



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

We follow Jesus, welcome all and nurture ministries.



Online Bulletin

Ascension

Year B

May 13, 2018 8 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Whether this is your first visit or you have been a member for years, we're glad you're here! This bulletin is designed to guide you through the service. Hymnals, Bibles and the Book of Common Prayer are in the pews and available for your use as well. Please let us know if there's anything we can do to make your time with us more enriching and enjoyable.

Holy Eucharist *Liturgy of the Word*

Prelude *Divertissement in A Major* *Georg Abraham Schneider*

Please stand at the sound of the bell

Entrance Hymn **Hail the day that sees Him rise** **Hymnal 214**

Opening Salutation **Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 323**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name: through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards all.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**

Please be seated.

As Episcopalians, our custom is to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest Holy Scripture. You are invited to do so right here in your bulletin.

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 47

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.

2 For the God Most High is to be feared; *
God is the great Sovereign over all the earth.

3 God subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.

4 God chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom God loves.

5 God has gone up with a shout, *
the Most High with the sound of the ram's-horn.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our Sovereign, sing praises.

7 For God is Sovereign of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon the holy throne.

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
who is highly exalted.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

Please stand and face the Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

The Reverend Ed Steever

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 326

All stand and say together.

Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

BCP p. 328

Deacon

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Leader

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all people: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Teach us, O God, to treasure the differences that distinguish one person from another. Help us to overcome fear and hatred. Open our hearts to see thy radiance in every human soul. Give us the courage to combat prejudice and intolerance, and bless us with compassion, with kindness, and with peace.¹

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers *especially our presiding bishop, Michael; our bishops John and Diane; our clergy Susan, Ed, and Dick*; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land *especially Donald, our President; the congress and courts; Jerry, our Governor*, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor **Lillian, Wayne, Marilyn, Adele, Babs, James, Jacob, Jim, Carolyn, Stephanie, Maggie, Duncan, Shelia, Janet, Frank, Julie, Helen, Kevin, Paul, Carol, Randy, Carolin, Anzhela, Stacy, Lee, Bruce, Brenda and Stacie.** *And those enduring a long term illness especially Virginia, Margery, Sheila, Carrie, Linda, Judy, Michelle, Rachel, Kathy, Doug, Kim* and those others on our hearts and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those affected by acts of violence and the recent fires and floods.

(See page 9 for other parish petitions and prayers of thanksgiving.)

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear *especially Fritz Huntsinger, Doris Nicholas, Lucille Paine and those whose names we bring before God,* beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Paul and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 330

Recognition of Altar Guild

This morning we recognize and offer our thanks to everyone who serves on the Altar Guild at St. Paul's. These dedicated women and men take care of the sacred vessels, the bread and the wine, the fair linens and hangings, and the candles and torches used for worship in the Sanctuary. Their work is done quietly and behind the scenes, and it is so appreciated!

If you're looking for a way to get involved, the Altar Guild invites you to speak with them. We really need a few more people to join in. Please let us know if you are interested.

Leader I present to you these ministers who have shown their dedication as members of the Altar Guild for this church.

Ministers Christ Jesus, you go before us and behind us, you are our inspiration and our light. Thank you for surrounding us with your compassion and your love. Guide us in this important ministry and bless us so that we may continue to bless others in your name.

People **Holy and gracious God, bless your hands, your feet, your hearts and your voices as you seek to serve the world in the name of Christ.**

Celebrant And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, rest upon you and remain with you this day and forevermore. Amen.

Peace

All stand as they are able.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

Announcements

Prayers for birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

Liturgy of the Table

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts. *Psalm 96:8*

Offertory *Flute Tune from VIII Sonatas for Harpsichord* *Thomas Arne*

Presentation Hymn **Good Christians all, rejoice and sing (v. 1)** **Hymnal 205**
Please stand.

Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer I) BCP p. 333

The Lord's Prayer BCP p. 336

Breaking of the Bread BCP p. 337
A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Prayer of Humble Access BCP p. 337

Invitation

This is the Banquet of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who fear you have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is the Lord's will that those who want him should meet him here.

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to receive the bread in your open palm. Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer or sulfite-free juice. Sip the wine, if you wish it, from the common cup, guiding the chalice gently with your hand or the Eucharistic Minister will dip the bread for you. Otherwise, cross your arms over your chest as a sign you wish a blessing from the priest.

Communion Music *Spring Song* *Rex Koury*

Post Communion Prayer BCP p. 339
Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Blessing

Go in the peace of the Lord Jesus. May Christ's light shine brightly in your hearts so that you may bring the joy and the hope of Easter to others; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, rest upon you and remain with you this day and forever more. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn **When Christ was lifted from the earth** **Hymnal 603**
Please stand.

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude

Christ Ascends, Alleluia!

Roger Moorpark

Many thanks to guest musicians Haylee Mencarelli and Caitlin Boruch, flute. Haylee is one of Caitlin's flute students. Her strong performance has earned her an opportunity to play for the Music Teacher's Association of California's Ensemble Festival next weekend.

