

CHRISTMAS EVE

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL & THE REDEEMER
DECEMBER 24, 2023 | 8:00 PM



A Little About St. Paul & the Redeemer

What kind of church is this?

St. Paul & the Redeemer (SPR) is a community that seeks to mirror the radical hospitality practiced by Jesus, holding together a progressive outlook and a rootedness in the Christian faith. We are woven of different races, economic statuses, cultural backgrounds, faith backgrounds, gender identities, and sexual orientations, and we are strengthened and enriched by each person's story and voice.

Let's Get Connected

Welcome! If you are new or visiting, tell us about yourself and get connected to what's happening at St. Paul & the



Redeemer. Scan the code or visit sprchicago.org/new to complete a *Let's Get Connected* form.

Children & Youth at SPR

All our children's, youth, and adult formation ministries are on Christmas break, returning **Sunday**, **January 7**. To learn more about kids' programs, contact Director of Children's Formation Lindsey Strieter: strieter@sprchicago.org.

KidZone (Nursery), Sundays, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Professionally staffed nursery care is available most Sundays for children ages 1–4 in our KidZone, located down the southwest stairs. Changing tables are in the Kidzone and downstairs restrooms.

Children's Chapel, Sundays during sermon

During the sermon at the 10:00 service, children from preschool to second grade are invited to a special liturgy in the children's chapel, featuring songs and a Bible story.

Christian Formation, Sundays after 10:00 service

We welcome all ages to join our formation (Christian education) gatherings, Sundays from 11:05-11:50 AM:

- Godly Play: Preschool to grade 2
- Junior Youth Group: Grades 3 to 5
- Youth Group: Grades 6 to 12
- Adult Formation: Teens and adults
 High-school youth are welcome to attend either youth group or adult formation.

SPR's Anti-Racism Vision Statement

We strive to become a beloved community that reflects on our own racial identities and recognizes racism and privilege in our church and society; works for justice by building relationships and sustained efforts to heal, reconcile, and seek Christ in each other; and acts to interrupt and dismantle white supremacist structures, transforming ourselves and our church to become a living embodiment of justice and peace.

Bulletin Rubrics

Throughout the bulletin, the congregation is invited to say all **bolded** text aloud. There are also times when it is customary to make the sign of the cross by touching your forehead, chest, left shoulder, and right shoulder. If you wish to do so, the + indicates that.

Giving to SPR

Every dollar you give to SPR goes toward our ministry to and with our community. You may place cash or a check in the



offering plate, give online at sprchicago.org/give-online or scan this code. Thank you so much for your support of our mission!

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THE WORD OF GOD

Instrumental Prelude

Begins at 7:30 PM

Once in Royal David's City, Irby

Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876), arr. Philip Moore (b. 1943).

Mark Bilyeu, organ

Director of Music

Noël (Grand jeu et duo), from Livre de Noëls

Louis-Claude d'Aquin (1694-1722).

Mark Bilyeu, organ

He Shall Feed His Flock, from *The Messiah*

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759), arr. Craig Duncan.

Kerstin Wellbery, violin

Parishioner

Of the Father's Love Begotten

David Evan Thomas (b. 1958).

Mark Bilyeu, piano

Gesú Bambino

Pietro A. Yon, arr. Bill Wolaver.

Mark Bilyeu, piano

O, Holy Night

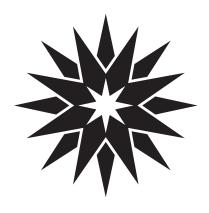
Adolphe Adam (1808-1856), arr. Craig Duncan.

Kerstin Wellbery, violin

Prelude on Es is ein Ros' entsprungen

Traditional German carol, arr. Mary Beth Bennett (b. 1954).

Mark Bilyeu, organ



Entrance Hymn

All sing.



The Hymnal 1982 #83 "O come, all ye faithful"

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others.

Music: Adeste fideles, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. The English Hymnal. Final stanza harm. David Willcocks.

Welcome

+ Blessed are you, Holy and Living God.

You come to your people and set them free.

