



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries, and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

The First Sunday after Christmas Day December 29, 2019 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 *Instrumental*

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

Entrance Hymn **All glory be to God on high** **Hymnal 421**

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

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.



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

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, 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 for ever. **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

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 147:13-21

13 Jerusalem will worship you, O God; *
and Zion will praise your name.

14 For you have strengthened the bars of our gates; *
and have blest our children within us.

15 You have established peace on our borders; *
and satisfied us with the finest wheat.

- 16 You send out your command to the earth, *
and your word runs very swiftly.
- 17 You give snow like wool; *
and scatter hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 You scatter your hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against your cold?
- 19 You send forth your word and melt them; *
you blow with your wind and the waters flow.
- 20 You declare your word to Jacob, *
your statutes and your judgments to Israel.
- 21 You have not done so to any other nation; *
to them you have not revealed your judgments.
Alleluia!

Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-18

Please stand as you are able and face the Gospel.

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Reverend Susan Bek

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 326

All stand as they are able and say together.

Prayers of the People

BCP p. 328

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

Celebrant

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

Intercessor

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 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 **Onofre, Christopher, Paulette, Adele, Babs, Brenda, James, Jacob, Carolyn, Teresa, Duncan, Steven, Frank, Julie, Bruce, Briana, Charly, Paul, Diane, Kathie, Tom, William, and those enduring a long term illness especially Virginia, Wayne, Margery, Sheila, Carrie, Brian, Linda, Judy, Liz, Michelle, Kevin, Mary, Kathy, Amelia, Doug, Carol, Stacie, Rachel, Mary, 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 recent violence or recovering from fires and floods.

(See page 8 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 Doris Darby 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

Peace

All stand as they are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Announcements

Please be seated.

Prayers for birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

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

Instrumental

Presentation Hymn

Good Christian friends, rejoice

Hymnal 107

Please stand as you are able.

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 Lamb. 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 Lamb's will that those who want him should meet him here.

All are welcome to come forward. The table we set is the Lord's. Our custom is to receive the bread in your open palm. Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer. 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 to receive a blessing.

Suggestion for before or after Communion: Open your Book of Common Prayer (BCP) to pages 833-834. You'll find some wonderful prayers there.

Communion Music *Instrumental*

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 339

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **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 **Joy to the world! (v.1,2,4)**

Hymnal 100

Please stand as you are able.

**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

BCP p. 339

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude *Instrumental*

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

Serving This WeekTeam 5– 5th Sunday of the Month

Acolytes	Jo Ellen Heil
Chalice	Peter Bowers, Jo Ellen
Psalm	Peter Bowers
Lay Readers	Jo Ellen Heil
Prayers of the People	Jo Ellen Heil
Ushers	Dela & Jim Parker
Altar Guild	Dela Parker, Susan Talmadge, Carole Nelson
Flower Guild	Renee Bower, Carole Nelson
Facility Lock Up	Miles Sexton
Cantor	Diego Magana
Hospitality Sponsors	Carl Helms

Highlights of This Week at St. Paul's
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Sunday 12/29	8:00 am	Rite I Sunday Service
	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10:30 am	Rite II Sunday Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Formation (Kahler Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)
Mon. 12/30	All Day	Resurfacing of Parking Lot—No Parking
Tues. 12/31	All Day	Resurfacing of Parking Lot—No Parking
Wed. 1/1	9:00 am	NO Healing Service (Chapel)
	10:30 am	NO Bible Study (Library)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Community Room)
Thurs. 1/2	7:00pm	NO Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Fri. 1/3	6:30 am	NO Men's Bible Study
	9:30 am	NO Women's Bible Study
Sat 1/4	6:45 pm	AA Meeting (Community Room)
Sun. 1/5	8:00 am	Rite I Sunday Service
	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10:15 am	Rite II Sunday Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Formation (Kahler Hall)
	11:45 am	DOK New Member Information Meeting (Community Room)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)

*The Church Office will be open by appointment only December 25-January 6.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!*

Prayer Intentions for the Week of December 29, 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, 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, Stacie, Rachel, Mary, Kim

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The Board of Supervisors of Ventura County; the city councils of the communities in which we live; public safety and emergency personnel in Ventura County
- + 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 Santa Barbara County: *St. Mary's, Lompoc; St. Mark's, Los Olivos; All Saints', Christ the King, Trinity, Santa Barbara; St. Peter's, Santa Maria; St. Michael's Mission & Campus Ministry at UCSB in Isla Vista, Mount Calvary Monastery & Retreat House, Santa Barbara*
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiaaso, Ghana*
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Project Understanding and FOOD Share Ventura County*

IN MEMORIAM

Doris Darby

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
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 29, 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-Carl Helms

**10:15 am- Bridget Wareham, Bill & Kathleen Crookston,
Lori Redding**

(Next week for hospitality: 8:00-Esther McClain

10:15-Dan & Joanne Wakelee, Jennifer Golland, Judy Wareham

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

**The Vestry Greeter today is Ted Andrews
come by and say hello**



On the 5th day of Christmas...

