



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022 at 10:15 a.m.

Service offered both in-person and online

Welcome! Sunday Services are offered each week at 10:15am. You have the option of attending in-person or online at: www.StPaulsVentura.org/live, www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura, www.Facebook.com/SaintPaulsVentura.

There are two seating options at in-person Sunday services: open seating, and distanced seating. A limited number of seats on the street side of the church are available for those who prefer or require some extra distance. Masks are required in the church at this time because many of those who attend services who are in a high-risk group. Thank you for your cooperation. You are a living example of what LOVE looks like, and we appreciate your kindness.

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. We invite you to sing, pray and read along with us through the service. The words in bold are the ones we'll all say together.

Our Sunday School program (for children ages 2 years-grade 5) begins at 10am on the Fountain Patio. Children are invited to join Miss Bailey and Miss Wendy to 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.

The best way to keep up with the latest events, announcements, and protocols is to read our Email Newsletter each week. If you don't receive it and would like to be added to the list, please contact the church office.

Again, welcome! We're glad that you're worshiping with us. If there's anything we can do to help, please let us know. Let us know if you have any questions, prayer requests or need the services of a priest. We are always glad to hear from you. Meanwhile, know that you are in our prayers. We wish you all a very safe and blessed week.

***Today's flowers were given by Kathy Loest
in loving memory of her brother, Roy R. Dietrich.***

If you'd like to arrange for flowers given in memory or thanksgiving, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Melody

Gilbert Martin

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

Processional

In Christ there is no East or West

Hymn 529

Cantor: Daniel Smithson

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks, v. 1

Hymnal 178

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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 11:1-18

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 148

The response appointed for this morning is Psalm 148. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd verses; the congregation will read the even verses.

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.

**4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.**

5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.

**6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

**8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;

**10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;**

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;

**12 Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.**

13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

**14 He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!**

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

A Reading from the Revelation to John.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

We walk by faith, and not by sight

Hymnal 209

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel

John 13:31-35

Remain standing and face the Gospel.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Richard Swanson

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

Please stand as you are able.

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. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Server

Alleluia! What was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine; what was forgotten shall be remembered, for the Lord is risen and walks among us. Let us confidently bring before God the needs of all our world, asking God for renewal, saying: Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed.

God of life, in gratitude and great joy we laud you for the gifts of Christ's resurrection. Give us hope, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

Honoring the gift of Christ's risen body, may we rise to serve all those whose needs keep them from seeing themselves as the image of God; for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who have need of the gift of Easter; for all who journey from illness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to consolation, from loneliness to love; for all our brothers and sisters, that death may have no more power over us, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who suffer and all who mourn, that the Lord God will wipe away all tears, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

May we be one faith with all who have died in Christ, for our life is hid with Christ in God: for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed.**

Celebrant

God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

In keeping with ancient tradition, we do not include the Confession during the season of Easter.

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.

Liturgy of the Table ***Holy Communion***

Offertory Sentence

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

Ephesians 5:2



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

Presentation Hymn

Now thank we all our God

Hymnal 397

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship Eucharistic Prayer 3

The people remain standing as they are able.

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.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

Sanctus from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer

Sanc - tus, sanc - tus,

sanc - tus, 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 Lord. Ho - sa - na in the high - est, Ho -

sa - na in the high - est!

Translation: "Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus" - Holy, holy, holy "Benedictus qui venit" - Blessed are those who come

Please stand, sit or kneel as you prefer.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying you destroyed our death.
Rising you restored our life.
Christ Jesus come in glory.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Paul and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you 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.

The 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.

Spiritual Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not all together in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

The 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 his will that those who want him should meet him in this holy way.

For in-person worshipers: 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 gluten-free.

Once you have the bread, you may choose any of the following options:

1. **Return to your seat without receiving the wine.** Be assured that this is a sufficient experience of communion.
2. **Sip the wine, from the common cup,** guiding the chalice gently with your hand. (This meets the current safety standards set by the Diocese of Los Angeles and our bishop because the wine contains alcohol, the chalice is silver or similar metal, and the surface is wiped and turned between communicants.)
3. **Receive by intinction** – the Eucharistic Minister will dip your wafer into the wine for you. We must place it in your hand at this time and cannot place it in your mouth.

