



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2018 4:00 p.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.

For our Guests

- Our ushers welcome your inquiries. They can provide assisted listening devices, information about our ministries, as well as directions to the restrooms.
- Please take the brochure from the pew and learn more about St. Paul's and our traditional worship, dynamic preaching and our commitment to serving the world in the name of Christ.

On Sundays

- Sunday Services are at 8am and 10:15am. You are invited to join us for coffee and refreshments following each service. Infants and children are welcome here. Nursery care is available in Room 2 from 9:30am-noon and parents may access the nursery for their convenience. Parents are also welcome to keep their children with them. For children who need some space to move around, our side chapel has stuffed animals and children's books and is a great place for children to play. Also, the service can be heard from the narthex (lobby) and activity bags for children can be found there.
- Our Sunday school program (K-grade 5) begins at 10am on the Labyrinth. After joining the procession in the church, our program continues in room 14 where they participate in Children's Chapel, hear a Bible story, and enjoy fun and engaging activities related to that story. Children return to the church to join their families for Eucharist.
- Youth Group (grades 6-12) meets in the Youth Center at 10am for the opportunity to explore the Bible, build their faith through art and discuss important questions. They join us for Eucharist.



Prelude

Ding Dong Merrily on High
from Thoinot Arbeau's Orchésographie, 1588

arr. Michael P. Pavone

Welcome

The Reverend Susan Bek

Passing Baby Jesus Forward to the Manger

Celebrant Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord!

Away in a Manger

arr. Aaron David Miller and Jacob B. Weber

Blessing of the Crèche

Celebrant Behold, the dwelling of God is with creation.

People **He will dwell with us and we shall be his people.**

Celebrant God himself is with us. Alleluia.

People **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Eternal Father, you sent your only-begotten Son to take our human nature upon him, and to be born of Mary: Bless, we pray, this Crèche that it may be a sign of his humble birth; and grant that we who joyfully behold his appearing may be strengthened to greet him when he comes again in glory; even the same Jesus Christ Our Lord and Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Holy Eucharist
Liturgy of the Word

Procession

Celebrant Please stand as you are able and join us in singing hymn #83.

O Come, all ye faithful

Hymnal 83

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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

Hymn of Praise

Angels we have heard on high

Hymnal 96

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant 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.**

Gradual Hymn

Silent Night

Hymnal 111

Please stand as you are able and face the Gospel.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

Remain standing.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **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!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Reverend Susan Bek

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

Deacon

My sisters and brothers in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's word made flesh this night. From grateful hearts let us pray for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift.

Leader

May our heavenly Father, who loves us so much that he sent his Son to be our Savior, bless our worship with answered prayer; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Open the hearts and hands of many for the support of your Church in every place; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our eyes, that we may see the glory of God in all creation; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the wonderful works of God; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our lips, that we may tell in every tongue the miracle of God's love; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our hands, that we may do the things which you have taught us; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our feet, that we may go for you into all parts of the world; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Touch our spirits, that as we forgive others we may receive forgiveness for our sins; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Strengthen and encourage us by your Holy Spirit to proclaim your glory in all we say and do; Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

We invite you to add your own petitions either silently or aloud. *(The People may add their petitions.)*
Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

Peace

All stand as they are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Table

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory

O Holy Night
Natalie Epelone, soloist

Adolphe Adam
arr. Dudley Buck

Presentation Hymn

Hark! the Herald Angels sing

Hymnal 87

Please stand as you are able.

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Sanctus from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer



Sanc - tus, sanc - tus, sanc - tus,
(Holy, holy, holy.)



Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Be - ne - dic - tus qui ve - nit, in the name of the
(Blessed are those who come)



Lord. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, Joseph, Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

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 his will that those who want him should meet him here.

All are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine made holy. The table we set is the Lord's. 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

Christmas Day: Choral Fantasy on Old Carols (1910)
Laura Andrews, Christopher Craven, Jordan Erickson, soloists

Gustav Holst

O little town of Bethlehem

Hymnal 79

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen

Blessing

May you be wise like the magi,
humble like the shepherds,
obedient like Mary and Joseph.

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

Recessional Hymn

Joy to the World! (v. 1, 2, 4)

Hymnal 100

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Instrumental

Merry Christmas!
Thank you for joining us. We invite you to come again.
Sunday Services are at 8am and 10:15am. All are welcome here.
We'd love for you to come back and join us.

Many thanks to all who participated in this Holy night including the following Musicians and Choir Members:

Hayley King, trombone; Allison McKay, oboe

St. Paul's Choir: Felix & Tara Eisenhauer, Sara Edwards, Mary Temple, Sophia Cotsis, Lauren Visser, Allison McKay, Rose Hayden-Smith, Laura Andrews, Bridget Wareham, Christopher Craven, Daniel Smithson, Robert Kubilos, Reid Edwards*, Diego Magaña*, Natalie Epelone*, Jordan Daniels*, Jeremiah Gray, Jordan Erickson
(*denotes St Paul's Music Scholarship Recipients)

Serving this Christmas Eve

Acolytes	India Howeth, Gina Trevisan, Henry Rose
Chalice	Drew Darby, Maggie Kennedy
Prayers of the People	Ernie Fickerson
Ushers	Woody Bretz, Elizabeth Rose, Joseph Wareham, Amanda Avila
Altar & Flower Guilds	<i>A special thank you to all who came and helped with the Greening of the Church and setting of the Altar!</i>

****Save the Dates 2019****

January 6	Feast of the Epiphany celebrated at the 8 & 10:15 am services. An Epiphany Pageant will be presented at the 10:15 service.
January 27	Annual Meeting following the 10:15 service.
March 6	Ash Wednesday
April 14	Palm Sunday
April 21	Easter Sunday

You are invited to receive news of our special events.
Please sign the guest book in the narthex (lobby) and provide your email address or email the office at office@saintpaulsventura.org.

