not slay him.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to care for creation,
to seek justice and to resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

SERMON

"grace at the dawn of time"

Matt Fitzgerald

MEDITATION

Christ, He Is My Life
Matt Plaskota, marimba

J.S. Bach

OFFERING INVITATION

Sarah Garcia

OFFERTORY

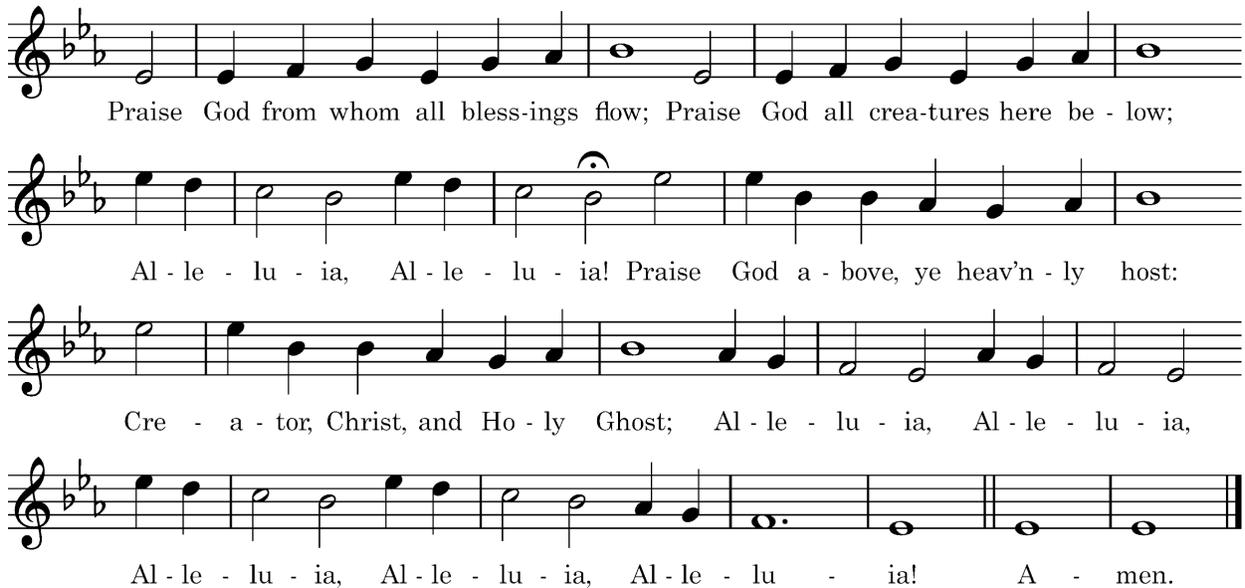
Kyrie
(Sung in Latin)
Chancel Choir

Rene Clausen

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

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

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

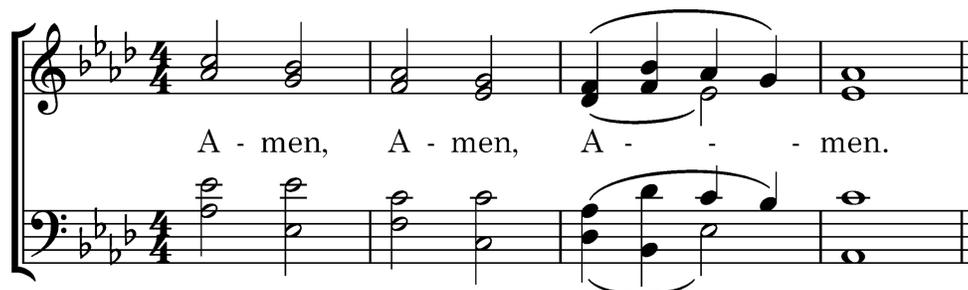
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know,
as he loved so long ago,
Taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." [*Refrain*]

Jesus loves me! Still today,
walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give
light and love to all who live. [*Refrain*]

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE



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

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F Major
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Dietrich Buxtehude

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 on Tuesdays at 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: **832 5646 7176**, Password: **388462***

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 OCTOBER

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.