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God,

you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where, with you and the Holy Spirit, he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

The Lessons

Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors

His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Christmas Carol



The Hymnal 1982 #87 "Hark! the herald angels sing"

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915).

Christmas Carol

Sung by the Choir.

Oh, what a pretty little baby, born in a manger. Oh, what a pretty little baby, Jesus is His name.

For unto us a Holy Son is given, and His name shall be "Wonderful." Oh, what a pretty little baby, Jesus is His name.

And the government shall be upon His shoulder, and his name shall be "Counselor."
Oh, what a pretty little baby, Jesus is His name.

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord. His name is Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace.

"Pretty Little Baby"

Words: Traditional Negro Spiritual.

Music: Traditional Negro Spiritual, arr. James Cleveland, adapted by Rollo Dilworth.

Epistle (New Testament) Reading

A reading from the letter to Titus.

Titus 2:11-14

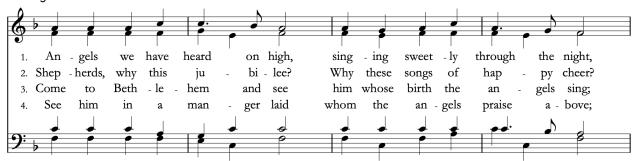
For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

All sing.





The Hymnal 1982 #96 "Angels we have heard on high"

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.

Music: Gloria, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958), descant Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

Gospel Reading

At the + below, you are invited to trace a cross over your forehead, your mouth, and your heart.

+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Luke 2:1-14

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days, a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will

find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Today's Preacher: The Rev. Catherine Healy, Rector

Prayers of the People

Let us pray, in the peace of God, that all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days be but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's Word made flesh this night. And, from grateful hearts, let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the peace proclaimed by angels in the shepherds' field be realized on every field of war and on every street of violence.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the child born to us find in our hearts a warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this time of gift giving, may we become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing, and the mourning.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the rejoicing of this day be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the joy and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor enliven all who are struck down by disease and illness. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

May the blessed hope we celebrate at Christmas be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

I invite you to offer your own prayers and thanksgivings, ending each with "Lord, in your mercy."

God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet of this night by the utterance of your Word in our flesh. May our words of prayer and praise echo the song of the angels, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Please remain at your seat and wave to greet your neighbors. Some announcements will be given; there's much more to find out in the front and back pages of this bulletin.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Sung by the Choir.

On Christmas night all Christians sing, To hear the news the angels bring; News of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be sad, Since our Redeemer made us glad; When from our sin he set us free, All for to gain our liberty? When sin departs before his grace, Then life and health come in its place; Angles and we with joy may sing, All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, Which made the angels sing this night: "Glory to God in highest heav'n, Now and forevermore," Amen!

"Sussex Carol"

Text and Music: Traditional English carol, arr. Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979).

The Great Thanksgiving

All stand as the offering is brought to the altar.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

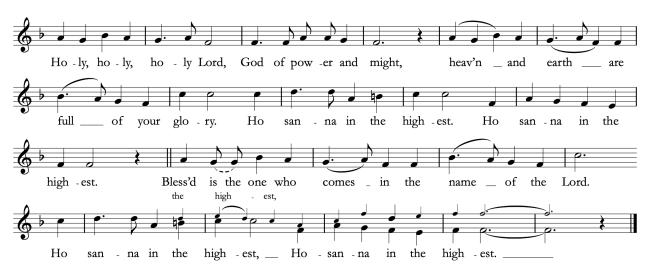
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:



Music: A Community Mass, Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Book of Common Prayer, 1979, Eucharistic Prayer D.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

All sing.



Lead Me, Guide Me #21 "Behold your God"

Words: Isaiah 40:9.

Music: Kenneth W. Louis, © 1985, Kenneth W. Louis.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All, without exception, are invited to receive communion. If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let the ushers know. If you want gluten-free bread, tell the communion minister. If you would like a blessing in place of communion, cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Music

Sung by the Choir.

There is no rose of such virtue As is the rose that bare Jesu: *Alleluia*.