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

¹ *A Prayer for Tolerance* Rabbi Naomi Levy, adapted by Barbara Bennett and David Catron.
 Psalm: *The Saint Helena Breviary*, Church Publishing, 2006

Check out next Sunday's readings at www.lectionarypage.net

St. Paul's GO

This Sunday's Worship Bulletin with Announcements is now available online.
Here's How:

1. Login into our wi-fi network: user name is St. Paul's Guest
 password is 8056435033
2. Download a QR Code Reader app: Google Play [Android]App Store [iPhone]
3. Open the app and scan the QR Code.



Digital Disciples are in The House!

If you see someone typing on their phone or iPad, know that they are serving as E-vangelists, spreading the Good News far and wide through social media. You too can be a Digital Disciple -

Follow & Post to Twitter: @stpaulsventura
 Like & Post on Facebook Group Page: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Ventura, California
 Like & Share Facebook Page: St. Paul's Ventura

Serving This Week

Acolytes	Jo Ellen Heil
Chalice	Jo Ellen Heil, Lori Burke
Psalm	Lori Burke
Lay Readers	Judy Drew, Tom Drew
Prayers of the People	Jo Ellen Heil
Ushers	Jay & Patti Widdows
Hospitality	Carl Helms
Altar Guild	Dela Parker, Carole Nelson, Susan Talmadge
Flower Guild	Rev Susan Bek and Teddy Bek, Renee Bower, Gabriel Lamola
Counters	Marilyn Angelo, Susan Talmadge
Facility Lock Up	Woody Bretz

Highlights of This Week at St. Paul's

Today 05/13	8:00 am	Rite I Sunday Service
	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Rite II Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Formation (Kahler Hall)
	11:30 am	Children's Music Workshop (Choir Room)
	12:15pm	Abolitionist Committee (Youth Room)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)
Monday 05/14	11:30 am	Tai Chi - Beginning (Kahler Hall)
	1:00 pm	Tai Chi – Intermediate (Kahler Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)
Tues. 05/15	3:00 pm	Comprehensive Growth Project (Room 13)
	6:30 pm	Scout Troop (Kahler Hall/Youth Room)
Wed. 05/16	9:00 am	Healing Service (Chapel)
	10:30 am	Bible Study (Library)
	11:30 am	Tai Chi - Beginning (Kahler Hall)
	1:00 pm	Tai Chi – Intermediate (Kahler Hall)
	6:00 pm	Finance Committee (Room 13)
	7:00 pm	Fire Relief Fund Concert (Sanctuary)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Youth Room)
Thurs. 05/17	11:00 am	Ladies Lunch Bunch (Marie Calendar's Restaurant)
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Fri. 05/18	6:30 am	Men's Bible Study (Main Street Steakhouse Restaurant)
	9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Library)
Sat 05/19	10:00 am	Eagle Scouts Court of Honor (Sanctuary/Kahler Hall)
	6:30 pm	AA Meeting (Youth Room)

Prayer Intentions for the Week of May 13, 2018

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan
Diane Bruce, Bishop Suffragan

President Donald Trump, Congress, Federal Courts
Governor Jerry Brown, Legislature, State Courts
Our clergy: Susan Bek, Ed Steever, Dick Swanson

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Lillian, Wayne, Marilyn, Adele, Babs, James, Jacob, Jim, Carolyn, Stephanie, Maggie, Duncan, Shelia, Janet, Frank, Julie, Helen, Kevin, Paul, Carol, Randy, Carolin, Anzhela, Stacy, Stacie, Bruce, Lee, Brenda

THOSE ENDURING A LONG TERM ILLNESS:

Virginia, Margery, Sheila, Carrie, Linda, Judy, Michelle, Rachel, Kathy, Doug, Kim

Parish prayers for healing are listed for one calendar month. Contact the office with your request which may be added at any time. If you prefer your prayers to remain confidential, the Daughters of the King will add them to their daily prayer list for one month. They may be requested and/or renewed by using the prayer cards in the pews.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + Twelve step programs of recovery and healing; especially Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at St. Paul's.
- + Our local public and private hospitals, and the health care professionals who serve us.
- + U.S. Armed Forces personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home.
- + The Ministry of prayer, study and service of St. Paul's Men's Group, the Daughters of the King, Bible & Study Groups

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- + Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles, Deanery One in Ventura County: *St. Columba's*, Camarillo; *Trinity*, Fillmore; *St. Andrew's*, Ojai; *All Saints'*, Oxnard; *St. Paul's/Emmanuel*, Santa Paula; *St. Francis'*, Simi Valley; *St. Patrick's*, Thousand Oaks.
- + Our World Mission Companions in the Diocese of Wiawso: The Cathedral Church of the Ascension; the Diocese of Jerusalem and Diocese of El Salvador.
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Church of the Foothills*, *First Christian Church*, *Church of Christ*

