



First Sunday in Advent  
Communion Sunday  
November 27, 2022

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

*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.*

#### THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"We do not go to Holy Communion because we are good; we go to become good."

John Bosco

#### PRELUDE

*Bethlehem Down*  
St. Pauls Brass

Peter Warlock

#### INTROIT

*Advent Introit*  
Chancel Choir

Plainchant

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Candle of Hope

Sensenbrenner Family

#### WELCOME

#### \* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The season of Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of Christ, not as an anniversary of a past event, but as a present reality in our lives.

**All: O come Emmanuel**

One: We can have communion with Christ today, right now. Christ is here. He is the bread from heaven.

**All: Let us taste and see that the Lord is good. Christ is with us!**

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

\* 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!*

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Jesus you are the bread from heaven and you nourish and feed our souls. Forgive us, for putting ourselves first and failing to feed others with our words and actions. Help us to draw near to you and experience your real presence in our lives and in our world. Remake us in your image to nourish and strengthen each other.**

**In silence hear now our personal confessions...**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

*Please come forward for communion.*

*Take the bread and eat it. Then take the cup and drink.*

*Deposit the cups in the baskets on the way back to your seat.*

*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.*

*Return to your seat by the side aisles.*

*All are welcome to take part in communion.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

St. Arbucks Quartet

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Jesus, bread of heaven, thank you for this bread and cup. Thank you for giving your very self for the sins of the world. We can never repay you oh, Lord, but we can follow you. Help us to feed and nourish others in our thoughts, in our words and in our deeds. Amen.**

*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.*

*If you would like to accompany your child(ren),  
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

\* COMMUNION HYMN

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep\_ si - lence, And with fear and  
2. King of kings, yet born of\_\_\_ Mar - y, As of old on  
3. Rank on rank the host of\_\_\_ heav - en Spreads its van - guard



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,  
earth he\_\_\_ stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man\_ ves - ture,  
on the\_\_\_ way, As the Light of light de - scend - eth



For with bless - ing in his\_ hand, Christ our God to earth de -  
In the bod - y and the\_ blood. He will give to all the  
From the realms of end - less\_ day, That the powers of hell may



- scend - - eth, Our full hom - age to de - mand.  
faith - - ful His own self for heav'n - ly\_\_\_ food.  
van - - ish As the dark - ness clears a - way.

## SCRIPTURE

Steve Garrett

### *Exodus 16 selected verses*

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

\* RESPONSE

*Could We O Savior Worthy Be!*

v. 1

1. Could we O Sav - ior wor - thy be!  
2. All na - tions for they com - ing wait  
3. Then did'st thou, might - y Sav - iour come,  
4. We praise thee, O thou might - y one,

Thou Sov - 'reign, Lord and King— As to re - ceive and  
And wish to know thee near; Let Zi - on o - pen  
To set us pris - 'ners free! To ran - some us, to  
Thy mer - cies we a - dore; To thee, O Sav - iour,

well - come thee. Who dost sal - va - tion bring.  
eve - ry gate, Till thou O God, ap - pear!  
take us home, To be and dwell with thee.  
thee a - lone! Be praise for ev - er more.

SERMON

“Bread of Heaven”

Liz Nickerson

\* HYMN

*Could We O Savior Worthy Be!*

vv. 2 & 3

See previous hymn

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 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

Musical notation for the Festival Doxology, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

\* HYMN

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*



1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king!  
3. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to eve - ry trou - bled breast!  
4. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
Let us all in thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.  
Sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.



Is - rael's strength and con - sol - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thy own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;  
Take a - way our love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,



Dear de - sire of ev - ry na - tion, joy of ev - ry long - ing heart.  
By thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glor - ious throne.  
End of faith, as its be - gin - ing, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
Pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy pre - cious love.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

POSTLUDE *Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her* Johann Pachelbel  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

***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 coffee and snacks in the Social Hall, located downstairs directly below the Sanctuary.***

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, we light the candle of Hope.