Oct 11 Christine Weil, Mike Stensaas, Rachel Barton Pine, Flynn Lechtenberg

Oct 12 Shelley Keller, Steve Herrin, Everett Hamm, Elfrieda Weber

Oct 13 Alan Iverson, Julia Brizzolara

Oct 14 Kendra Bultemeier, Jimmy Schmitz, Maxwell Nagy, Trevor Hafner

Oct 15 Alicia Braun, Maggie Stepf, Owen Miller, Thea Mack, Agnotti Cowie,
Aidan Rodriguez, Andrew Malley, Bennett Roark, Elizabeth Raterman,
Pearl Zager, Sarah Moulton

Oct 16 Hannah Barton, Lydia Richardson

Oct 17 Tilly Wilhoite, Laura Range

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR and PHONE-IN WORSHIP

To help keep announcements geared towards our new programs and information, coffee hour and phone-in worship details are now in the post-worship notes immediately after the Postlude. Meeting ID's and links are the same week-to-week.

BEGINNING A NEW BEGINNING

Our fall sermon series is rooted in the book of *Genesis*. While we wait for the pandemic to end, God is already at work, beginning a new beginning. God is beginning a new beginning for Saint Pauls, for Chicago, for our families, and our own lives. This series will help attune us to this fact, so that we can feel God's creative power at work right now. We will look through the lens of some of scripture's best stories, asking questions like: What happened before history? How is God at work in times of chaos? Why do our families hurt and heal us? Why is love between siblings so complex? Are faith and morality the same thing? When is it good to laugh at God?

USE THE PANDEMIC - READ THE ENTIRE BIBLE IN A YEAR - LAST DAY TO SIGN UP IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

Join Pastor Matt and a group of church members who are going to read the entire bible over the next twelve months. We will start on Sunday, October 3, with *Genesis* and conclude on October 3, 2021 with the last verse of *Revelation*. These twelve months promise to be intense. Walking with the Bible will help decrease anxiety, while increasing faith. We'll follow a careful plan with a reading assigned to each day of the year - and we'll meet every two weeks to check in and discuss. Email Matt: mfitzgerald@spucc.org to register by 5 p.m. Monday.

DON'T SIT THIS ONE OUT!

Election Day, November 3, is fast approaching, and this election is gearing up to be one of the most important in our lives with so much at stake for our city, state, and country. The United Church of Christ, through its "**Our Faith Our Vote**" program, believes that no matter your opinion or political affiliations, your voice - your vote - matters. Through voter registration and education (like that supported by our Faith and Public Issues program), members of churches like St. Pauls can, through participation in the political process, support and lift up the common good and the betterment of society. <https://www.ucc.org/ourfaithourvote> get-out-the-vote.

The late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg said, “Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time.” **Help create change** by participating in the 2020 election process by educating yourself about important issues, writing letters to politicians or to voters who might not otherwise vote, personally and perhaps financially supporting the candidates and positions of your choice, and – of course – voting!

ELECTION INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

St. Pauls members have asked how they can more actively participate in the upcoming elections. A number of St. Pauls members are already writing and sending letters or calling young or disengaged voters in other states through organizations such as Daily Kos, MoveOn, Sunrise, Swing Left, or Vote Forward. Others are considering participating in Illinois Election Protection, protectthevote.net, 866-OUR-VOTE, a non-partisan organization that supports the right to vote for every eligible voter. Volunteer assignments might include monitoring polling places, watchdogging social media for misinformation, etc. As they feel comfortable, St. Pauls members are urged to consider these opportunities.

SHOULD THE ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED?

A proposed amendment to the Illinois Constitution will be voted on during the upcoming election period that could cause the greatest change in state taxation in decades. This proposal, dubbed the “Fair Tax” by its sponsors, would replace the current mandated flat-rate Illinois income tax with a graduated-rate tax structure that increases the amount of taxes as income increases.

Supporters believe this type of graduated-rate tax structure is a fair way to shift the tax burden and generate more revenue to end the state’s financial structural imbalance, while opponents believe this type of tax structure will harm jobs and note the proposed amendment offers no guarantee that a higher tax rate might ultimately be imposed on middle-class Illinois taxpayers.

The Community Renewal Society (CRS) is a Chicago-based, UCC-related organization, with a mission “to transform society toward greater social justice at the intersection of racism and poverty.” CRS strongly supports the Fair Tax amendment. According to CRS, “[t]he Fair Tax will bring billions of much needed revenue to our state to invest in just and safe communities.” More information about the CRS position is available at www.communityrenewalsociety.org.

St. Pauls is a long-time member of CRS. Members of St. Pauls are strongly encouraged to educate themselves about and prayerfully consider the proposed Fair Tax amendment being considered in the upcoming election.

