



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent

Year A

December 1, 2019 10:15 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.

Our Sunday School program for children and youth will begins at 10:00am in the Sanctuary with a short sermon on the gospel for the day and a preview of the activity. Children move to their classrooms at 10:10 for creative programming and activities including circle time, prayer and storytelling. Ages 2-3 will be in the Nursery. Pre-K, K, and 1st grade will be in Room 7. Grades 2-5 will also be in Room 7. Youth will be in Room 8. All children and youth will return to the sanctuary at the peace to join their families for Eucharist.

Again, welcome and please let us know if there's anything we can do to make your time with us more enriching and enjoyable. We're glad you're here.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE.

The candle is lit.

Child Psalm 33:20 – We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

Celebrant Let us Pray.

People **Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. Amen.**



Holy Eucharist

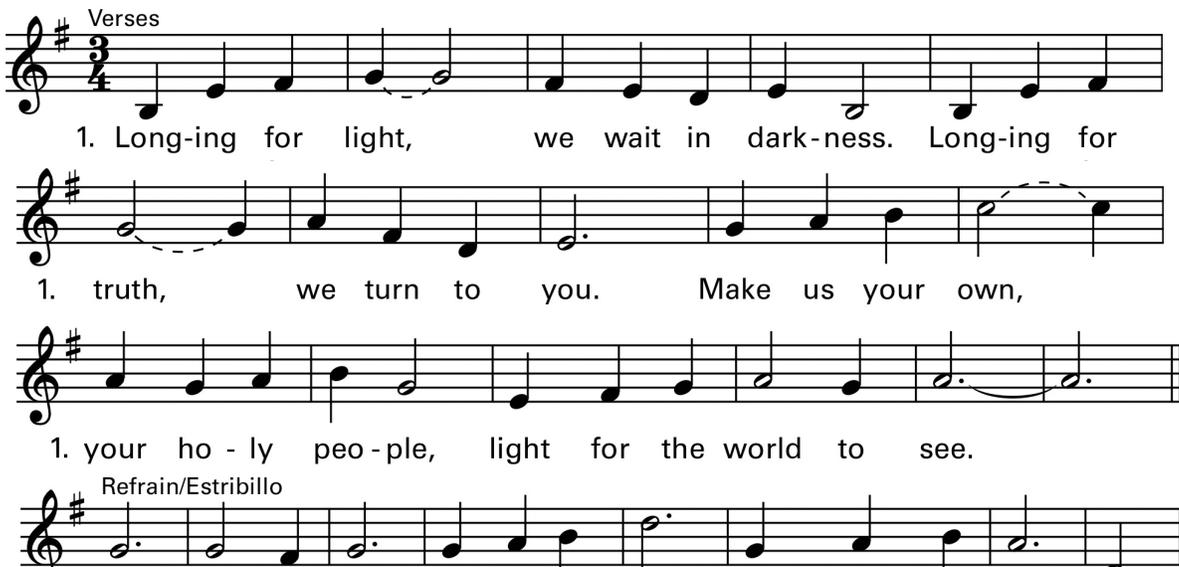
Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Christ, Be Our Light v.1

Bernadette Farrell

Verses



1. Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
1. truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
1. your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.

Refrain/Estribillo



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.
¡Sé nues - tra luz, Cris - to Se - ñor, en las ti - nie - blas!

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Celebrant Join me in sending the children to Sunday School.

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Children Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able at the sound of the bell

Processional Hymn

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

Hymnal 57

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

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

Kyrie from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son

Chri - ste e - le - i - son

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of scripture.

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

Isaiah 2:1-5

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122

- 1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
- 2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
- 4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, *
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Please stand as you are able and face the Gospel.

Hymnal 56

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

arr. Felix Eisenhauer

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

Sermon

The Reverend Liz Williams

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Credo from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer

All stand as able and together sing.

Celebrant

Our service continues with the Nicene Creed. Please stand and join us in singing.



We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.



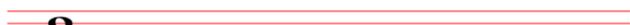
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,



God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.



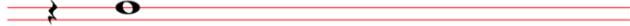
Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came



down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.



For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.



He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.



We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.



A - men.

Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Server

God calls us to love one another. As a sign of that love, let us lift up our prayer to God for the needs of all people throughout the world, saying: O God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Intercessor

We pray for the peace of the world, that our instruments of war may be transformed into instruments of peace, and that nations shall cease to learn war any more. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church, that we may become more and more a means of grace and peace in the world. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people of good will who seek to cast off the works of darkness, that we may be enlightened through our service of others in the name of Christ. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in any need especially, *(the people may add their petitions either silently or aloud)*, that we may be alert to the presence of Christ in them and ready to reach out in love. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are assembled here today, that we may be clothed with the Lord Jesus Christ and go forth from this place to be Christ in the world. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died, especially, *(the people may add their petitions either silently or aloud)*, and for the promise of resurrection to be fulfilled. O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant

And, as we approach the second anniversary of the Thomas fire, which brought so much devastation to our community, we lift prayers for those who still suffer, those who still mourn. May they see your light shining through the darkness and be comforted by your holy presence. May new life spring forth from the ashes and may your blessings abound. (Pause for a moment of silence followed by the ringing of the church bell three times.) O God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you, Lord our God, that you have called us to be your people and the instruments of your presence in the world. Grant us grace to discern your will and the strength to do it, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor
A period of silence is observed.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The 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.

Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Special Occasions

For other prayer requests, trained lay prayer ministers will be available in the chapel or during Eucharist to pray with you. Briefly state the particular concern, burden, thanksgiving, or transition you bring for yourself or someone else. Confidentiality is observed.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Thank you for your donation. Your generosity is appreciated. We look forward to doing great things in the name of Christ with whatever you are able to give.

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

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory

O Holy Christ, in Love Come Down

Words by John Parker, Music by Joel Raney

Presentation Hymn

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Hymnal 59

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S128

The service music can be found in the front of the hymnal.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving 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.

When the Eucharist is being taken out to those who are sick or shut-in, we will pray together.
In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent receive unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Christ is the world's true Light

Hymnal 542

Please stand.

Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

Postlude

Instrumental

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

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Prayers of the People: *Intercessions for the Christian People*, Pueblo Publishing Company, 1988

Blessings: *The Book of Occasional Services 2003*, Church Pension Fund 2004

Female Composers Initiative

St. Paul's Music Ministry is addressing continuing gender inequality by featuring female composers as part of its regular repertoire. This week, our initiative includes *Christ Be Our Light* by Bernadette Farrell

Thank you to our guest musician, Allison McKay, on Oboe.

Welcome! We're so glad you're here.

- Our ushers welcome your inquiries. They can provide assisted listening devices, information about our ministries, as well as directions to the restrooms, nursery, and classrooms.
- Please take the brochure from the pew and learn more about St. Paul's and our traditional worship, dynamic preaching and a call to serve.
- You are invited to join us for coffee and refreshments following the service and we hope you will stay for Fellowship and Formation from 11:30-noon.
- Infants and children are welcome here. Children under five years old may receive care in the nursery (room 2) from 10-noon. Parents are also welcome to bring their children to worship with them, and may have access to the nursery for their convenience. The service can be heard from the narthex (lobby) and activity bags for children can be found there. Our side chapel can be used as a quiet play space during services. You will find lots of stuffed animals and books there.

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

Serving This Week

Team 1 – 1st Sunday of the Month

Acolytes

Chalice

Psalm

Lay Readers

Prayers of the People

Ushers

Eucharistic Prayer Ministry

Pastoral Care Team

Altar Guild

Flower Guild

Counters

Welcome Ministry

Vestry Greeter

Facility Lock Up

Cantor

Hospitality

Judy Wareham, Gina Trevisan

Drew Darby – Server, Maggie Kennedy

Maggie Kennedy

Bridget Nahabedian, Drew Darby

Carolyn Dolen

Shirley & Larry Myers, Liz Rose

Kathleen Crookston

Connie Baer

Pauli Powers, Kathy Helms, Roger Crow

Yvonne Loest, Virginia Gallegos, Roger Crow

Barbara Jakovich and Marcia Semple

Gene Pitman

Cheri Gonzales

Nate Alday

Diego Magaña

Dan & Joanne Wakelee, Norm & Pam Owens,

Janalee Young



Highlights of This Week at St. Paul's

Today 12/1	8:00 am	Rite I Sunday Service
	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10:00 am	Advent Wreath Lighting (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Rite II Sunday Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Formation (Kahler Hall)
	4:30 pm	Abundant Table Farm Church (Chapel, Kahler Hall)
Monday 12/2	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)
	5:30 pm	First Monday Book Club (Panera Bread)
	6:30 pm	Financial Peace University (Library)
Tues. 12/3	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)
	10:00 am	Sack Lunch Distribution (Office)
Wed. 12/4	6:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop #179 (Community Room, Kahler Hall)
	9:00 am	Healing Service (Chapel)
	10:30 am	Bible Study (Library)
Thurs. 12/5	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Community Room)
	10:00 am	Sack Lunch Distribution (Office)
	6:00 pm	Twelve Step Workshop (Kahler Hall)
Fri. 12/6	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	6:30 am	Men's Bible Study (Main Street Steakhouse Restaurant)
Sat 12/7	9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Library)
	6:45 pm	AA Meeting (Community Room)
Sun. 12/8	8:00 am	Rite I Sunday Service
	9:30 am	Fair Trade Sales (Kahler Hall)
	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10:00 am	Advent Wreath Lighting (Sanctuary)
	10:15 am	Rite II Sunday Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Formation (Kahler Hall)
	11:30 am	Fair Trade Sales (Kahler Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)