IN MEMORIAM: Fritz Huntsinger, Doris Nicholas, Lucille Paine

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector; The Rev. Ed Steever, Deacon; The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister; Tara Eisenhauer, Assistant Music Minister
Sara Edwards, Organist-Music Director
Paula Robertson, Parish Administrator; Elena Kennedy, Administrative Assistant
Hannah Alday, Director of Evangelism & Communication
Jim Kneeland, Sexton



Heidi Trevisan, Sunday School Director; Wendy Olivier, Nursery Caregiver
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Announcements

*Thank you for joining us today!
As Ventura works to recover and find the way forward after fire and flood,
St. Paul's is here to help.
We're praying for you every day.
Please let us know what else you need. God bless you!*



Please help us thank the following people for our refreshments this morning.
8:00 Carl Helms
10:15 Louise & Woody Bretz, Sarah Lamola, Laura & Teddy Andrews

Please join us again next Sunday!

MUSIC at ST. PAUL'S



THIS SUNDAY: Thank you to today's guest musicians, Haylee Mencarelli and Caitlin Boruch, flute.

MAY 27: Join us during Fellowship after the 10:15 service to learn about sustaining **St. Paul's Music Scholarship-Internship Program.**

Have you enjoyed our cantors? Our growing choir? Our contemporary music? Our soloists? All these have been supported by the Music Scholarship-Internship Program. This unique program brings talented young musicians to the Music Ministry while supporting their vocal training with work experience and a monthly stipend to be used for their music education. Donations may be made at any time to St. Paul's in person, by mail or online. Note Music Scholarship.



TODAY: CHILDREN'S MUSIC: St. Paul's is pleased to provide a wonderful (and free) opportunity for children's music education.

Our professional children's music teacher, Nicole Benson, will gather the children in the Music Room during the 10:15 coffee hour to explore music through song, movement and fun activities! Please pick up your children at 12:15pm. (All ages are welcome. Children under 5 need to be accompanied by an adult.)



TODAY: ST. PAUL'S ABOLITIONIST COMMITTEE MEETS: Gather in the Youth Room at 12:15pm. The St. Paul's Ventura Abolitionist Committee's goal is *Communication, Education and Action against the scourge of modern slavery acting locally, while supporting national and international efforts.* Attend today's meeting to find out more.



WEDNESDAY-MAY 16: THOMAS FIRE VICTIMS BENEFIT CONCERT

Plan on coming to St. Paul's on Wednesday, May 16 at 7pm and enjoy the classical music performance of **THE POMONA COLLEGE GLEE CLUB**. The 30-voice chamber ensemble travels throughout the U.S. and internationally and has performed at the Washington D.C. National Cathedral, St. Paul's Basilica and now St. Paul's Ventura! Dr. Di Grazia, director, says,

"In this time when so many of our neighbors have experienced such devastation and loss, we are honored to be able to give a little of ourselves in support of their recovery. We are also very grateful to the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles and the local churches involved for partnering with us as we reach out to these communities."

Tickets are not needed however donations are gratefully accepted.



THURSDAY, MAY 17 – LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

All women of St. Paul's and their friends are invited to join us for our monthly Ladies Lunch Bunch at Marie Calendar's. We gather at 11am and order at 11:30. We always have a wonderful time, and we would be very pleased for you to join us. Please RSVP to Marjorie, Ruth, Pam or the Office by Monday, May 14.



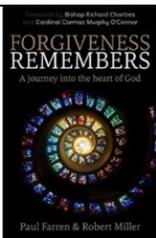
MORE!!!!YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN!



Thank you for your donations to Forever Found

June's outreach project is **Love Does Bags!** which collects Brand-New supplies to provide personal items for children in Ventura County going into Emergency Foster Care.

Look for the red REACH BAGs coming soon.



1ST MONDAY BOOK CLUB: May's Selection

Forgiveness Remembers: A Journey into the Heart of God by Paul Farren, Robert Miller written by a Catholic priest and an Anglican cathedral dean, neighbors, in Derry, Ireland. This book shows how God's grace can break this cycle and instead catch us in a spiral of hope that leads to the freedom and compassion of God. The 1st Monday Book Club meets on **June 4 @ 5:30pm** at Panera Bread, 4910 Telephone Rd., Ventura. All are welcome.





Pentecost BBQ

Come Celebrate the Birthday of the Church May 20th

Join us as we remember and celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday with beautiful festival services at 8am and 10:15am and a wonderful BBQ at 11:45am.

This day is known as the birthday of the church, and you are invited to the party.

Bring your friends and neighbors.
Everyone is welcome!

Sign-up now to bring a side dish. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex and Kahler Hall. The Men's Group is providing the BBQ.

We'll be reading the Gospel together in a multitude of languages: English, Spanish, French, Dutch, Italian and more. Sign-up in the narthex and pick up the reading. (Additional translations available through the office.)