

April 25, 2021
Virtual Worship

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"The person who is called to follow Jesus has simply to renounce and withdraw
and annul an existing relationship of obedience and loyalty. *This relationship is to
oneself.*" Karl Barth

PRELUDE *Down by the Riverside* African-American Spiritual
St. Arbucks Trio arr. Benny Green

CHIMES

INTROIT *Lift Every Voice and Sing* J. Rosamond Johnson
Chancel Choir

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Benny VanDerburgh

One: The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

**Many: He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet
waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for
his name's sake.**

One: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,

Many: for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

One: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

Many: You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

One: Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

Many: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee;
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 Though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see;
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 On - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
 Per - fect in power, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Benny VanDerburgh

**Lord God,
rather than honoring you,
we bow before
the power of strength
the power of privilege
the power of shame
the power of self
the power of intellect
the power of nation
the power of wealth
the power of guilt.
We repent and turn to you,
the source of all,
the God of all.
Forgive us. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Steve Schwartzberg

John 10: 11-17

"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.

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to this flock. I need to gather and bring them, too. They will also recognize my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd. This is why the Father loves me: because I freely lay down my own life. And so I am free to take it up again."

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	"We the Sheeple"	Matt Fitzgerald
MEDITATION	<i>Concert Fantasia on Hanover Variation II</i> Kevin Dzierzawski, organ	Edwin Lemare
OFFERING INVITATION		Sarah Garcia

OFFERTORY

Jubilate Deo
Chancel Choir

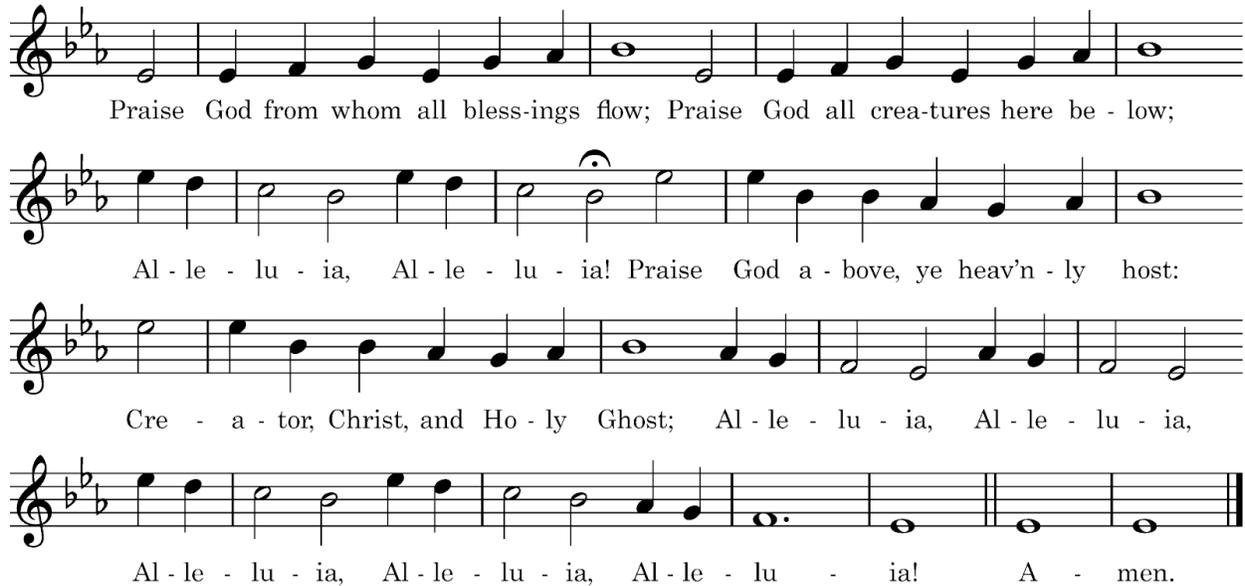
Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
Serve the Lord with gladness,
And come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
We are his people,
And the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
And into his courts with praise:
Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious,
His mercy is everlasting,
And his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Psalm 100

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

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

FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God above, 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." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests and a fermata over the final "Al-le-lu-ia".

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

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A bul - wark nev - er
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un -
 4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a -



fail - - ing; Our help - er he a - mid the flood Of
 los - - ing, Were not the right man on our side, The
 - do us, We will not fear, for God hath willed His
 - bid - - eth; The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe Doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim, We
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, This



seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, And
 Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sab - a - oth his name. From
 trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en - dure, For
 mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill; God's



armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - - qual.
 age to age the same, And he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure: One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - - er.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE

Recessional

William Mathias

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

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.*

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

*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***

*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 & MAY

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 25 Michael Nagy, Rick Bail, Ayres Newcomer, Caroline Heffernan,
Dutch Newcomer

April 26 Elysia Sheehan, Kecia Waldschmidt, Oscar Hull

April 27 Carole Knuti

April 28 Charlie Johnson, Sullivan McGrath

April 29 Braden Van Zeyl

April 30 Harley Houser, Margaret Arden, Ethan Fitzgerald, Kelly Sensenbrenner,
Tommy Schmitz

May 1 Karen Fisher, Kris Hansen, Sherrie Kobak, Thomas Clancy

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: MAY SIGN UPS AVAILABLE

We're so excited to hold 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

CREATION CORNER

Watch this space every week for St. Pauls Creation Corner, which includes information on how we all can "care for creation."