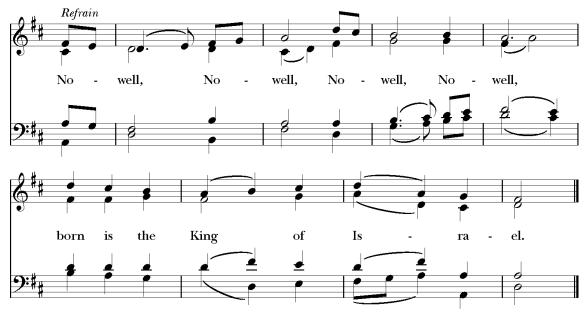
For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space: Res miranda (to find amazing). By that rose we may well see That he is God in persons three: Pari forma (equal in form).

The angels sung the shepherds to: "Gloria in excelsis Deo," *Gaudeamus (rejoice).*

Leave we all this worldly mirth, And follow we this joyful birth: Transeamus (to transcend).

"There is no rose" Words: Anonymous 15th cent. Music: Howard Helvey (b. 1968).





The Hymnal 1982 #109 "The first Nowell"

Words: English carol, 18th cent.

Music: The First Nowell, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1840-1901), descant Paul Halley (b. 1952).

Sending Forth

Please stand as able.

Let us pray.

God of abundance,

you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;

you have united us with Christ and one another;

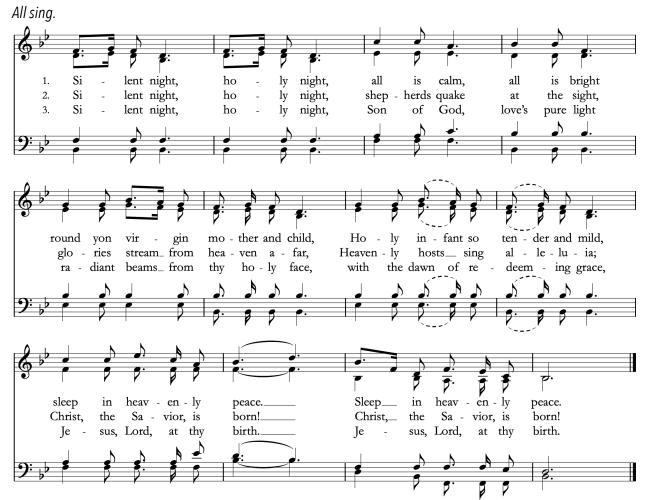
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Christmas Carol Following Communion



The Hymnal 1982 #111 "Silent night, holy night"

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1828); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885).

Music: Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910), vs. 3 harm. Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019).

Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and may the blessing of God Almighty, + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Mother of us all, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



The Hymnal 1982 #111 "Joy to the world"

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), descant Daniel J. Fortune.

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ! Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Partita on "In dulci jubilo" by James Vivian (b. 1974).



Christmas Day Worship: Monday, December 25, 10:00 AM

On Christmas Day, we will have one service of Holy Eucharist at 10:00 AM, with celebratory Christmas music.

New Year's Eve Worship: 8:00 & 10:00 AM

We will celebrate the first Sunday after Christmas with our usual two services of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 AM.

Exhibition: Crèches from Around the World

Throughout Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, SPR is hosting a global crèche exhibit in the Byllesby Room. Visit the exhibit through **Sunday**, **January 14**.

20s/30s Gift Swap

Members in their 20s and 30s are invited to join us on **Sunday, January 7, after the 10:00 service** in the Byllesby room for a White Elephant gift swap and hangout. For the White Elephant, bring a wrapped fun/goofy gift, around \$5. Contact Julia (mcmillan013@gmail.com) with any questions.

Adult Formation on Break Through January 7
Adult Formation is on a holiday hiatus until Sunday,
January 14, when we will welcome composer/
conductor Marques Garrett to talk about his work
editing The Oxford Anthology of Choral Music
by Black Composers.

Save the Date:

Black History Month Guest Michelle Duster
On Sunday, February 18, at 9:00 AM in the parish hall, we will welcome author and Ida B. Wells descendant
Michelle Duster to speak on the legacy of Black women in
U.S. History. Invite your friends to this important event, sponsored by the 8:00 AM Black History Month team.

