



January 2, 2022  
Communion Sunday

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

***There is no Sunday School this week. Children are invited to stay in worship.***

***The Nursery is open for children ages 0 to 2.***

*Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.*

*Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.*

*Please silence cell phones.*

## THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"We returned to our places, these Kingdoms, but no longer at ease, here in the old dispensation, with an alien people clutching their gods."

T.S. Eliot, *The Journey of the Magi*

WELCOME **Jeff Carlson**

## \* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Isaiah 60*

One: Rise and shine, for our light has come!

**All:** The glory of God has risen upon us!

One: Darkness had covered the earth, thick darkness over all people.

**All:** But God's glory has risen upon us!

One: And God will be our everlasting light.

**All:** Rise and shine, for our light has come!

## **The glory of God has risen upon us!**

*\* Please stand if you are able to do so*

\* HYMN

*We Three Kings*



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we  
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to  
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a  
4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of  
5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise; King and God and



tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain,  
crown him a - gain, King for - e - ver, ceas - ing ne - ver,  
De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing, voi - ces rais - ing,  
gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing,  
sac - ri - fice: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
o - ver us all to reign.  
wor - ship - ing God on high. O \_\_\_\_\_ star of won - der, star of light,  
sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
sounds through the earth and skies.



star with roy - al beau - ty bright, west - ward lead - ing,



still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God,**  
**you are true light from true light.**  
**Your word is as a lamp to our feet.**  
**At Epiphany, your star is brilliant.**  
**You would have each of us live**  
**a lifetime of little epiphanies.**  
**All of this, and we would rather**  
**be benighted than enlightened.**  
**We would rather stumble**  
**in the dark than walk in light.**  
**Forgive us. Shine upon us.**  
**Amen.**

## MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\* RESPONSE

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

vv. 1 & 2

The musical score consists of two systems of music. The top system shows the beginning of the piece with treble and bass staves. The lyrics for the first four stanzas are provided below the music. The bottom system continues the piece with more stanzas. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The vocal parts are in 4/4 time, while the piano accompaniment is in 2/4 time.

1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
2. Our God tran - scends all heav - en, earth, and its do - main;  
3. An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,  
4. What can I of - fer, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when Christ comes to reign;  
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the mid - night air;  
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb.

A musical score for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano. The music is in common time, key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The vocal parts are written in G clef, and the piano part is in F clef. The lyrics are integrated into the musical lines.

Snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 In the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the  
 But his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
 If I were a wise one, I would do my part; but

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 sov - ereign God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 what I can I of - fer: all my heart.

## SCRIPTURE

Thomas Clancy

*Matthew 2:1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

\* 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

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

vv. 3 & 4

See previous hymn.

SERMON

"Obligations, Epiphanies, Compulsions"

Matt Fitzgerald

\* RESPONSE

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*



1. O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright Thou beam - est forth in  
2. Thou heav'n - ly Bright - ness! Light di - vine! O deep with - in my



truth and light! O Sov - ereign meek and low - ly! Thou Root of Jes - se,  
heart now shine, And make thee there an al - tar! Fill me with joy and



Da - vid's Son, My Lord and Mas - ter, thou hast won My heart to serve thee  
strength to be Thy mem - ber, ev - er joined to thee In love that can - not



sole - ly! Thou art ho - ly, Fair and glo - rious, all - vic - to - rious,  
fal - ter; Toward thee long - ing Doth pos - sess me; turn and bless me;



Rich in bless - ing, Rule and might o'er all pos - ses - sing.  
Here in sad - ness Eye and heart long for thy glad - ness!

## OFFERTORY

*Nova, Nova!*

Anon. 15th Century

Kurt R. Hansen, tenor and Congregation

*Refrain*

Nova, nova!

Ave fit ex Eva.

News, news!

Hail (Ave) is made from Eve (Eva).  
(Eva is Ave in reverse.)

Verses in English tell the story of Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

*You can give to St. Pauls electronically 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

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;

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.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Matt Fitzgerald

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.**

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*As we observe Covid precautions, communion elements are set on tables in the Narthex and in the lobby just outside the Sanctuary side door. Please serve yourself and hold the elements in your pews until communion is celebrated.  
The outer ring of cups contains grape juice. The inner rings contain wine.  
A gluten-free bread option is wrapped and available on a separate tray.  
All are welcome.*

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\* HYMN

*As With Gladness Those of Old*



1. As with glad - ness those of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
2. As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger bed,  
3. As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger plain and bare,  
4. Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;



As with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
There to bend the knee be - fore One whom heaven and earth a - dore;  
So may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
And when mor - tal things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last



So, true Morn-ing Star, may we ev - er - more your splen - dor see.  
So may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek your mer - cy seat.  
All our cost - liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.  
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo - ry hide.