If you'd like to come forward but would prefer not to receive, please cross your arms over your chest and the priest will offer you a blessing.

Suggestion: Before or after Communion, see the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) pp. 833-834. You'll find some wonderful prayers there. Online worshipers can find it at www.bcponline.org

Communion Music

Ciacona Angelica

Carsom Cooman

Ubi Caritas

Words: 1 Corinthians 13:2-8

Music: adapt. Taize Community/Jacques Bertheir

Ubi caritas et amor,
Live in charity and steadfast love,
ubi caritas Deus ibi est
live in charity: God will dwell with you.

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand, sit or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Go in the peace of the Lord Jesus. May Christ's light shine 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 **Thou art the Way, to thee alone**

Hymnal 457

Please stand as you are able and turn to face the cross as it passes by.

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Echo Alleluia

Henry Purcell arr. Lani Smith

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

Please join us in thanking those who served today, including:

Server/Chalice:	Roger Crow	Lector:	Judy Gold & Judy Drew
Chalice Bearer:	Drew Darby	Ushers:	Woody Bretz & Teddy Andrews
Altar Guild:	Anna Darby & Grace Dunlevy	Flower Guild:	Anna Darby & Grace Dunlevy
Cantor:	Daniel Smithson	Welcome Greeter:	Ernie Fickerson
Video Production:	John Loest	Lock-up Team:	The Rev. Susan Bek



Please add these dates to your calendar and plan to join us.

- Sun. 5/22 Sixth Sunday of Easter – service at 10:15am Graduation Recognition during service
11:45am Class Two on Practical Forgiveness *(in the Community Room)*
Church Information Series at 6pm on Zoom
- Sun. 5/29 Ascension Sunday – a BRING-A-FRIEND Sunday - service at 10:15am
11:45am Final Class on Practical Forgiveness *(in the Community Room)*
4pm Kite Flying at Harbor Cove
- Sun. 6/5 Pentecost Sunday – 10:15am service followed by the Pentecost Picnic
- Sat. 6/11 St. Paul's BIG Rummage Sale Extravaganza – *more information to come!*

Prayer Intentions for the Week of May 15, 2022

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury	Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Dick Swanson
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop	President Joseph Biden, Congress, Federal Courts
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan	Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Audrey, David, Leta, Baby Z, Jorge, Hal
, Lisa, Rachelle, Teresa, Cathy, Christian and Christina, all refugees, first responders, and everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, poverty, and injustice.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

Carol, Rachel, Kim, Amelia, Maria, Linda, Kay, Brian, Dave, Penny, Virginia, Susan, Michelle, Jeanice, Sheila, Lynn, Jan, Jim and Dennis.

IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:

Drew Darby, his wife Anna, and their family.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The ministry of prayer, study and service of St. Paul's Men's Group, the Daughters of the King, Bible & study groups
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home
- + All who work, educate others, and pray to abolish the scourge of present-day slavery.

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 Wiawso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Church of the Foothills*, *First Christian Church*, *Church of Christ*

IN MEMORIAM

Tammy Aburto-Pratt, Stacie Shank and all those we love but see no longer.

Parish prayers for healing are listed for one calendar month but can be renewed if needed. Please contact the church office to add or extend a prayer request and to let us know how things are going.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff



The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Kara Craven, Parish Administrator
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Choir Director
Sara Edwards, Organist
Nadia Becker, ASL Interpreter
Torey Rubrecht, Sexton
Amy Schaffer, Director of Communications

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St. Paul's Announcements May 15, 2022

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!



Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

Whether you're new, visiting or have been a member for years, we're so glad you joined us today. **A warm welcome to you!**

We currently offer Sunday services online, and in person.

Please let us know if we can do anything to support you on your spiritual journey this week.

We're always happy to hear from you!

We invite you to come back soon.