About This Evening's Music

The instrumental prelude music annually features staff, community members, and parishioners from SPR, and seeks to offer a time of calm and contemplation. **Pretty Little Baby** is a spiritual that was first widely disseminated in 1968 by The Rev. James Cleveland, with the Cleveland Singers and the Angelic Choir on their album "Merry Christmas." In 1910, Ralph Vaughan Williams took a trip to Sussex, England and heard a woman named Harriet Verrall sing the song he transcribed and published as "The Sussex Carol." There is no rose is a modern setting of an anonymous 15th century text, this one macaronic, incorporating both Latin and Middle English. Howard Helvey's 2006 setting was given to the Choir of Calvary Episcopal Church in Cincinnati for the parish's 150th anniversary. The **postlude** by James Vivian is a setting of the medieval German carol, who text is attributed to the German mystic Heinrich Seuse. According to folklore, Seuse heard angels sing the words he penned, and joined them in a dance of worship.

Serving Today

December 24, 2022, 8:00 PM

Presiders: The Rev. Catherine Healy,

The Rev. Barnabas Pusnur

Preacher: The Rev. Catherine Healy Deacon: The Rev. Jack Seymour Music Leader: Mark Bilyeu

Lectors: John Mulholland, Steven Heyman

Intercessor: Robin Charleston

Staff

The Rev. Catherine E. Healy, Rector

The Rev. Barnabas E. Pusnur, Associate Rector

The Rev. Jack Seymour, *Deacon* Mark Bilyeu, *Director of Music*

Megan Cather, Children's Music Assistant Lindsey Strieter, Director of Children's Formation

The Rev. Roger Ferlo, *Priest Associate* The Rev. KJ Oh, *Priest Associate*

Savannah Hegyi, Wesley Krist, Ian Murrell, &

Ariana Strahl, Staff Singers

Sabrina Foster, Ashley Lanfair, & Patricia Lanfair,

Nursery Teachers

Tony George, Interim Sexton

Vestry

Twila Jones, *Warden*Baiju Markose, *Clerk*Nicholas Bellomy
Frances Spaltro, *Warden*Tayo Adegoke, *Treasurer*Joshua Daniel

Jason Evans Jonathan Foiles
Anne Harlan Vicky Legge
Rebecca Luttrell Andrew Rostan

Celia Paris

Get Involved at SPR

Learn more about our ministries inside and outside the church walls at sprchicago.org, or contact a ministry leader to get started!

Connection (Education & Fellowship)

Children's Formation (grades PK-5) | Lindsey Strieter (Istriete@gmail.com)

Youth Formation (grades 6-12) | Jen Jackson

(jenniferjeanjackson@gmail.com)

Adult Formation | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur

(pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Thursday Bible Study | Anna Mary Wallace

(amawallace29@gmail.com)
Women's Retreat | Toni Daniels
(antoinettedaniels421@gmail.com)

Coffee Hour Fellowship | Cynthia Bagrowski

(cbagrowski@gmail.com)

Life Groups | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Creation (Music, Arts & Worship)

St. Nicholas Choir (grades PK-2) | Megan Cather (cather@sprchicago.org)

Choristers (grades 3-8) | Mark Bilyeu (bilyeu@sprchicago.org)

Adult Choir | Mark Bilyeu (bilyeu@sprchicago.org)

Arts Committee | Carolyn Pereira (pereira1700@yahoo.com)

Worship Ministries | Rev. Barnabas Pusnur

(pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Community (Service & Outreach)

Food Pantry | Rev. Catherine Healy (healy@sprchicago.org)
Open Kitchen | Fran Spaltro (pambasilea@gmail.com)
Food Garden | Mel Parks (mellemel83@yahoo.com)

Anti-Racism Working Group | Sara Bigger

(sarafaganbigger@gmail.com)

Faith in Action Team | Brianna Kuramitsu

(brianna.kuramitsu@gmail.com)

Migrant/Refugee Ministry | Bob Bator (rbator@gmail.com) &

Jason Evans (jasoncoryevans@gmail.com)

Haiti Partnership | Gail Williams (gwilli8787@gmail.com)

Shoesmith School Partnership \mid Carolyn Pereira

(pereira1700@yahoo.com)

