

April 11, 2021
Virtual Worship
Baptism

HYMN

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Led by Nathan Streeter

1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2. O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!

Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter Bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by_ flam - ing tongues a - bove;
Prone to_ wan - der, Lord, I feel_ it, Prone to_ leave the God I love;

Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, Mount of thy re - deem - ing love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for thy courts a - bove.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Benny VanDerburgh

**Gracious God, we have heard the good news:
On the third day, Christ rose up from the grave.
We still look for the living among the dead.
You rolled away the stone from the tomb.
We still look for the living among the dead.
You sent messengers to proclaim the gospel.
We still look for the living among the dead.
You have done wonderful things!
We still look for the living among the dead.
Forgive us Lord. Teach us to believe the good news:
Christ is alive; Jesus is risen from the dead. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Sarah Garcia

Waylon Ford Leaf

Pastor: Waylon, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as a child of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Waylon is now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Waylon. Inspire his life. May he sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for his parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with this family as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

All: Amen

SCRIPTURE

David Burnett

John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

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

"Thomas, that's disgusting"

Matt Fitzgerald

MEDITATION

Since I Laid My Burdens Down
Jack Knight and Nick Swinehart

Traditional

OFFERING INVITATION

Sarah Garcia

OFFERTORY

Wade in the Water

African-American Spiritual

Chancel Choir

arr. Moses Hogan

Give to St. Pauls at spucc.churchcenter.com/giving or with Zelle to giving@spucc.org

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



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



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



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



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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

HYMN

How Firm a Foundation

Led by Doug Heyboer



1. How_ firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4. "The_ soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,



Is_ laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
 For_ I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.
 The_ riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;
 I_ will not, I will not de - sert to his foes,



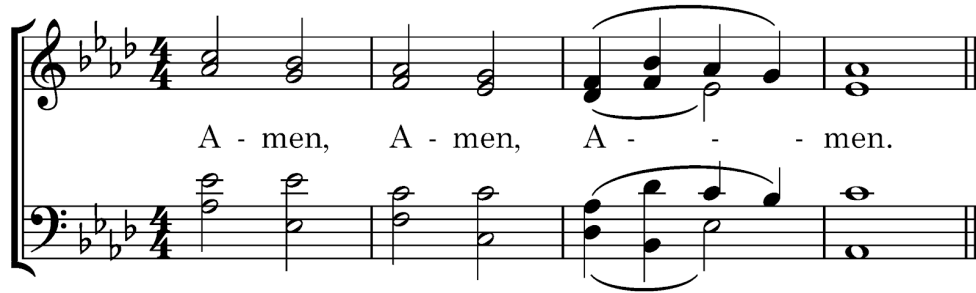
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 For I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



To_ you who for re - fuge to Je - sus have fled?
 Up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 And_ sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 I'll_ nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE



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

POSTLUDE

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

G. Martin

Coffee Hour is on Zoom!

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

*Morning worship at Saint Pauls will be streamed online until further notice,
on Sundays at 10 a.m. Central, at spucc.org/streaming.*

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

*Three weeks of service recordings are available for viewing at any time
on Saint Pauls website, spucc.org/worship.*

For updates about in-person afternoon worship, see the announcements section below!

*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

Matt Plaskota

BORN THIS WEEK IN APRIL

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.*

April 11 Annie Johnson, Kelly Singles, Kate Beck, Eva Bartels

April 12 Marcia Opp

April 13 Tim Reed

April 14 Jay Abraham, Lisa Henry, Mark Huddle, Michael Toomin

April 15 Suzanne Mynard

April 16 Mark Lefens, Raymond Manasia

April 17 Bill Beck, Deon Fayhee, Linda Riportella, Avery Vahey, Charlie Busker,
Eric Cittadine

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REOPENING UPDATE

We are eager to see church members and friends in person. While the entire staff hasn't yet been vaccinated, we are moving toward that goal. To see a pastor at church during the week, please contact Matt, Sarah, or Jeff by telephone or email to schedule. If you need to come to the church building for another reason on a weekday, please contact Claire, chiggins@spucc.org, or Maddy, mlockhart@spucc.org, in the church office to schedule your visit. Masks are required inside the building.

IN-PERSON AFTERNOON WORSHIP

We're so excited to begin in-person worship each Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m., in addition to our 10 a.m. virtual worship service. Attendance is currently limited to 50 people, including staff, until updated by the CDC and local guidelines. For this reason, please make sure you register everyone who will be attending. See more info and registration details at:

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/category/34510

VOLUNTEER TO READ SCRIPTURE

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

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)

We are trying to assess the congregation's interest in preparing meals in person together in teams of 4-6 in the near future. If you have any interest in cooking in-person meals for homeless neighbors in the coming months, please contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com to get involved. We also continue to have opportunities to do laundry for street-based guests and drop off meals for LPCS. Thanks for your service!

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES NEEDS YOUR HELP!

