

November 28, 2021  
First Sunday in Advent



\* 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

Benny VanDenburgh

**God, if we're being honest  
in Advent; honest as we ready  
ourselves for your arrival,  
honest, not just sentimental -  
Honestly, we've enjoyed your absence.  
We've enjoyed playing  
with the bigness of our littleness.  
First we scheme, then we despair.  
Lies reign, indifference grows.  
The poor get stepped on.  
We need you so badly.  
Come to us! Amen.**

## MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

arr. Brendan Henry

## SCRIPTURE

### *Matthew 24 selections*

The Arrival of the Son of Man isn't something you go to see. He comes like swift lightning to you! Many will come in my name saying, "I am the Messiah!" And they will lead many astray. Whenever you see crowds gathering, think of carrion vultures circling, moving in, hovering over a rotting carcass. You can be quite sure that it's not the living Son of Man pulling in those crowds.

"Following those hard times,  
Sun will fade out,  
moon cloud over,  
Stars fall out of the sky,  
cosmic powers tremble."

Then, the Arrival of the Son of Man! It will fill the skies—no one will miss it. All the tribes of the earth will mourn as they watch the Son of Man blazing out of heaven. When you see all these things, you'll know he's at the door.

Stay awake, alert. You have no idea what day your Master will show up. But you do know this: if the homeowner had known what time of night the burglar would arrive, he would have been there with his dogs to prevent the break-in. Be vigilant just like that. You have no idea when the Son of Man is going to show up.

\* A STATEMENT OF FAITH

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

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

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

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

*(adapted from the United Church of Canada)*

\* RESPONSE

*Could We O Savior Worthy Be!*

1. Could we O Sav - ior wor - thy be!

Thou Sov - 'reign, Lord and King— As to re - ceive and

well - come thee. Who dost sal - va - tion bring.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

SERMON

“Who Forgot to Set the Alarm?”

Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

*Could We O Savior Worthy Be!*

2. All na - tions for they com - ing wait  
3. Then did'st thou, might - y Sav - iour come,

The first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (two sharps) and 2/4 time. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

And wish to know thee near; Let Zi - on o - pen  
To set us pris - 'ners free! To ran - some us, to

The second system of musical notation. It continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

eve - ry gate, Till thou O God, ap - pear!  
take us home, To be and dwell with thee.

The third system of musical notation, concluding the hymn. It continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

OFFERTORY

*E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*  
Chancel Choir

Paul 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*

*You can give to St. Pauls by:*

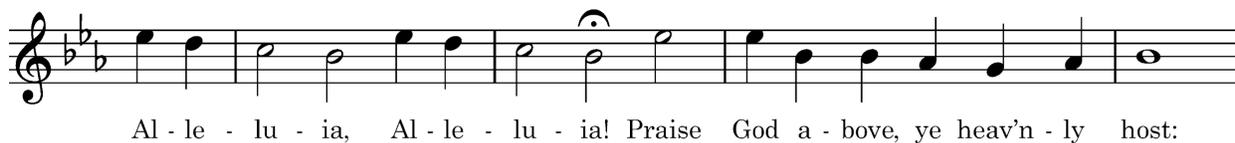
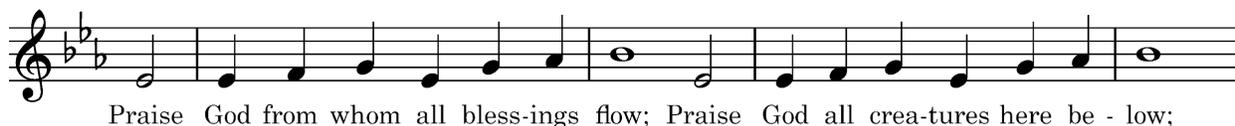
*Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,*

*At [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),*

*Or through Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*



\* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Benny VanDenburgh

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

*God Is Working His Purpose Out*



1. God is work - ing his pur - pose out As year suc -  
2. From ut - most east to ut - most west, Wher - e'er man's  
3. March we forth in the strength of God With the ban - ner of  
4. All we can do is noth - ing worth Un - less God