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

St. Paul's is learning Sign Language.

Why? Because all are welcome here!



*This sign means,
"I love you."*

We are committed to welcoming all, even if that means that we need to change and adapt in order to become more accessible.

A portion of each of our services is presented in ASL (American Sign Language). As we learn more, more signing will be included.

Classes in ASL are offered at St. Paul's. Please contact us for upcoming opportunities. Past classes have included: Introduction to ASL (fingerspelling, vocabulary and deaf culture), Song Signing for Children, Song Signing Christmas Hymns, and Signing the Lord's Prayer.

A current feature of our weekly announcements includes the "ASL Minute" – an opportunity to learn a few signs. Please let us know if there are specific signs you'd like to learn.

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

Paula Robertson, Parish Administrator Kathleen Jensen, Assistant Administrator

Lisa Devine, Minister for Family Faith Formation

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

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Website: www.saintpaulsventura.org Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura



Christmas Flowers, Greens, & Musicians
Thank you to our donors.

Cornelia Baer: In memory of her wife Rita Marsh.

Marilyn Beattie: In loving memory of her husband, Louis A. Beattie, their son, Andy Beattie & grandson, Trevor Beattie and other family members she holds in her heart.

Bob Gold: In memory of Jack and Rose Gold.

Roger Crow: In memory of Ernest & Reba Crow, George & Freeda Miller, June Fain, Janet Crow, James Croxen, Joseph & Ruby Crow, Eura & Shirley Broyles and in Thanksgiving of God's Gift to Us.

Laury Graves: In memory of Judy Graves and Lauren Graves.

Babette Brennan: In loving memory of Richard Brennan.

Rose Hayden-Smith: In gratitude for St. Paul's Music Ministry.

Peter Bowers: In honor of Sharon Bower's confirmation and Peter and Sharon's first wedding anniversary.

Gonnie Stouthamer: In memory of Paul Stouthamer.

Robert Miklas

YOUR DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Your generous donations help in so many ways and we are very grateful.
Please consider making a monetary gift for 2018.

***New* Text** StPaulsVentura to 73256 to give. (Standard text message rates do apply.) Or...
Donate through our website www.saintpaulsventura.org, provide a check, place cash in the Offering Plate.

Your gifts and those received before you continue to keep our mission and
ministry
thriving for over 129 years. Thank you so much!

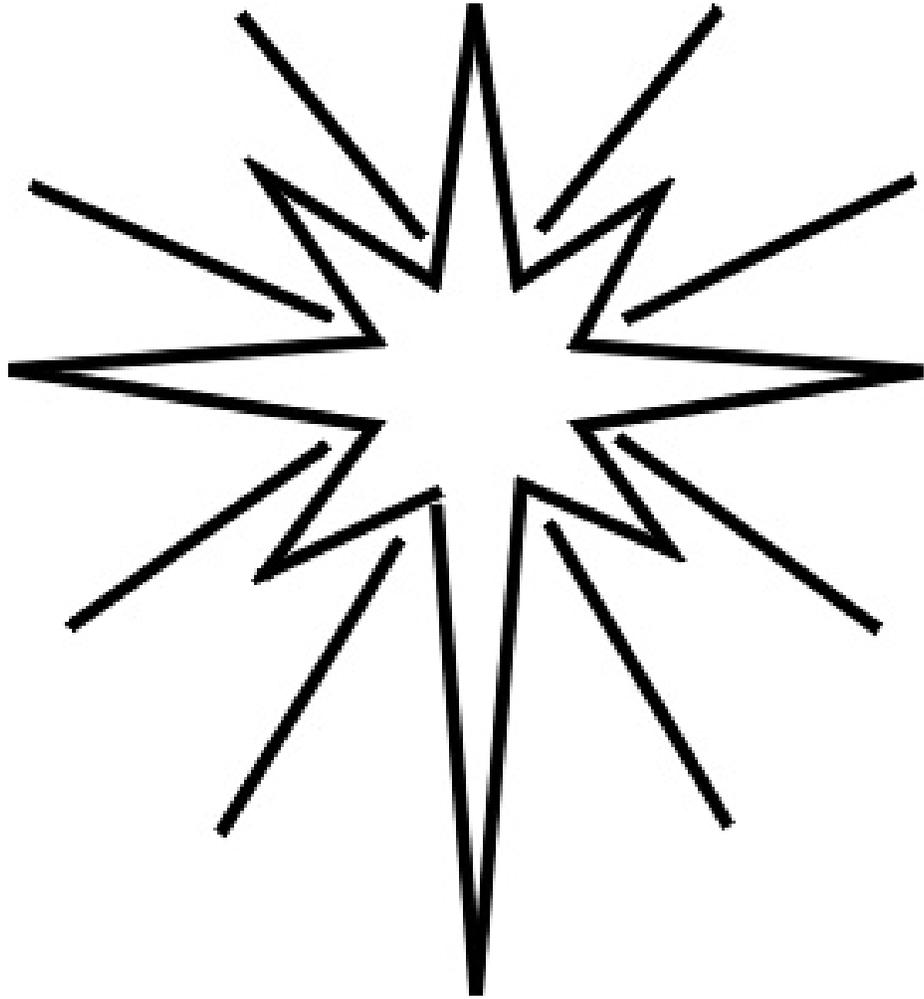


**Sunday
School**



Christmas Coloring Pages





Peace

Love