### TODAY'S MUSIC

We are happy to welcome the St. Pauls Brass to worship. Jake Nitzsche, Jim Brandt, trumpets; Kristofer Hansen, flügelhorn; Tom Clancy, Rick Peterson, horns; Nancy Pifer, tenor horn; Lorne Frank, Mark Swanson, trombones.

***Bethlehem Down*** is a Christmas carol originally composed in 1927 by Peter Warlock (1894-1930). Peter Warlock was the pseudonym of Philip Heseltine. Warlock was born and raised in the great Welsh vocal tradition. There is probably no story in music so strange as that of Peter Warlock. In addition to being a composer, in order to earn a living, he also was a music critic for a London newspaper. When he gave his

first recital of compositions under his real name, Philip Heseltine, he was not reviewed favorably by the press in general. That is when he decided to take the pseudonym of Peter Warlock. Sadly, his personality started to split and Hesseltine, the critic, wrote very unfavorable reviews of Warlock the composer. Finally, Hesseltine, who could no longer stand Warlock and his music, announced and carried out his “assassination” of Warlock. If ever there was a plot for an opera, this is it.

***O Come, O Come Emmanuel*** 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*.

***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*** uses a French carol melody, PICARDY, from the 17th century that was harmonized in 1906 by the great English composer of the 20th century, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). The words are a translation and paraphrase of a hymn from the Greek Liturgy of St. James.

***O Come, O Come Emmanuel*** is also the theme of our Communion Music. The original Latin, VENI EMMANUEL, is an unattributed chant melody. This haunting arrangement by Brendan Henry is also included on St. Arbucks’ seasonal recording, *Mid-Winter Gifts*. Please see the details on how to hear it in the announcements.

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 surgery on his child after being injured in an automobile accident. His son survived. It is 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.

The text for ***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*** was written by the great English hymn writer, Charles Wesley (1707–1788). He wrote more than 6,500 hymn texts. The composer of **HYFRYDOL**, Roland Hugh Prichard (1811–1887), was from Wales and was only 19 when he composed this piece.

***Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her***, is one of the most recognised German Christmas hymns. The original music and text are both by Martin Luther (1483-1546), the founder of the Lutheran Church and the cause of the Reformation. The hymn had 15 stanzas (!), and Luther used it as a “game hymn’ about the birth of Christ. Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) is known for the popularity of his *Canon in D*, which is often requested at weddings as a processional. He is a very worthy predecessor to Bach. He composed for choir, organ and instruments.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Clergy:** Liz Nickerson, 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:** Steve Garrett

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

**Communion Coordinator:** Jana O'Brien

**Communion Servers:** Joe JaQuay, Jill Wachholz

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Doug Clark

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**Camera Operators:** Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Jose Cruz, Brian Hafner

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

*Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.*

## 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 27 Steve Mannina, Bennett England

Nov 28 Barbara Arsenault, Lisa Patterson Raterman, Michael VanSomeren

Nov 29 Lily Mooney

Nov 30 David Bradley

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

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

Dec 3 Jack Knight, Mehgan Keeley, Olivia Nach

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS

- TODAY FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE*  
10 a.m. - Worship, Communion with brass
- SUN, DEC 4 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE*  
10 a.m. - Worship, Christmas Cantata, Poulenc *Gloria* with orchestra  
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. - Christmas Wreath Sale Pickup, Courtyard  
Order and pay ahead online by December 2:  
[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1514670](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1514670)
- WED, DEC 7 LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS SHOW  
5 p.m. - Concert & Art Show, Sanctuary
- SAT, DEC 10 COOKIES WITH SANTA  
10 a.m. - Cookies, crafts and pictures with Santa, Gym
- SUN, DEC 11 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY*  
10 a.m. - Worship, Readings & Carols  
11:30 a.m. - Advent Market, Gym
- WEDS, DEC 14 ADVENT TAIZÉ SERVICE  
6 p.m. - Service of sung prayer and meditation, Chapel
- FRI, DEC 16 ST. PAULS AND LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY  
*TBD* - Party with the two best churches in Chicago!, Parlor
- SUN, DEC 18 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, *LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE*  
10 a.m. - Worship
- WEDS, DEC 21 WINTER SOLSTICE SERVICE  
7 p.m. - Service, Labyrinth walk, Gym
- SAT, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE  
5 p.m. - Family Service, Sanctuary  
9 p.m. - Candlelight Service, Sanctuary  
Christmas story, carols, candles, and choir
- SUN, DEC 25 CHRISTMAS DAY  
10 a.m. - Worship