- ceeds to year; God is work - ing his pur - pose out, And the  
foot hath trod, By the mouth of man - y mes - sen - gers Goes  
Christ un - furled, That the light of the glo - rious gos - pel of truth May  
bless - es the deed; Vain - ly we hope for the har - vest - tide Till



time is draw - ing near; Near - er and near - er draws the time, The  
forth the voice of God; Give ear to me, ye con - ti - nents, Ye  
shine through - out the world; Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin To  
God gives life to the seed; Yet near - er and near - er draws the time, The



time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the  
 isles, give ear to me, That the earth may be filled with the  
 set their cap - tives free, That the earth may be filled with the  
 time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the



glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
 glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
 glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
 glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



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

POSTLUDE

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*  
 St. Arbucks Quartet

Black American Spiritual  
 arr. Brendan Henry with  
 Muzette Morgan

*If you would like someone to pray with you today, Stephen Ministers are present after the Postlude at the right front of the Sanctuary.*

*Following Worship, all are invited for a Social Hour time of fellowship in the gym. At this time, we will not be serving coffee so everyone remains masked while indoors.*

## TODAY'S MUSIC

It is thoroughly appropriate for the First Sunday in Advent to be full of settings of ***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***. It is thought of as a Christmas carol, but its text definitely references the anticipation of Advent. The original Latin, VENI EMMANUEL, was translated in 1851 by J. M. Neale (1818-1866). He was a member of the British clergy, and struggled with ill health his entire life. Neale also composed the texts for many other hymns including *All Glory Laud and Honor* and translated many other Latin texts like *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*. Our Prelude is a setting by Wolfgang RübSam (b. 1946), a German American organist that taught at Northwestern University for many years and was actually Kevin Dzierzawski's professor for his master's degree. The Response after the Words of Assurance is a haunting and serene jazz arrangement by our own Brendan Henry.

***God Moves in a Mysterious Way*** utilizes a text by William Cowper (1731-1800), pronounced "Cooper." It may have been written as an affirmation after his suicide attempt. He was regarded in England as one of the best early Romantic poets. The tune, DUNDEE, is from the same 1685 "Book of Psalms of David" collection as the response following our Statement of Faith.

The hymn, ***Could We O Savior Worthy Be***, NEW LONDON, is a relatively new tune for us. It was used as the closing hymn in the Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) cantata *Saint Nicolas*, which we sang in worship during Advent in 2018. The hymn dates from 1685 in the "Book of Psalms of David."

***E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*** was composed by Paul Manz (1919-2009) in 1953. He composed this anthem while in a hospital waiting room awaiting results of the surgery on his child, after being injured in an automobile accident. His son survived. It has been performed widely, including for "Lessons and Carols" at King's College Cambridge in England. He was a graduate of Concordia College in River Forest and Northwestern University.

***God Is Working His Purpose Out*** is a favorite hymn of Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry. The text was written by Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841-1919) in 1894. The text demanded a muscular tune, which Martin Shaw (1916-1999) provided in 1915.

***Go Tell It on the Mountain*** is not attributed to any composer; however, John W. Work (1872-1925) "curated" this and many other Black American spirituals and folk songs. Work was a graduate of the Historically Black College, Fisk University in Nashville. He returned to his alma mater to direct the world famous Fisk Jubilee Singers. This arrangement was inspired and sung for many years by St. Pauls member and Chancel Choir alto section leader, Muzette Morgan.

ADVENT WREATH- Each week during Advent we light another candle in our Advent wreath to anticipate the coming of Christ, the light of the world. These candles symbolize the gifts of hope, love, joy and peace that Christ's coming brings.

### **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Clergy:** Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson, Benny VanDerburgh

**Music Director:** Kurt R. Hansen

**Organist:** Kevin Dzierzawski

**St. Arbucks Quartet:** Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

**Scripture Reader:** Kirsten Simonton

**Lay Liturgical Administrator:** Kevin O'Brien

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Mary Brown, Doug Clark

**Head Greeter:** Greg Mooney

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**Streaming Service Team:** Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Jose Cruz, Brian Hafner, Chuck Kent

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

### **BORN THIS WEEK IN NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

*We 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 28 Barbara Arsenault, Lisa Patterson Raterman, Michael VanSomeren