\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The musical score consists of three staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The top staff features a soprano vocal line with eighth-note patterns and a piano accompaniment. The middle staff features a bass vocal line with sustained notes and a piano accompaniment. The bottom staff features a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are integrated into the music, appearing below the staff lines. The lyrics are: "Glo - ri - a", "in ex - cel - sis De - o", "Glo - ri - a", and "in ex - cel - sis De - o". The music includes various dynamics like forte and piano, and articulations like accents and slurs.

POSTLUDE

*Now Behold the Lamb*  
St. Arbucks Trio

Kirk Franklin

*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

**Of the Father's Love Begotten** is a chant melody from the 13th century. The melody inspires both the Prelude and the Introit. The tune, DIVINUM MISTERIUM, translates as “divine mystery,” which certainly describes how God chose to come to be with us. The author of the Latin was Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410), a Spanish poet, devoted believer, and lawyer. The translations were made by John M. Neale (1818-1866), who was born into an English evangelical home but developed great sympathies for Catholicism, and Sir Henry Wiliam Baker (1821-1877), an Anglican priest who wrote a number of hymn texts, among them *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*. Wilbur Held (1914-2015), who arranged the Prelude setting, has an actual Chicago connection. He was born in Des Plaines, studied at the American Conservatory with Leo Sowerby, and became Sowerby’s assistant for seven years at St. James Cathedral in the Loop. In addition to having been an active composer, he was also very involved in the American Guild of Organists and was Professor of Organ Studies at The Ohio State University for more than 30 years.

**We Three Kings** is a truly American hymn. It was composed in 1857 by an Episcopalian priest, John H. Hopkins (1820–1891). His father was the Bishop of Vermont. Hopkins was also an ecclesiologist, which means he was interested in church art. He designed stained glass and other church ornaments.

**In the Bleak Midwinter** text was composed by Christina Georgina Rossetti (1830–1894) in 1872. She was a prolific English poet. The tune, CRANHAM, is by Gustav Holst (1874-1934), who is best known as the composer of *The Planets*.

**O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright** is a famous German tune, *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*, composed in 1599 by Philipp Nicolai (1446–1608). Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878) translated the German. Having been raised in Dresden, she was well known for her translation of German chorales.

**Nova, Nova** is an example of a teaching song. At a time when very few could read, music in the vernacular, drama, worship, and even stained glass windows were used as teaching tools to tell the stories in the Bible. The title is a pun on the Latin words “ave” meaning, “hail” (“Hail Mary, the Lord is with Thee,” the greeting of the angel in Luke 1:2) and “Eva,” meaning Eve, the partner of Adam. Eve’s name during the 15<sup>th</sup> century was synonymous with the story of “original sin.” Eve’s name is inverted to form “ave,” i.e., “hail,” a greeting to Mary, whose child will release us from sin.

**As With Gladness Those of Old** is set to the tune DIX, which was composed by W. Chatterton Dix (1837–1898). Mr. Dix also composed the original lyrics. He was a Scottish insurance company manager who also published a number of volumes of hymns.

**Angels We Have Heard on High** is originally an 18th century French noël (carol) freely translated by James Chadwick (1813-1882), an Irish Catholic priest. GLORIA is from the text of the joyfully cascading Latin refrain, which we sing as a Benediction response after Christmas and during Epiphany.