ST. PAUL'S VENTURA
ESTABLISHED 1889

Prayer Intentions for the Week of December 1, 2019

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

Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Liz Williams, Dick Swanson
President Donald Trump, Congress, Federal Courts
Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Onofre, Christopher, Paulette, Adele, Babs, Brenda, James, Jacob, Carolyn, Teresa, Duncan, Steven, Frank, Julie, Bruce, Briana, Charly, Paul, Carol, Diane, Kathie, Tom, William

THOSE ENDURING A LONG TERM ILLNESS:

Virginia, Wayne, Margery, Sheila, Carrie, Brian, Linda, Judy, Liz, Michelle, Kevin, Mary, Kathy, Amelia, Doug, Carol, Rachel, Mary, Kim

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 services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home

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: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiawso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Temple Beth Torah, the Islamic Center of Oxnard, Ventura Seventh Day Adventist Church*

IN MEMORIAM

Thomas Honeyman, Kathleen Craven

Parish prayers for healing are listed for one calendar month. Contact the office with your request which may be added at any time. They may be requested and/or renewed by using the prayer cards in the pews.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector
The Rev. Liz Williams, Associate Rector
The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Assistant Music Minister
Sara Edwards, Organist
Nadia Talley, ASL Interpreter
Bonnie Rubrecht, Parish Administrator
Kathleen Jensen, Administrative Assistant
Wendy Olivier, Nursery Caregiver

3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, CA 93003 (805) 643-5033 e-mail: office@saintpaulsventura.org
Website: www.saintpaulsventura.org Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura

Announcements December 1, 2019

Thank you for joining us today! We'll continue to hold you in our prayers.

Please contact the church office for more information. God bless you!

We invite you to join us again next Sunday!



Please help us thank the following people for our refreshments this morning:

8:00 am-Tim & Kathy Helms

10:15 am- Dan & Joanne Wakelee, Norm & Pam Owens

Janalee Young

(Next week for hospitality: 8:00-Wes Cullins

10:15-Larry & Shirley Myers, Miles & Cathy Sexton, Ted & Laura Andrews

If you would like to serve on our hospitality team, please let us know.

The Vestry Greeter today is Cheri Gonzales

come by and say hello



We are faithful people waiting for the coming of light, the coming of Christ...

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD – Sunday, 12/1 services at 8 & 10:15am

Be with us as we light the first candle on our Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE.

Time to gather up our blue boxes and donations...

INGATHERING OF UTO BOXES – Time to bring back your boxes & donations

United Thank Offering is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings, and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. 100% is used to support God's mission in the world.



Want to learn how to sign Christmas Carols?

ASL CAROL CLASS - 12/1 & 12/8 11:45am Grab some coffee and join us in the Community Room for some great fun and learning. Using the beautifully visual and conceptually based language of ASL, we'll consider the words of some favorite Christmas Carols and learn to sign them. Friends are welcome too! We look forward to seeing you there.



We are faithful people waiting for the coming of light, the coming of Christ...

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD – Sunday, 12/8 Services at 8 & 10:15am

Be with us as we light the first and second candles on our Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE. Let's come together as we worship and wait, holding on to the hope that Christ has instilled in us. Come get inspired! Invite a friend and join us. We look forward to seeing you there!

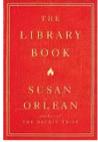
INGATHERING OF UTO BOXES – Time to bring back your boxes & donations

ASL CAROL CLASS - 12/8 11:45am

Every purchase matters, and they make great stocking stuffers!

FAIR TRADE SALES – Sunday, Dec. 8th after both services After Sunday services buy a taste of fine chocolates, tea, coffee and baskets that are from businesses committed to providing fair wages and good employment opportunities to economically disadvantaged artisans and farmers. **Thank you for helping abolish modern-day slavery!**