Scan here for more  
information about  
Advent events



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

*See our full event calendar online at [spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar).*

### **DEC 4 - ST. PAULS HANDWORK MEET-UP - After Worship, Social Hall**

If you enjoy handwork, you're invited to continue our time with each other by sitting together in communion and community on the first Sunday of the month at a drop-in handwork group. We will gather in a corner of the Social Hall for one hour after the worship service. Bring along a sandwich if you wish. New to handwork? We have expert knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, and sewers to help you get started with a project.

### **NOV 30 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Noon, Zoom**

We'll finish our study of the book of Ruth. RSVP to Pastor jeff: [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

### **NOV 29 - RETIREMENT GROUP - 10 a.m., Parlor**

People who are recently retired or considering it are invited to gather and share the new challenges and questions. Contact Marcia Knudson with questions, [marciaknudson@gmail.com](mailto:marciaknudson@gmail.com).

### **DEC 2- SANCTUARY CHRISMON TREE SETUP - 8 a.m., Sanctuary**

We will be assembling and decorating our sanctuary Chrismon tree on Friday, December 2 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.

### **DEC 10 - COOKIES WITH SANTA - 10 a.m., Gym**

Join us at St. Pauls for our annual "Cookies with Santa" event. It will be a great time full of music, cookie decorating, crafts, hot chocolate, and pictures with Santa! This free event will also feature music and carol singing led by the brass section of the Windy City Winds. We look forward to seeing you and getting in the holiday spirit together!

Please register to help us get a headcount for crafts and cookies. Thank you!

[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1502649](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1502649)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GIVING!**

Many thanks for your generosity to the UCAN Christmas gift drive. St. Pauls members are donating 100 gift cards to the youth they serve! Thank you to Katie Alrutz, Carrie Bruggers and the Outreach and Benevolence Committee for organizing this gift drive. Gift cards are due at the church by December 4. You can place them in the offering plate or drop them off with Danielle in the church office.

### **ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED**

The Advent Market is on Sunday, December 11, and will help fund our outreach and benevolence for UCAN. We need new or gently used 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 3:** 9 a.m.-12p.m.; **December 4:** 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; **December 9:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m; and **December 10:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Questions, please text or email Carrie Bruggers at (773) 294-4446 or [crbruggs@gmail.com](mailto:crbruggs@gmail.com).

### **CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE**

You can decorate your home this year and the proceeds will support St. Pauls' outreach and benevolence efforts. We 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 at the link below **by December 2** and pick up your wreath in our church courtyard after service on Sunday, December 4 from 11:30 a.m to 1 p.m. [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1514670](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1514670)

### **2023 YOUTH MISSION TRIP - BE THE NEIGHBOR IN TUCSON!**

Youth who this year are in 8-12 grades are invited to a Tucson Immigration and Welcome Week, June 10-17. We'll spend the week in education, collaboration, cultural exchange, and hands-on service. We'll learn from immigrants, asylum-seekers, faith leaders, and activists about immigration in our borderlands. We'll learn to put our faith into service through desert walks, humanitarian aid, preparing and serving meals, building projects, learning about the immigration process, activism and advocacy. The hope is that this trip will help us apply what we learn in new ways with immigrants when we return home. Cost is \$500, plus we'll do fundraising for the extra expenses and airfare. You can find out more about the trip and sign up here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508128](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508128)

## **A MUSICAL GIFT FOR YOU!**

Our own St. Arbucks Quartet recorded an album this past February, ***Mid-Winter Gifts***, featuring music they have played during our worship services. It is available FREE to you and everyone online. Here is a link to the album on Spotify:

[open.spotify.com/album/5FEG6gRZPMTNBvaBINborm](https://open.spotify.com/album/5FEG6gRZPMTNBvaBINborm).