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Clergy:** Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

**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:** Thomas Clancy

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

**Communion Coordinator:** Jana O'Brien

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Doug Clark, Fred Pearson

**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

*Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.*

## **BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY**

*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.*

Jan 2 Matilda Fanai Danesh

Jan 3 Aaron Lawson, Brian Earl, Susan Michod, Theresa Busker

Jan 5 Christy Frisch, Sally Glowikak

Jan 6 Liz Harper

Jan 7 Karaçan Sayrun-Thomas, Courtney Sensenbrenner, Jeffrey Wagner

Jan 8 Don Curtis, Hope Basil, Oscar Schrimpf, Caleb Patton

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2022**

We are planning a youth mission trip with Appalachia Service Project June 17-24 for youth going into ninth grade and up. ASP teams do home repair, making homes warmer, safer and dryer. It's a great experience, and St. Pauls youth and adults have served with ASP for many years. If a youth in your family is interested, please contact Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

### **REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE**

As the new year begins, our efforts to support our refugee family are ramping up. The mentoring/core team will be taking their training on January 5th. At that point, we'll be eligible to receive a family. RefugeeOne has indicated we'll be one of the first teams to get a family in the new year. So, it'll be all-hands-on-deck very soon! As always, if you have any questions, please contact Mark Pellegrino, [jjmarkp@yahoo.com](mailto:jjmarkp@yahoo.com).

### **ST. PAULS JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC**

Watch this space in the weeks ahead for ways that SPARC, as well as the UCC nationally, invite you to Join the Movement for racial justice. You will find information to understand the issues, resources to explore more deeply, and both individual and collective opportunities for education and activism. We are called to live our faith in an age of injustice and commanded to love our neighbors as ourselves. Let us boldly love people of all races for a more just world!

### **CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team**

Start a garden inside. If you can, involve children or grandchildren in the endeavor. Plant seeds in cups or pots. Copy and place the verse 1 Corinthians 3:6 by the pots. As you work together, you will be growing not only food and flowers, but also a new generation that loves nature and wants to care for it.

Check out this resource on finding a tree recycling program near you:  
[recyclebycity.com/chicago/brief/christmas-tree-recycling](http://recyclebycity.com/chicago/brief/christmas-tree-recycling).

The Green Team welcomes your input, participation and ideas! Help us as a congregation live out what we say in our Statement of Faith: "God calls us to care for creation." 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).

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### **JAN 5 - BIBLE STUDY - THE GOSPEL OF LUKE** 12 p.m., Zoom

We're starting a new study for a new year. Luke introduces us to Jesus, who brings justice and truth to the world. This Gospel contains some of the most cherished stories, such as the Prodigal Son, Zacchaeus and the Good Samaritan. Meets once a week for about a half an hour.

All are welcome! RSVP to Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

### **JAN 16 - POLAR PEACE MARCH** - Following 10 a.m. Worship

After the service, join our friends and neighbors as we honor the message of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and show the city how all of our streets are connected. Help UCAN achieve its mission of violence prevention and treatment for traumatized youth in our communities. Register at: [polarpeacemarch.org](http://polarpeacemarch.org).

### **JAN 17 - MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, FAITH IN ACTION ASSEMBLY** - 10 a.m. or 7 p.m., On-line

Community Renewal Society responds to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s call to put our faith in action by hosting an annual assembly on the holiday commemorating his life and work. This year's assembly will be held virtually and will be streamed at 10 a.m. CT and again at 7 p.m. CT. You can find out more and register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/46s8teke>

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way to celebrate 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](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968)

**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!

**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 2022. 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)

**SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster)** invites you to join the journey toward racial justice through educational opportunities, resources, and actions as we seek to live our faith in an age of injustice. For more information contact Cindy Ball at cindyzinn11@gmail.com.

**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).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – Please register your children for Sunday School. This is a one-time registration for the year 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 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.*

- Lorri Gunn Wirsum, diagnosed with COVID and at home managing symptoms.
- Jan Bail at the death of her sister, Marty.
- An 18-year-old friend of Lisa Doerr in critical condition from a burst aneurysm.
- Chris, Rem and Sabrina Cabrera-Schram at the death of son and brother, Gabriel.
- Nina Whitsel, diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia.
- Pastor Jamie Frazier, whose mother, Irene, has died.
- Joe JaQuay, being treated for an infection in his leg.
- Cameron and his family, family friends of Juanita Barlow, managing his brain damage after an accident.
- 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.
- Mikey Olawski, nephew of Terry Hansen, with undiagnosed medical issues.
- 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.
- Bob and Cheryl Kuba as they are challenged by some significant health issues.
- Mary Frances Winking's parents facing health and quality of life obstacles.
- Michelle Rodriguez, on the death of her aunt.
- Wes Salsbury and Marcia Knudson as Wes continues to develop strength after a months-long hospitalization and rehab stay occasioned by a fall.
- Al Cerkar, 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)

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**St. Pauls United Church of Christ**  
**2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614**  
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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.