NOMINATE A SAINT PAULS HERO! - Have you been following our St. Pauls Covid-19 Heroes posts on the Saint Pauls Together Facebook group? Scroll through to take a look, or join the group if you want to see these Heroes! We have some pretty amazing folks among us, working very hard. And, if you know a dedicated, essential worker, why not nominate them as a St. Pauls Covid-19 Hero? With the Covid crisis far from over, we're honoring those among us who continue to make valuable contributions on the front lines of the pandemic with posts on Saint Pauls Together. If there is a doctor, nurse, teacher, food provider, or other hard working "hero" you'd like to nominate, simply complete the form at the link below to provide us information and a photo. Or, you can email Wendy Love at wlovecommunications@gmail.com.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfqcowCY_rUePhWbmg9QiliNq9oagykLZXGn3Hd6_1Mya8Vg/viewform?usp=pp_url

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP) - CEP meals at St. Pauls continue in an outdoor format! Volunteers are needed **October 25, November 15, and November 22** 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.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS YOUR HELP! - This St. Pauls founded organization provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for individuals to provide meals during this time and Saint Pauls has signed up to provide lunches on the following Wednesdays in **November: 11, 18, 25**. 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCT 11 - COURTYARD PICNIC - 5 p.m., Church Courtyard

Pack your own picnic and join host Jen Luerssen for a St. Pauls Social socially distanced Sunday picnic in the church courtyard for adults of all ages. We'll have spaces marked out for up to 18 picnickers to keep us separated. You will need to bring your own chairs. All participants are expected to wear a mask unless seated. Please RSVP in advance so we can respect social distancing. Respond to Jen if you'd like to participate, jenluerssen@yahoo.com.

OCT 18 - YOUNG ADULTS VIRTUAL SOCIAL HOUR - After the service, Zoom

If you're a young adult and looking for a low-key social opportunity, come say hi after the virtual service. The Zoom link can be found in our monthly newsletter. Not subscribed to our newsletters? Email us at youngadults@spucc.org.

OCT 18 - BECOMING AN ANTI-RACIST - 5:30-6:30 p.m., Church Parking Lot

Open to children grades 1st-6th. Do you want your children to develop an understanding of racism and work to uproot racism and inequality in our society and in ourselves? Every other Sunday we will explore the roots of racism in our church, in our world, and in our own lives. We will look to see more clearly its painful consequences, and start to learn tools for how we can work to oppose racism and help build a just and equitable church and society. Led by Pastor Sarah and Children's Program Coordinator Karaçan Sayrun-Thomas. All children must wear masks. Register here: <https://forms.gle/Szdpzi95mWsQ4a4U9>.

OCT 20 - BOOK DISCUSSION OF BEST SELLER, *CASTE* - 7 p.m., Zoom

We invite St. Pauls members to read a new "instant American classic," *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. 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 will lead three structured Zoom discussions of the book. Oct 20, pages 1- 164; Dec 8, pages 165 - 278; and Jan 12, pages 279 to the end. Please contact Rick Peterson, rnpeterson2017@gmail.com, for further information.

OCT 21 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: Stories of Women in the Gospel of John - 12 p.m., Zoom

Pastor Jeff is holding a Bible Study on Wednesdays at noon on Zoom. Beginning October 21 until Advent, we will be looking at stories from the Gospel of John that feature women as characters. 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.

OCT 23 - PARKING LOT PRAISE, PRAYER AND PLAY - 5:30-7 p.m., Parking Lot
Open to children in Kindergarten through 6th grade as participants, and older youth may help as leaders. Every other Friday we will dive into Bible Stories, share joys and concerns and pray for them together, play games, and be the socially-distanced but together family of God. Everyone must wear masks and should dress for the weather, rain or shine. Register Here: <https://forms.gle/S2cd4RN8sUVRLX8L9>.

OCT 24 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL PARKING LOT PARTY - 4:30-6:30 p.m., Parking Lot
Join St. Pauls Social and hosts Lois and Greg Basil for a socially distanced party in the St. Pauls Parking Lot for adults of all ages. We have room for 11 vehicles; however, there can be multiple people per vehicle. Bring chairs, food, drink, and enjoy some sorely missed fellowship with our St. Pauls Family. RSVP to: Lois.Basil@gmail.com.