And here is a link to the same album on Apple Music:

[music.apple.com/us/album/mid-winter-gifts-ep/1611741689](https://music.apple.com/us/album/mid-winter-gifts-ep/1611741689).

It is exactly the same music on both sites, simply choose your preferred platform. Please feel free to share these links with your friends. You do not need a Spotify or Apple Music account to listen.

## **2023 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/1517246](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246)

Sign up for reading here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508612](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508612)

## **JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC**

**Discovered or Stolen?** How did 15th century papal documents become codified U.S. law still used to justify taking land from Native peoples? What are the implications for all of us? See the extraordinary one-hour documentary film that Steve Newcomb, director of the Indigenous Law Institute, co-produced, *The Doctrine of Discovery: Unmasking the Domination Code*, [vimeo.com/ondemand/dominationcode](https://vimeo.com/ondemand/dominationcode).

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

### **REDUCE HOLIDAY WASTE**

Make alternative Christmas gifts by hand. Recipes and patterns can be found online. Examples: Beeswax wraps, lemon beeswax candles, map coasters, marbled clay ring dish, herbal drawer fresheners, lavender eye pillow, etched wood spoons, stenciled tea towels, sewn material snack bags, soap on a rope, body butter, bath salts, sugar scrub bars, lip balm, cleansing balm, face or body soap bars. These are only a few things that make wonderful Christmas gifts you and your family can make. When you do buy traditional gifts, check labels, product details, and avoid plastics.

## **2023 PLEDGE & GIVING INFORMATION**

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge for 2023! Your generous support of St. Pauls is greatly needed and much appreciated. If you have yet to pledge your time, talents or treasures for 2023, you can fill out a paper pledge form and put it in the offering tray or return it to the office. Or, you can pledge online at [spucc.org/pledge](https://spucc.org/pledge) or by scanning this QR code.



Making a pledge shares with us your intention to donate your time, talents and financial support. This information helps us plan and budget for the upcoming year.

**Important Note:** If your pledged financial support for 2023 is changing from this year and you would like to evenly distribute donations towards your pledge throughout the year, you need to adjust your recurring donation amount through whichever giving method you use. Pledge forms do not authorize St. Pauls to create or update recurring donations made through our giving portal.

Email [bookkeeper@spucc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@spucc.org) with questions or for help.

## **2023 GIVING CAMPAIGN - IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS**

If you have an IRA and are required, or will be required, to take a minimum annual distribution (RMD) from your account, you may be interested to know that there are tax advantages to taking your distribution as a direct contribution to a charitable organization such as Saint Pauls United Church of Christ.

If the distribution is made directly from your IRA to St. Pauls UCC, then you enjoy two tax benefits: 1) the distribution does not count as taxable income and 2) the distribution does count towards satisfying your RMD if over age 72. The gift, called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), must go directly from your IRA to the organization, and your total gifts cannot exceed \$100,000 per year. You can make QCDs after you reach age 70 ½, which is earlier than the current RMD age of 72. You cannot make QCDs from your 401(k); it has to be rolled into an IRA first.

With the 2017 changes in the tax law, some have lost the ability to itemize their deductions, including charitable contributions, and are now taking the higher standard deduction. Making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a great way to still get a tax benefit for charitable giving. If you have questions about QCDs, consult your tax or financial advisor. Members of the Finance Committee are able to provide more information as well. Reach out to Committee chair Sally Fletcher at [Treasurer@SPUCC.org](mailto:Treasurer@SPUCC.org).

## OPPORTUNITIES

**ACTIVISM & ADVOCACY MINISTRY** – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls Activism & Advocacy Ministry 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).

**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. There are still many dates available this year!

Sign up for 2023 dates at [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246).

**THE BOOK NOOK** – Find your next good read or drop off books to share on the north side of the Social Hal. Donations are welcome – just add them to the shelf for “New Arrivals” or leave them on the floor next to the bookcase. We appreciate all genres, including books for kids. Questions or comments, contact Linda Nitzsche at [lindanitz@yahoo.com](mailto:lindanitz@yahoo.com).