As we worship, we affirm as a congregation and individually to live our Statement of Faith. This includes:

- We believe in God who has created and is creating.
- God calls us to care for creation.

This demands action. We commit to care for creation. Our faith requires us to do our part. This is God's world, a miraculous gift to us for a brief time. If you have not already prayerfully and seriously considered your role, then please do so now.

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it."
Psalms 24:1

SUMMER CAMP!

We are excited to have you join us for summer camp this year! Along with arts and crafts, games, and water activities, campers enjoy exploring local parks and going on daily adventures! St. Pauls Summer Camp is for school aged children 6-12. Summer camp will run July 5 through July 30 with options for Full Day (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) or Half Day (9 a.m.-12 p.m.). Sign up on a weekly basis, Monday to Friday. Learn more and sign up here: <https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/823571>

PROVIDE A MEAL FOR LPCS

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 these days.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)

We are seeking **CEP Laundry** volunteers on Saturday morning. One volunteer is needed each week to greet street-based guests and launder their clothes on-site at St. Pauls from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 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. If you are not interested in in-person activities, we continue to have opportunities to drop off meals for LPCS.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

APR 27 - WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - 7:30 p.m., Zoom

Please join us for the women's book group. We will be reading *The Gift of Years* by Joan Chitister. All are welcome. Email Corie Gallemore for more information: corie.gallemore@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, cindyzinn11@gmail.com.

MAY 1 - BYSTANDER TRAINING - 10 a.m., Zoom

As you know, our country has seen a sharp increase in anti-Asian violence. We are joining Root & Branch, Lighthouse and two other churches to receive bystander training from experts. We will learn how to identify hate incidents as they happen and how to take safe, effective action. The Virtual training is led by experts from Asian Americans Advancing Justice and the Council on American Islamic Relations. Learn more and register via the link below, or contact Matt, mfitzgerald@spucc.org. us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpc-CvrjgrGdEYRYWStJWxU3UAa60tdOil

MAY 6, 13 & 20 - BOOK DISCUSSION: *CLIMATE CHURCH, CLIMATE WORLD*

7-8 p.m., Zoom

Why should people of faith engage the moral challenge of climate change – and how should we do it? This book, recently featured in the [Chicago Tribune](#), helps answer these questions and empowers the reader to join others in taking action. The author, Rev. Jim Antal, serves as Special Advisor on Climate Justice to the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. Please purchase a copy from your favorite merchant and RSVP at the link below. Discussion sponsored by our St. Pauls Green Team.

<https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/827095>

MAY 7 - PLAY READING *INHERIT THE WIND* - 7:30 p.m., Zoom

St. Pauls Social invites adults of all ages to join hosts Henry and Nancy Godinez for a play reading of *Inherit the Wind*, originally performed on Broadway in 1955. Both actors and spectators are needed. If you are interested in a part in the play, let them know in your RSVP. Parts can be played by any gender. A Zoom link will be emailed to all RSVPs prior to the reading. Send your RSVP to Henry and Nancy at nanvg61@gmail.com.

OPPORTUNITIES

CHURCH CENTER – spucc.churchcenter.com is our new portal for the Saint Pauls community. 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 & 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 & 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.

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).

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

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.

- Tilly Wilhoite, her brother Bert, and family, at the passing of her sister-in-law, Caryl.
- Family and friends at the death of Ruth Cuzman.
- Pauline Taylor's son, Greg, being treated for cancer.
- Colleen Henry's 100-year-old mother in hospice care.
- Jeff Johnson and family at the death of his mother Jeanine.
- Prayers 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.
- Friends and family mourning the loss of Larry Butcher.
- Juanita Barlow, recovering from a procedure on a blood vessel.
- Phill, brother of Bob Ball, diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia and beginning many medical treatments.
- Juggling working from home, Zoom school, and family life.
- 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.
- 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!

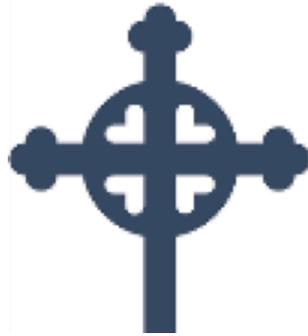
Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989, we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open and Affirming" of LGBTQ women and men.

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

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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
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Brendan Henry, *Pianist*, brendanhenrypiano@gmail.com
Nancy Voigts, *Children's Choir Director*, nvoigtsgod@att.net
Kecia Waldschmidt, *Youth Choir Director*, keciagerman@hotmail.com
Mark Mosley, *Intergenerational Orchestra Director*, mwmosley@gmail.com
Kevin O'Brien, *Lay Liturgical Administrator*, kkobrien48@hotmail.com



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.