Nov 29 Lily Mooney

Nov 30 David Bradley

Dec 1 Brooke Walvoord, Dodd Brown, John Reed, Leo Lawrence, Rex Lawrence

Dec 2 Bill Kennedy, Frank Mynard, Richard Wu, Matthew Wallace

Dec 3 Jack Knight, Mehgan Keeley, Olivia Nach

Dec 4 Katherine Schuller, Laura Van Zeyl, Linhard Stepf, Mark Smith

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

- TUE, DEC 1, 7, 21 TUESDAY EVENING ADVENT PRAYER  
8 p.m. Join members, friends, and a pastor for a time of prayer  
RSVP here for the Zoom link:  
[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1093556](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1093556)
- SAT, DEC 4 CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. pickup (delivery available)  
Order and pay ahead online:  
[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078268](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078268)
- SUN, DEC 5 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE  
10 a.m. Worship & Communion, Sanctuary  
11:30 a.m. Alarming Advent Poems, Pastor Matt, Oscar Mayer Room
- WED, DEC 8 LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS SHOW - 5 p.m., Sanctuary
- SAT, DEC 11 ST. PAULS AND LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY - Time TBD, Parlor  
Party with the two best churches in Chicago!  
For vaccinated members and friends
- SUN, DEC 12 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY  
10 a.m. Worship, Readings & Carols, St. Pauls Brass, Sanctuary  
11:30 a.m. Advent Market, Gym
- TUE, DEC 14 SUFJAN'S CHRISTMAS(ES)  
7 p.m. Join Benny in contemplative enjoyment of these classic  
Christmas song covers, Sanctuary
- SUN, DEC 19 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE  
10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
- FRI, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE  
5 p.m. Family Service, Sanctuary  
9 p.m. Candlelight Service, Sanctuary  
Christmas story, carols, candles, and choir
- SUN, DEC 26 WORSHIP - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
- SUN, JAN 16 POLAR PEACE MARCH  
10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary  
11:15 a.m. March to support UCAN's work for non-violence, and honor  
the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

You can decorate your home this year and the proceeds will support St. Pauls outreach and benevolence efforts. Due to a national Christmas tree shortage, we will only have 24" or 36" wreaths available this year. Each wreath is made of fresh boughs pulled from the Christmas tree fields mounted on a metal ring for easy hanging. The 24" wreath is the typical "door sized" option. Order and pay ahead online and pick up your wreath in our church parking lot on December 4 from 11:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m., or order for delivery within Chicago.

[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078268](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078268)

### SANCTUARY CHRISMON TREE SETUP

We will be assembling and decorating our sanctuary Chrismon tree on Friday, December 3 starting at 8 a.m. We know from years past that it takes roughly six hours to fully assemble the tree, so your participation is both welcome and appreciated! Please contact Lorne Frank at [lornefrank@lornefrank.com](mailto:lornefrank@lornefrank.com) if you plan to join in the holiday fun.

### ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED

The Advent Market on Sunday, December 12 will help fund the cost of the Polar Peace March. We need new or gently used regiffable items such as jewelry, candles, frames, handmade items, Christmas decorations, toys, etc. Please, no clothing unless it is holiday specific. The drop-off dates are **December 4th:** 9am-12pm, **5th:** 9am - 12:30pm, **10th:** 10am - 3pm, and **11th:** 10am - 1pm. Questions, please text or email Kristin Lane Mack at (773) 322-7727 or [klanemack@gmail.com](mailto:klanemack@gmail.com) or Carrie Bruggers at (773) 294-4446, [crbruggs@gmail.com](mailto:crbruggs@gmail.com).

### ALL ABOARD THE UCAN GIFT TRAIN!

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to provide gifts to young people in need this holiday season. Gift cards are due at church by Sunday, December 5. For a virtual option, visit [ucanchicago.org/gift-train](http://ucanchicago.org/gift-train). Reach out to Rebecca Sandoval with any questions, [rebecca.sandoval@ucanchicago.org](mailto:rebecca.sandoval@ucanchicago.org).

### REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

We've assembled the mentoring team and they'll be going through training in early January. We could still use a couple more people on the apartment team (i.e., moving the furniture from St. Pauls to the new apartment). That team will be having a get-to-know-you and organizational meeting the week of December 6th. If you're interested, please email Mark Pellegrino, [jjmarkp@yahoo.com](mailto:jjmarkp@yahoo.com). Thank you for your tremendous support in the preparations for our refugee family!

## **2022 ALTAR FLOWER & SCRIPTURE READER SIGN-UPS**

Sign-ups for next year's altar flowers and scripture readers are now available!