This is a brief overview of our weekly announcements. To learn about everything going on at St. Paul's and to receive weekly encouragement and ways to build up spiritual strength, please see our E-newsletter. If you don't receive it, please let us know. We'd be happy to add you to the list! office@saintpaulsventura.org



Join us as the celebration continues...

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 22nd

Join us every Sunday through the Great 50 Days of Easter.

Sunday services offered online and in-person at 10:15am. We look forward to seeing you there!

Watch our Facebook page for exciting posts www.facebook.com/saintpaulsventura and our YouTube channel for inspiring videos. www.youtube.com/c/stpaulsventura?sub_confirmation=1



You're Invited to Coffee Hour

Kahler Hall is now open following Sunday services for a simple, community-style Coffee Hour. Coffee, tea, water and paper goods will be provided. If you'd like to bring a snack to share, please keep it simple and bring it plated and ready to share. Serving tongs will be provided. Thank you for pitching in to help with clean up and to assist those around you. We encourage you to decide when and if you are comfortable participating.



Free Three-Week Class on Practical Forgiveness STARTS TODAY!

Offered During Coffee Hour in the Community Room (behind the kitchen in Kahler Hall)

Join us on Sundays 5/15, 5/22 and 5/29. This video series facilitated by Dan Campbell and Rev. Susan will help us learn how to let go of unforgiveness and spite. In this course, author and consultant Rob Voyle uses his decades of experience in dealing with forgiveness and reconciliation to give us practical steps on how we can let go of the pain of unforgiveness and live in wholeness.



JOIN US TONIGHT

A Concert for Hope; A Compline of Peace


Music and Prayers for the People of Ukraine

6pm on Sunday, May 15 at St. Paul's Ventura

Join us for a combined Music for Ukraine Benefit Concert followed by a special Compline service focused on prayers for peace in the world. The Concert will feature professional musicians from Ventura County. The Compline Service will be presented by St. Paul's Choir.

What is Compline? It's a shorter evening service (30-40 minutes) that will be sung a cappella by St. Paul's Choir. Our prayerful offering blends ancient and contemporary musical idioms and styles to usher in the night in a calm and reflective way.

Tickets are free and donations are encouraged. 100% of funds collected will support UNICEF's humanitarian response efforts directed toward children and families in Ukraine and neighboring countries offering a safe haven to those displaced. Invite friends and neighbors. All are welcome!

 	<p>Church Information Series - Sunday, May 22 at 6pm on Zoom</p> <p><i>Getting to Know each other and the Episcopal Church and Learn about the Seasons of Easter and Pentecost</i></p> <p>Whether you're new to the church, ready to explore your faith in new ways, or want to help us offer a warm welcome to everyone, you're invited. Come meet people, ask questions and learn something new. All are welcome! We look forward to seeing you there!</p> <p>Meeting ID: 843 2505 4293</p>
 <p>Family to Family</p>	<p>We're up Tomorrow - MONDAY, May 16th</p> <p>Please pray for the wonderful volunteers who will serve lunch to our hungry neighbors tomorrow. We appreciate your support and look forward to the time when we can serve inside and recruit more volunteers again.</p>
	<p><i>We're collecting socks and glasses for people who are in need...</i></p> <p>OUTREACH PROJECT – Reach for Basic Needs</p> <p>This month, St. Paul's is collecting socks for adults and eyeglasses, too. Bring in your old, unwanted glasses and/or new reading glasses you can purchase at most stores. We will offer them to those in need and help bring the dignity of sight and clean socks to our neighbors. REACH bags are available for your convenience. Thank you for your support!</p>
	<p>GRADUATION BLESSING – During the Service on Sunday, May 22nd</p> <p>If someone you know is graduating, please let us know. We will offer a special blessing during the announcements at this service. Those who attend in-person are invited to come forward for the blessing. Those who attend online are encouraged to contact us in advance so we can mention each graduate by name. Graduation from any level, and even retirements, can be included. Please send the names and info to: revsusan@saintpaulsventura.org</p>
	<p><i>Help us share the Good News and keep the church growing...</i></p> <p>Invite a Friend for our next BRING-A-FRIEND Sunday on May 29th</p> <p>Mark your calendar and grab the phone, some e-invite cards, or a greeting card and invite a friend to join us on our next Bring a Friend Sunday on May 29th. We can bring friends online with us or meet them in person at the church. Bring a Friend Sunday is a day for us to be intentional about reaching out to people God has placed in our lives. For us, this is an opportunity to introduce people to our St. Paul's community and share the Good News. For them, it is the chance to meet people, hear an uplifting message, and get inspired.</p>
	<p>BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY ON PENTECOST SUNDAY JUNE 5th</p> <p><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, please speak with Rev. Susan to make arrangements.</i></p> <p><i>About Baptism:</i> Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church. The bond which God establishes in Baptism is indissoluble. Through Baptism and the Holy Spirit we are forgiven of our sins and raised to the new life of grace. We are also formally initiated into the fellowship of Christian community. This is a very important occasion. The prayers and presence of the community are requested.</p>
	<p>LET'S GO FLY A KITE! – On Ascension Sunday, May 29th</p> <p>It is a long-standing tradition of St. Paul's Ventura to fly kites as we remember the Ascension. Join us at 4pm at Harbor Cove Beach (across from Ventura Harbor Village). Bring a kite, a friend, sand toys, some food or don't bring a thing. Just come have some fun as we remember and give thanks to God.</p>
 <p>Wear Red for Pentecost</p>	<p>MULTI LINGUAL SPEAKERS NEEDED – Pentecost Sunday – June 5th Spanish, Italian, Latin, French, Tagalog, Russian, Greek and more (please let us know if you would like to read a language not listed here) are needed for Pentecost Sunday. See Rev. Susan or call the office for your copy of John 14:8-17, 25-27 in the language of your choice. All will read together on Pentecost Sunday during the 10:15 service. And if you can, you are invited to wear red on this special day when we'll celebrate the birthday of the church.</p>