**CHURCH CENTER** – [spucc.churchcenter.com](https://spucc.churchcenter.com) is our portal for the Saint Pauls community. See our calendar, register for events, update your information, join 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](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com).

**EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS** – You may follow this link for additional information on this form developed by the Connectors:  
[spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271).

**GREEN TEAM** – As people of faith, members of St. Pauls are called to “Care for Creation.” To that end, the Green Team is seeking new members, particularly young adults and youth, as we become a Creation Justice church, recognized by the UCC. We would love to have you! If you are interested, please contact either of the new interim Green Team co-chairs, Ninon Freeman at [nlanda05@yahoo.com](mailto:nlanda05@yahoo.com) or Rick Peterson at [rnpeterson2017@gmail.com](mailto:rnpeterson2017@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 the 2022/23 school year. Check out [www.littlelightslp.org](http://www.littlelightslp.org). If you would like to schedule a tour or have additional questions, contact Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at [littlelights@spucc.org](mailto:littlelights@spucc.org).

**PICKLEBALL** – Have you tried the growing sport of Pickleball yet? We hold pick-up games in the St. Pauls gym every week. Sign up at the ChurchCenter link below and show up at one of the allotted times! We have spare paddles and balls. All skill levels are invited. If you have questions, call or text Steve Garrett at (312) 208-0636.

Game Times: Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30 p.m; Fridays: 2-3 p.m.

[spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball)

**POLO STAY & PLAY** – This is a friendly group for parents and caregivers with babies and small children (ages 0-4) and expectant parents, to meet together and enjoy playtime with your children. Our group will meet in the nursery downstairs by the Social Hall on Fridays from 10-11:30 a.m. *Please note, this is not a drop-off event.* Adult supervision is required.

**ST. PAULS SOCIAL** – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerksen at [stpaulsocial@spucc.org](mailto:stpaulsocial@spucc.org).

Subscribe to the distribution list below, or look out for future events in the bulletin calendar: [spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social)

**SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS** – 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/1508612](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508612)

**SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster)** meets monthly to discern how we as a congregation can answer the call to live our faith in an age of injustice. We invite you to join us in identifying the educational opportunities, resources, and actions to take on our journey toward racial justice. To participate or share your ideas, contact Cindy Ball at [cindyball11@gmail.com](mailto:cindyball11@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](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 REGISTRATION** – Please register your kids for the 2022-23 Sunday School year at the link below. Sunday School is open to children 2-years-old to high school. Our Nursery is open for children under age 2. Email questions to Children's Program Coordinator Danielle Mayfield at [danielle.mayfield@spucc.org](mailto:danielle.mayfield@spucc.org). Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1306755](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1306755)

**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).

**YOUTH CHOIRS** – If your child has any interest in music, please join us! Kecia Waldschmidt is leading Paul's People for 4th-8th graders. Breanna Coe and Karen Johnson are leading the Children's Choir for kids K-3rd grade. Rehearsals are at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. We can't wait to hear our youth choirs singing again!

**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 Wednesday.

**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.*

- Susie Rodriguez at the death of her mother, Ruth.
- Family and friends of Larry Simpson's sister-in-law, Esther Simpson, at her death.
- Annie, Jeff, and Charlie Johnson after the death of Annie's father.
- Doug Coe, recovering from an illness.
- Tom and Lisa at the death of Tom's father, Charles Raterman.
- Three Angels Haiti – for the children, staff, community and all of Haiti, for big changes in the Haitian government, for the gangs to be overcome, and for the Haitian people to look to God daily.
- Doug Clark, at the death of his mom, Marilyn.
- Al Cerkan on his continuing health journey.
- Kompare family, displaced from their home after a fire in their building.
- Michael Toomin, as he recovers from a back injury and is undergoing physical therapy.
- Sergio, grandson of Ivy Sanz, who doctors are concerned might have leukemia.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

### **Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources**

Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. 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 179 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)  
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org)

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

Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
at Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2300 block of North Lincoln Ave.  
Parking validation is available in the Narthex.



## **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.