FIRST SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS – Sunday, 12/29

Once Christmas arrives, we begin the twelve days of Christmas, or Christmastide, which runs through January 5. During this season we recognize God with us; a God who knows and understands our fears and sends forth angels who proclaim, "Fear not!" Join us as we celebrate!



REHEARSALS FOR THE EPIPHANY PAGEANT – Sun. 12/29 & Sun. 1/5



On the 12th day of Christmas...

SECOND SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS – Sunday, 1/5

Once Christmas arrives, we begin the twelve days of Christmas, or Christmastide, which runs through January 5. During this season we recognize God with us; a God who knows and understands our fears and sends forth angels who proclaim, "Fear not!" Join us as we celebrate!



REHEARSALS FOR THE EPIPHANY PAGEANT – during Sunday School and after church



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION – Sunday 1/5, Community Room. Daughters of the King is an international order of women dedicated to prayer and service. The Orientation is for anyone interested in joining or finding out more about the order. We will present the who, what and why of the order and discuss the options for the study. This is a time for inquiring minds to come together. No commitment is needed until the end of the study period in March.



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>HOLIDAY CLOTHING DRIVE</p>	<p><i>Thanks for helping to warm the hearts and bodies of our neighbors in need!</i> COATS FOR ALL - Thanks so much from RoseAnn Hill and Rotary Club of Ventura to all the parishioners that have donated coats of all sizes for the annual coat drive! Many needy and homeless people in our community will be blessed with the gift of warmth from your generosity!. We are continuing to collect coats and jackets until the end of the year, so please bring them in to the box in the narthex if you haven't had a chance to yet. Thank you, again! 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. (Please no dress socks or children's sizes.)</p>
 <p>BOOK CLUB</p>	<p><i>The Daughters of the King invite you to join us...</i> FIRST MONDAY BOOK CLUB – Monday, January 6, 5:30-7pm at Panera <i>All are welcome! This month's selection-Life Undercover: Coming of Age in the CIA by Amaryllis Fox. You're invited to read along and join us. We'd love to see you there!</i></p>
	<p>BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY – January 19 The 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>COMPLINE: An Amazingly Beautiful Service of Sung Prayers at the End of the Day Sunday, January 19 at 7 pm St. Paul's Choir invites you to join us for our first contemplative Compline service of the season. Come calm your soul at the end of the day during our brief, candle-lit, choral prayer service. The church will remain open after the service for those who wish to continue their prayers, light a votive candle, or walk the labyrinth by candlelight. Donations will support the Music Ministry at St. Paul's, Ventura. Please help us spread the word, all are welcome!</p>
<p>Annual Meeting</p> 	<p><i>Once a year we gather to do the business of the church. Please mark your calendar and join us.</i> ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL MEETING – January 26 at 11:30am All members of the church are encouraged to attend. We need enough members in attendance so that we will have a quorum. At this important meeting we will elect new Vestry members and Diocesan Convention. We receive reports from the groups and committees of the church and review our finances and the budget for the coming year. Please mark it on your calendar.</p>
 <p>MEDICAL MISSIONS</p>	<p><i>Looking for ways to help make a difference?</i> MISSION OUTREACH – Donations Requested A Note from Dr. Steve Jones: West African Medical Missions is going to Jamaica in March and are asking for donations. They need all donations to be submitted by January 15th so we can buy medication and book airline tickets. Anyone interested in going on the trip, please contact me through the church office. Thanks!</p>
 <p>ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL</p>	<p><i>Grab a cup of coffee and come join us!</i> NEWCOMER COFFEE WITH OUR CLERGY – Sunday, 1/19 at 11:45am Join us in the Community Room (the meeting room behind the kitchen in Kahler Hall). Our topic this month is: <i>Understanding our Worship and Exploring our Ministries</i>. Come meet people, ask questions and explore the faith. <i>All are welcome!</i> All are welcome! Next month's Coffee with our Clergy will be on Sunday, 2/23 at 11:45am when we'll talk about <i>Working Together to Make a Difference in the World</i>. We look forward to seeing you there!</p>
 <p>This QR Code takes you straight to</p>	<p><i>"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7</i> 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 and share their talents through lots of volunteer opportunities and ministries. Please contact our clergy if you'd like to get involved in something new. 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 have you with us on this faith journey.</p>