PENTECOST SUNDAY – June 5th

Celebrate the Birthday of the Church and
133 years of mission and ministry at St. Paul's, Ventura.

All are invited to the party!

Beautiful Festival Service at 10:15am

Followed by the Pentecost Picnic

a BBQ Lunch with the Men's Group at the grill
at 11:30am in Kahler Hall and on the Fountain Patio

Bring your friends and neighbors! Everyone is welcome!



Book Club

First Monday Book Club – June 6 at 5:30pm on Zoom

This month's selections are *Antarctica* by Claire Keegan, a collection of short stories, and *The Maid* by Nita Prose. We have heard *The Maid* is a quick read so thought we would add the collection of short stories for fun. If you have time to read a few, bring your thoughts on your favorite to the group. *The Maid* is described as a Clue-like, locked room mystery and a heartwarming journey of the spirit, it explores what it means to be the same as everyone else and yet entirely different. Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday



Want to get involved at St. Paul's?

THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS:

Altar Guild: Liturgy begins and ends with the work of the Altar Guild. We care for the sacred vessels, the bread, wine, linens, candles and hangings. Our work is usually done on Saturday morning and after the Sunday service. We serve in teams and are scheduled about once every three weeks.

Flower Guild: Were you impressed at how beautiful the sanctuary was for Easter services? We could really use some addition volunteers to serve on the Flower Guild. We work in teams and are scheduled once a month. No experience is necessary. We are happy to teach you what we know. You'll find it's very rewarding to meet new people and work together to prepare for our beautiful worship services.

Ushers: As Ushers, we help set up for services, warmly welcome all worshipers as they arrive while distributing bulletins and answering any questions. We offer assistance as needed and support the congregation as they worship. We serve in teams and are scheduled one Sunday each month.

Please contact Rev. Susan if you'd like to learn more. Thank you!



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takes you straight
to Giving Page

"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 give. **Thank you so much!**



ASL Minute - Learning to Sign One Sunday at a Time

At St. Paul's we're learning Sign Language. Why? Because we enjoy learning and growing together, because it's a great way to explore the concepts and ideas of our faith, and because all are welcome here. The videos are posted to our YouTube channel.

www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura.

Subscribe and hit the notifications bell so you won't miss a thing. This is a great thing to share with your friends. Maybe they'd like to learn something too!