	<p>Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us? A warm welcome to you! We are so glad you came. We are a friendly and welcoming congregation. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to do anything they can to make your time with us more comfortable and meaningful. Please introduce yourself to our clergy, they're looking forward to meeting you. We invite you to come back soon.</p>
	<p>Bring your toys in by next Sunday. Thank you! COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SHOPPE TOY COLLECTION – through December 8 We are collecting new, unwrapped toys to help make Christmas a little brighter for some families who are finding things challenging. Take an ornament off the Christmas Tree in the Narthex. Shop for the child you choose and bring your unwrapped gift(s). You can make a difference! Thanks for helping us share the love of Christ this season!</p>
	<p>Want to help our warm the hearts and bodies of our neighbors in need? COATS FOR ALL and REACH for Socks - We are collecting new or gently used coats and jackets of all sizes now through the end of the year! The drive is sponsored by the Downtown Chapter of the Rotary Club. The donation box is located in the church lobby. SOCK DRIVE Socks are also in high demand at this time of year for the men and women served by the Sack Lunch Program and Family to Family ministries. Drop of your sock donations in the basket on the REACH table. We'll distribute them throughout the winter season. (Please no dress socks or children's sizes.)</p>
	<p>Looking for a wonderful Advent Study? WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY OFFERS ADVENT STUDY at 10:30am Christians have claimed from the beginning that Jesus was the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament. In this study, best-selling author Walter Brueggemann tackles the questions: What were these expectations? And Did Jesus fulfill them? You're invited to join us as we work through this study and make our way toward a more meaningful Christmas. All are welcome.</p>
	<p>The Daughters of the King invite you to join us... FIRST MONDAY BOOK CLUB – Monday, December 2, 5:30-7pm at Panera All are welcome! This month's selection is The Library Book by Susan Orlean.</p>
	<p>Join in the fun, perform in our Epiphany Pageant. Who knows, you could be the STAR? REHEARSALS FOR THE EPIPHANY PAGEANT – Sun. 12/29 & Sun. 1/5 The Epiphany pageant is a shining day for our Sunday School children. They could use your help. We need a team of adults and teens to help with the presentation. Come act, sing, help with costumes, cue lines, help with staging, and be sure the camel gets his cue. Please let us know if you can help. Thanks!</p>
	<p>BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY – January 19The next baptism opportunity will be on the Sunday we remember the Baptism of our Lord. <i>We become members of the body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism. If you have not been baptized, and would like to be, or would like to arrange baptism for a child, please speak with Rev. Susan or Rev. Liz to make arrangements. We look forward to it!</i></p>
 <p>This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page</p>	<p>"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7 Thank you for your generosity! Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at www.saintpaulsventura.org or use this QR code. Members give of their time through many ministries and share their talents through lots of volunteer opportunities. Please contact our clergy if you'd like to get involved in something new. Generosity involves the giving of time, talent and treasure. Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself! We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share. Thank you so much! It is great to be with you on this journey of faith.</p>



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & MUSIC

We'd love to have especially beautiful flowers and music this Christmas. If you'd like to contribute, please mark your donation "Flowers & Music" and place in offering plate, send in offering envelope, or donate via the website, PayPal, or Text. Be sure to note whether the donation is in memory or honor of a loved one and whether you would like it included in the service bulletins. Donations accepted any time. Deadline is to be listed in the bulletin is 12/15.

Thank You!



PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY December 15

Bring your friends and neighbors and join us on Sunday at 11:45 a.m. in Kahler Hall for a Christmas Carol Sing-along & Cookie Decorating Party. All are welcome!



GREENING OF THE CHURCH Monday, December 23 at 9am

Help us transform the church in preparation for Christmas. Bring your friends and join us. Many hands make light work. Childcare available.



THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS EVE December 23 at 7pm

Come and enjoy the peace and beauty of the church on the night before Christmas Eve. Quiet music, bedtime stories and prayers. Children are invited to come in their jammies. Come get centered and connect with the spirit of Christmas before the festivities begin.



Christmas Eve at St. Paul's

4:00 p.m. Family Service

This is a friendly service that is especially appropriate for families and children of all ages.

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

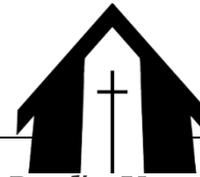
Carols begin at 10 p.m.,
Service begins at 10:30 p.m.

This service includes: traditional Christmas lessons, candlelight, choir and Eucharist.

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Join us for a beautiful service on this holy day.



St Paul's, Ventura Your Church Home for the Holidays

We invite you to bring your family, friends and neighbors and join us this Christmas for inspiring worship, beautiful music, friendly fellowship, and the opportunity to be filled with the true message of Christmas.

3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura
office@saintpaulsventura.org
(805) 643-5033
www.saintpaulsventura.org

Sunday Services at 8am & 10:15am
Wednesday Healing Service at 9am



EPIPHANY PAGEANT

Sunday, Jan. 12 at 10:15am

All are welcome! Come enjoy the service or participate in it. Rehearsals on Sun. 12/28 and Sun. 1/5. Contact the church office for details.