This St. Pauls founded organization provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for volunteers to provide meals during this time. Open dates are: **May 4, 11, 18 & 25**. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 35 lunches, including 3 vegetarian, at the 600 W. Fullerton location on each of these days.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

APR 14 - GOOD NEWS FOR EXILES BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoom

We've been living in a sort of exile now for a year. Isaiah 40 begins a word of hope to Jews who had been living in exile for a generation: God is about to do a new thing and bring you home. We'll explore some of the most hope-filled texts of the Bible in this study of Isaiah, part 2. Contact Pastor Jeff for Zoom link, jcarlson@spucc.org

APR 24 - SPRING BIRDWATCHING GROUP - 11 a.m., Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary
St. Pauls Social is organizing a spring birdwatching group. Allen Heinemann and Bill Borden have agreed to organize birdwatching walks, the first of which is scheduled for Saturday April 3 at 11 a.m. The group is limited to 10, in accordance with Chicago Department of Public Health guidelines. The group will rendezvous at the entrance to the Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary (aka Magic Hedge) on West Montrose Harbor Drive at the only bicycle racks. From Lake Shore Drive, proceed east on Montrose Avenue and turn right at the first intersection and proceed to the most easterly end of the harbor (about .7 miles). On-street parking is available. Bring your binoculars. Please RSVP to Allen at allenwheinemann@gmail.com.

APR 28 - BOOK DISCUSSION: *HOW TO FIGHT RACISM* - 5 p.m., Zoom

How can you individually, or we as a church, act to promote racial justice? Join our three-part exploration, using Jemar Tisby's *How to Fight Racism: Courageous Christianity and the Journey toward Racial Justice*. This timely book attempts to move beyond talking about racism to equipping people with practical tools to fight against it. Cindy Ball will lead the series. We will meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. The remaining one-hour sessions are:

- April 28 - Focus on Relationships, pp. 85-140
- May 26 - Focus on Commitment, pp. 141-206

We encourage those purchasing books to consider independent Black, Indigenous or People of Color (BIPOC)-owned bookstores. For additional information and to register, contact Cindy Ball, cindyinn11@gmail.com.

OPPORTUNITIES

CHURCH CENTER is our new portal for the Saint Pauls community! If you haven't yet, get started on a computer or smart device at spucc.churchcenter.com, or by downloading the "Church Center App" and using "60614" in the search during app setup. You'll see our Saint Pauls logo in the top results. On Church Center, you can see our calendar, register for events, update your contact information, join and view our photo directory, manage your online donations, see your giving history, and more!

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, request more information about Children and Youth Programming, and more!

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

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

GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS – If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, 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.

GREEN TEAM Help us as a congregation live out what we say in our Statement of Faith: God calls us to care for creation. This is the perfect time to plan, as we prepare to reenter and reimagine our common bodily life together. Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro have volunteered to co-chair our efforts, both bringing a great deal of experience and ideas. To attend, or to be in the email list for future meetings, email Jan at jan.fraccaro@gmail.com.

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

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 Jennifer Kew, JenniferLKew@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.

PASTORS' VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

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

Pastor Sarah: Mondays 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Verbal announcements are due by Wednesdays at noon.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. To have your prayer request included, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email.

Our practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it. If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.

- Praise of blessing for Robin Scott as she moves to Boston for a new job.
- Family and friends of Gloria's friend, Marci, at her death.
- Al Cerkan, recovering from major back surgery.
- The Johnson/Fayhee family at the death of Micki Fayhee's godmother and aunt, Janice C. Snow.
- Friends and family mourning the loss of Larry Butcher.
- Family and friends of Gay Kelly's dad, who passed away.
- Juanita Barlow, recovering from a procedure on a blood vessel.
- Gloria Joseph and sons John and Adam at the death of her husband, Nial.
- Rod Sippy, recovering from a heart procedure.
- Phill, brother of Bob Ball, diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia and beginning many medical treatments.
- Loved ones of Amy Newman at her death, especially her children Alyssa and Miles Van Denburg.
- Young adults trying to find their place in the world.
- Couples navigating pregnancy in a covid world.
- Juggling working from home, Zoom school, and family life.
- Greg Mooney and family at the death of Sheryl.
- Carrie Brugger's brother, Steve, and family at the death of his wife, Barb.
- Juanita Barlow's sister, Maria Dolores Guadalupe, recovering from a stroke.
- The Rieck family at the death of Shirley.
- The Nitzsche family at the tragic death of Dan.
- Jan Bail's sister, Marty, diagnosed with cancer.
- Michael VanZeyl's Aunt Betty, hospitalized, and Laura VanZeyl's parents, Lionel and Donna, coping with isolation.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, receiving care at home.

Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources

Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. If you or someone you love is feeling completely alone or like life doesn't matter, reach out for help. Help is available for every kind of issue. Contact one of the pastors today for support, referrals, and information that can help you and your loved ones.

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

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

From founding Chicago's largest provider of social services to at-risk children to starting a home for the elderly, from housing protestors at the 1968 Democratic Convention to hosting Lincoln Park's first MLK day march against violence on Chicago's streets, we are proud to make a joyful sound in the city.

Most important, over the past 177 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614
(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858
www.spucc.org

Matt Fitzgerald, *Senior Pastor*, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Jeff Carlson, *Associate Pastor*, jcarlson@spucc.org
Sarah Garcia, *Associate Pastor for Children and Youth*, sgarcia@spucc.org
Tom Henry, *Pastor Emeritus*, emeritushenry@gmail.com
Benny VanDerburgh, *Pastoral Intern*, bvanderburgh@spucc.org
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Nancy Voigts, *Children's Choir Director*, nvoigtsgod@att.net
Kecia Waldschmidt, *Youth Choir Director*, keciagerman@hotmail.com
Mark Mosley, *Intergenerational Orchestra Director*, mwmosley@gmail.com
Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator*, kkobrien48@hotmail.com



WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,
grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are an Open and Affirming church.

We welcome all.

We are blessed by your presence and
we are glad you are here.