OCT 27 - WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - 7:30 p.m., Zoom
We are starting a new book, *Be the Bridge - Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation*, by Latasha Morrison. We will discuss the first half of the book at our October meeting and the second half at our November meeting. Contact Corie Gallemore for more information and the Zoom link, corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

OCT 30 - VIRTUAL HALLOWEEN/FALL SCAVENGER HUNT - 7-8:30 p.m., Zoom
Fabulous prizes, fun and fellowship. Three reasons to join the St. Pauls Halloween/Fall Social Scavenger hunt, hosted by CPS (Carrie, Peg and Sally). RSVP to crbruggs@gmail.com and zoom details will be sent in response.

NOV 4, 11 & 18 - CARING FOR THE PLANET:2020 - 6-7 p.m., Zoom
Each Sunday, we affirm that God calls us to "care for creation." We took a look at the climate change data as related to our proclamation in a 2018 Lenten Series. This November, we'll update that data for 2020. This 3-part Zoom series will again be led by Joe Womack, MBA, JD, and a trained leader of the Climate Reality Project, with Pastor Jeff offering theological reflections.

Nov. 4: The science of global warming and the consequences on air, heat, food, and water.

Nov. 11: The health consequences, politics and costs of the climate crisis.

Nov. 18: The good news of what is being done world-wide to address the climate change crisis, and what we can do to help.

RSVP for the Zoom link to Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SUPPORT AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS – Are you busy working and don't have enough time to help your kids with school work? Do your kids whiz through their work and then end up bored and lonely? We will be offering Zoom support groups led by our licensed school psychologist, and Zoom Afterschool Clubs led by our Children's Program Coordinator. If you are interested, email Pastor Sarah sgarcia@spucc.org.

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

CONNECTORS reach out providing networking and support for members and friends of St. Pauls. Membership is open to all who have the time and the inclination to help. Contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com.

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

FAITH IN ACTION – Some people call it showing up for a protest. Others call it public witness for the values inherent in our faith. Most of us appreciate being able to do both with like-minded congregational members. We are continually building a Faith-in-Action list of people who wish to receive notice of such protests and gatherings – frequently on short notice due to swift governmental action. Please join this email list by contacting Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES – Help us connect our faith to critical public issues. Do you wish you knew more from a faith perspective about current issues that are important to our public life? Racism, climate change, immigration, to name a few? FPI programs provide opportunities to ask questions, help us understand issues in depth, and discuss possible action. The FPI Task Force plans these programs and we could use your ideas. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for information about meetings.

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

GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS – If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, we still need to hear from you. Please go to forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8 to fill it out. This is an important component of our overall member engagement initiative, as mentioned in the November 10, 2019 congregational meeting. If you prefer to complete a paper document, they are available on the front counter of the office next to the labeled return box. Thank you in advance for your participation.

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

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year olds. We are now accepting applications for 2020. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

**LONG, CLASSIC NOVELS READING GROUP –
2020 Selections are Four Novels by African American Women**

This year, the “Long, Classic Novels Reading Group” 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.

NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS – If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie Gallemore know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.). Email Corie at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

OUTREACH AND BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love to have you join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information contact Pauline Taylor, paulinetaylor933@gmail.com, or Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES (POLO) has play dates, Moms night out, Dads night out, family pizza parties, prayer groups, and more activities to support families with little ones between the ages of 0 and 5. If you have young children and would like to get involved, please contact Joanne Tong at jctong@yahoo.com.

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

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

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS – If you’re in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you’re feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson (jcarlson@spucc.org), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – Now meeting every Wednesday at noon via Zoom. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org to get the Zoom link.

YOUNG ADULTS – A group for fun and fellowship for folks in their twenties and thirties. All are welcome! Volunteers needed! Any ideas for future events? Email them at youngadults@spucc.org.

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

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week’s bulletin or Friday email to chiggins@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

Verbal announcements are due by Wednesdays at noon.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. We only print requests we receive. To make a request, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email.

Our practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it.

If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.

- Erick, an Army friend of Bruce Voice.
- Bruce Voice, recovering from surgery.
- A mother and her two children going through a very difficult time.
- Kristin Mack and family at the death of her granny, Charlotte.
- Kristin Hansen, Kurt Hansen's sister, who had to evacuate her home in California.
- Jenny, as she recovers from fall.
- 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.
- Nial, husband of Gloria Joseph, for his improved health as he deals with a serious illness.
- Emilia, Juanita Barlow's sister, having a knee replacement.
- Lance, friend of Sally Fletcher, recently diagnosed with transformed Lymphedema.
- 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 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
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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.