Sign up for flowers here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968)

Sign up for reading here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008)

## **CREATION CORNER**

See UCC.org, specifically Environmental Justice Ministries. Excerpts:

Think about the essentials of life such as air, water, and food. One could say these divine gifts of creation are taken for granted as they are so abused by our society, especially to the detriment of low income communities of color. Churches can do much to challenge this disconnection from God, our neighbors, and the surrounding world. We can find renewal and new life through the power of a conscious appreciation of the connections that sustain us. If the environment is so fundamental to our lives, then shouldn't our faith reflect this continually?

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**DEC 1 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 15 - THE HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION-**  
12 p.m., Zoom

St. Paul's famous words about love were written to a church only about 7 years old. They were new Christians struggling to build a community around the good news of Jesus. For Paul, Christian faith can only be lived in community and in this letter he addresses the questions and struggles of a group of early Christians that remain surprisingly similar to our own. Meets weekly on Zoom. RSVP: [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**DEC 2 - READING WITH ST. AUGUSTINE** - 5 p.m., Cloud Room

We will gather bi-weekly on Thursday evenings in witness to Augustine of Hippo's *Confessions*, one of the first Christian autobiographies. Participation requires little to no outside reading. We will experience the text together in a contemplative gathering that will include periods of prayer and silence. This series will bridge other studies focused on the Biblical period and early church movement to take us to the early days of the Latin church, that period of global growth and imagination. To join in or for more information, please email Benny at [bvanderburgh@spucc.org](mailto:bvanderburgh@spucc.org).

**DEC 9 - INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE ON HOMELESSNESS** - 6:30-8 p.m., Zoom

How can YOU make a difference in the problem of homelessness? Join an interfaith roundtable on homelessness in Chicago to learn about the Bring Home Chicago Coalition's ballot initiative to generate revenue for housing solutions. Chicago Metropolitan Association UCC Associate Minister Rev. Dr. Terrill Murff is a featured speaker. Register today at [bit.ly/BCHbringinghome](https://bit.ly/BCHbringinghome).

## **DEC 9 - LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION BLACK QUEER EQUITY INDEX UPDATE**

**EVENT** - 6:00 p.m., Zoom

Since last spring, Lighthouse Foundation has worked meticulously to establish indicators of equity for Black Queer folks in the workplace. The Black Queer Equity Index (BQEI) surveys the top LGBTQ+ serving organizations in Chicago to ensure that Black LGBTQ+ employees and board members are treated justly. During this event, you will hear an update on the BQEI, including their evaluation findings thus far and plans for the project's future. For more info and to RSVP: [bit.ly/BQEIEvent](https://bit.ly/BQEIEvent)

## **DEC 13 - COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO, PART 2, DISCUSSION** - 7 p.m.

The Long, Classic Novels Reading Group will discuss part two of Alexandre Dumas' page-turner adventure novel. Fast readers have time to catch up! RSVP: Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org). Feel free to email Jeff with your nominees for next year's reading list.

## **DEC 14 - AN EVENING WITH SUFJAN'S CHRISTMAS(ES)** - 7 p.m., Sanctuary

Did you know that Sufjan Stevens has released 101 Christmas songs? He has released three versions of *Angels We Have Heard on High* alone. Many Christians and non-Christian music lovers alike have rested in his strange and sincere covers as a way to make it through this season faithfully. Join Pastoral Associate Benny for this special listening event in the Sanctuary on Tuesday, December 14 at 7 p.m. We'll quietly enjoy Sufjan's work and contemplate our own belonging in the vast tradition of preparing for the Christ child. RSVP at [bvanderburgh@spucc.org](mailto:bvanderburgh@spucc.org) – and if you have requests for what we listen to, send titles his way!

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way of celebrating a special event in your life: an anniversary, a birthday, a holiday, or just because you like flowers! Sign up at [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968)

**CHURCH CENTER** – [spucc.churchcenter.com](https://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!

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP)** – We are seeking **CEP Laundry volunteers on Saturday mornings**. 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](mailto:CEPsupper@gmail.com).

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

**EMAIL SIGN-UP** – Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected? You can go to [spucc.org](http://spucc.org) to fill out our virtual fellowship card to begin receiving our weekly email and special congregational emails, introduce yourself and request more information about our programs!

**EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS** – The Emergency Contact Form developed by the Connectors has been updated. You may follow this link for additional information and to consider whether this form could be useful for you: [spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271).

**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](mailto:toby@rogers-home.com) for information about meetings.

**GREEN TEAM** – Help us as a congregation live out what we say in our Statement of Faith: God calls us to care for creation. The Green Team welcomes your input, participation and ideas. Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro are co-chairs. If interested or to offer suggestions, email Jan at [jan.fraccaro@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.littlelightslp.org). Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at [littlelights@spucc.org](mailto:littlelights@spucc.org).

**OUTREACH & BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE** – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love you to join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information, contact Jennifer Kew, [JenniferLKew@gmail.com](mailto:JenniferLKew@gmail.com), or Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**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!

**SARAH’S SIBS** are back and gather every Wednesday morning to make and distribute 40 bag lunches to our homeless neighbors. You are most welcome to come to the church kitchen at 9:30 a.m. and lend a hand.

### **SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Volunteers are needed for the 10 a.m. in-person worship service each week to read the scripture passage of the day. Learn more and sign up here:

[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008)

**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](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)), Marti Pechnyo ([mpechnyo@gmail.com](mailto:mpechnyo@gmail.com)), or Barb Kaiser ([bkaiser2213@gmail.com](mailto:bkaiser2213@gmail.com)).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – If you plan to have your child participate in Sunday School this year, we ask that you please register them. This is a one-time registration to let us know that you intend to have your child participate so we can prepare the correct staffing and activities, [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/985445](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/985445)

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** – 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](mailto: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](mailto:youngadults@spucc.org).

### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week’s bulletin or Friday email to [chiggins@spucc.org](mailto: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.*

- Rejoicing the birth of Ruth Lydia Bryant to parents Hannah and Caleb Bryant.
- Ken Travers and family at the loss of his younger brother, Leroy.
- Marty, sister of Jan Bail, as she faces another cancer diagnosis.
- Dean, friend of Nathan Streeter, at the loss of his 18-month-old son, and his mother and grandmother in the last six months.
- Sister-in-law of Nathan Streeter, with complications from a breakthrough of Covid.
- Jana O'Brien, recovering from surgery.
- Loved ones of Ann, mother-in-law of Erin Fitzgerald, at her passing.
- Bob Kuba as he is challenged by some significant health issues.
- Peter Doerr's mother, Annette, recovering from injuries from a car accident.
- Mary Frances Winking's parents facing health and quality of life obstacles.
- Michelle Rodriguez, on the death of her aunt.
- Adé, a young Chicago artist and bicyclist who was struck by a car and is in a coma in critical condition. Prayers are needed for him, his family and ICU caregivers.
- Friends and family of Steve Stack at his death. For service details, see [stevestack.org](http://stevestack.org).
- Wes Salsbury and Marcia Knudson as Wes continues to develop strength after a months-long hospitalization and rehab stay occasioned by a fall.
- Bruce and Betty Voice are now living with her son Raymond. Cards are welcome at 2763 Peach Orchard Road, Anderson, MO 64831.
- The many who have not received the COVID-19 vaccine, to get it before it's too late. May we all find our role in helping this happen.
- Al Cerkan, recovering from major back surgery.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

### **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 people.

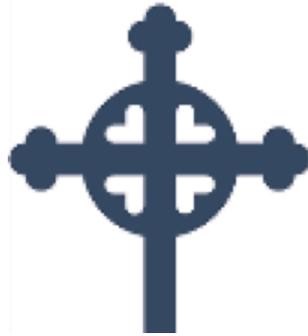
From founding Chicago's largest provider of social services to at-risk children to starting a home for the elderly, from housing protestors at the 1968 Democratic Convention to hosting Lincoln Park's first MLK day march against violence on Chicago's streets, we are proud to make a joyful sound in the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

Most important, over the past 178 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.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)  
Pastoral Associate Benny VanDerburgh, [bvanderburgh@spucc.org](mailto:bvanderburgh@spucc.org)  
Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry, [emeritushenry@gmail.com](mailto:emeritushenry@gmail.com)

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership  
Please visit [spucc.org/contact](http://spucc.org/contact)

**St. Pauls United Church of Christ**  
**2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614**  
**(773) 348-3829    [www.spucc.org](http://www.spucc.org)**



## 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.