



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.

Service offered both in-person and online



Online Bulletin

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.

Safety Protocols – In keeping with CDC and county guidelines, masks are not required, but still strongly encouraged. Please carefully consider what is best for you and your family. Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to need some additional distance, we've reserved the chapel side of the sanctuary for those with masks. Masks are optional on the Loma Vista side. We hope this will make it possible for everyone find a place in the church where they can feel safe and comfortable. Thank you for your understanding. You are a shining example of what LOVE looks like.

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. The best way to keep up with everything that's going on at St. Paul's is to subscribe to our Email Newsletter. If you don't receive it and would like to be added to the list, please come see us at the Welcome Table or contact the office.

Our Sunday School program (for children ages 2 years-grade 5) begins at 10am. 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.

Once again, welcome! We're glad that you're worshipping with us. 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.



The angels are dancing again...

Listen carefully, you just might hear the angels dancing on the roof!

As things heat up, the beams in our beautiful church ceiling expand and creak. No worries! It's just part of this wonderful building's charm. For years, some of our members have said to each other, "Listen, the angels are dancing on the roof again!"

Today's flowers were given in memory of Williams James Temple and Bryant Paul Temple by Sarah Lamola.

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

Selections from the Bach Cello Suites

J. S. Bach

Isaac Pastor-Chermak, Cello

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

Processional

Alleluia, alleluia!

Hymnal 178

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.

Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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 2:14a, 22-32

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

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

Psalm 16

The response appointed for this morning is Psalm 16. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.

4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.

6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.

8 I have set the LORD always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.

10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.

11 You will show me the path of life; *
**in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
for evermore.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

A Reading from the First letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

Gradual Hymn

All stand as able to sing.

We walk by faith, and not by sight

Hymnal 209



Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

Remain standing and face the Gospel.

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Susan Bek

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 catholic¹ and apostolic² 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 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.

¹ universal; all embracing

² relating to the Apostles; following their teachings

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.*

Offertory

Selections from the Bach Cello Suites

J. S. Bach

Presentation Hymn

Before the Lord's eternal throne

Hymnal 391

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

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

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps). It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains a series of eighth notes. The second staff has a longer note followed by a rest. The third staff has a longer note followed by a rest. The fourth staff has a longer note followed by a rest. The fifth staff has a longer note followed by a rest.

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!

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 here.

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 a gluten-free wafer.

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

Selections from the Bach Cello Suites

J. S. Bach

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand 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

Hosanna to the living Lord!

Hymnal 486

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

Dismissal

Celebrant
People

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

Postlude

Selections from the Bach Cello Suites

J. S. Bach

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

Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Kara Craven	Lector:	Judy Drew & Judy Gold
Chalice:	Christopher Craven	Ushers:	Eric Craven & Wendy VanHorn
Altar Guild:	Anna Darby & Grace Dunlevy	Flower Guild:	Grace Dunlevy & Anna Darby
Cantor:	Daniel Smithson	Welcome Greeter:	Marcia Semple
Video Production:	Patrick Van Horn	Lock-up Team:	Rev. Susan



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

Wed. 4/17	Restaurant Fundraiser – The Habit on Telephone
Sat. 4/22	Earth Day hike at Harmon Canyon, 8:30 am
Sun. 4/23	Third Sunday of Easter – service at 10:15am
Sun. 4/30	Fourth Sunday of Easter – service at 10:15am
Fri. 5/5	First Friday Pot Luck and Bible Study, 6 pm
Sun. 5/7	Fifth Sunday of Easter – service at 10:15am
	Graduation Celebration and Ice Cream Social
Sun. 5/14	Mother's Day and Sixth Sunday of Easter – service at 10:15am
	African TEAM ministries
	Packing lunches to feed the hungry
Sun. 5/21	Ascension Sunday – service at 10:15am, 4pm Kite Flying at Harbor Cove

Prayer Intentions for the Week of April 16, 2023

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:

Bert, Mary Morgan, all refugees, first responders, and everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, poverty, and injustice.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

Penny, Phil, Lynn, Audrey, Dennis, Maria, Baby Z, Amelia, Rachel, Dave, Kim, Linda, Virginia, Michelle, Sheila, Jeanice, Kevin, Susan, Debbie, Carol, Vivian and Ulrich.

IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:

Drew Darby, his wife Anna, and their family.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The ministry of Family to Family; all who volunteer and/or give financially to feed Ventura's hungry
- + 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 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.: *First United Methodist, Trinity Lutheran, Our Lady of the Assumption churches and the Salvation Army*

IN MEMORIAM

Larry Durham, Benjamin, Bryant Temple 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
Joseph Wareham, Sexton

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St. Paul's Announcements April 16, 2023

Thank you for joining us today! 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!**
Our Sunday services are available 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!
You can reach us by emailing office@saintpaulsventura.org



Today is the SECOND SUNDAY IN EASTER, and the celebration continues!

The big celebration of Easter Sunday is over, and what a glorious celebration it was - the flowers, the music, the liturgy, the fellowship, and the Hallelujah Chorus! It was all so powerful and moving! Now we invite you to join us for the Second Sunday of Easter. For many people, Easter is finished but, for us, it has just begun. The church observes, not only the day of Easter, which we refer to as the Sunday of the Resurrection, but also the season of Easter which is often referred to as the Great 50 Days. Come hear what happens next! Learn about Doubting Thomas and know that you and all your doubts are welcome here. Help us welcome special guest, Isaac Pastor-Chermak, cellist with the Santa Barbara Symphony. Come hear amazingly beautiful music, inspiring scripture and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come get inspired!



You are Invited to Coffee Hour to Enjoy Fellowship AND Help Us Assemble the Lunches to Feed the Hungry

We invite you to join us in Kahler Hall (just down the stairs) for a cup of coffee, tea, or water and the chance to sit and chat with one another. In the church, we call this fellowship. It's one of our favorite parts of being on this journey of faith together. Today we will also be packing lunches because it's our turn to help feed the hungry tomorrow on the Avenue with Family to Family. Please join us if you're available.



Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us?

A warm welcome to you! We're 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.



Join us as we raise funds for St. Paul's and enjoy a delicious meal...

April Fundraiser – The Habit on MONDAY, 4/17

Eat at The Habit at 732 Telephone Road, Ventura starting at 4pm on Monday, April 17th and they will donate 20% of the total bill to St. Paul's. Valid on dine in and take out. Simply show the printed flier or display it on your phone at the restaurant. See your Enewsletter or pick up a flier at the sign-in table. We look forward to seeing you there.
Thank you for your support!

	<p>Fair Trade Sales – Today, April 16th. St. Paul's is an Abolitionist Congregation, committed to ending the scourge of modern-day slavery. We sell fair trade products through the Equal Exchange to support farm cooperatives around the world giving farmers a fair price and a better future. Locally our sales support ending human trafficking through the Abolitionist Committee. Please stop by our table outside near the fountain to check out delicious chocolate, coffee and tea! Cash and checks accepted. Please see Joanne Wakelee or contact the church office with questions.</p>
	<p>Is that a gospel choir I hear? Why, yes it is! St. Paul's Choir will be singing with Pepperdine University's Music Department and visiting conductor/arranger Dr. Raymond Wise in a concert of Spirituals TONIGHT. This will be an exciting concert heading into spring! Pepperdine University. Tickets are available at: Arts.Pepperdine.Edu (search for Pepperdine Gospel Music & Spirituals Masterworks)</p>
	<p>UPCOMING BAPTISM OPPORTUNITIES 5/28 Pentecost; 11/5 All Saints Day, Observed (and other dates can be arranged) 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.</p>
	<p><i>Interested in being Confirmed or Received into the Episcopal Church? Are you curious and want to learn more?</i></p> <p>We will be Exploring our Faith in five sessions on three dates Sun. 4/23 12-1:30pm, Tues. 4/25 7:30-9pm, and Sun. 4/30 11:45-12:30 Confirmation will be on Saturday, May 6 at 10am at St. John's Cathedral in Los Angeles.</p> <p><i>This program is great for anyone who is curious, for those who seek to be Confirmed or Received into the Episcopal Church and for anyone who wants to join us in exploring our faith.</i></p> <p>Please contact Rev. Susan for more information.</p>
	<p><i>We're collecting socks and glasses for people who are in need...</i></p> <p>OUTREACH PROJECT – Reach for Basic Needs 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><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i></p> <p>Spirituality in Nature Group April Event – NEXT SATURDAY 4/22 Meet us for an Earth Day hike in Harmon Canyon at 8:30am. We will meet at the trailhead. Please note: If it rains the week before, the trail may be closed. For more information, contact Dan Wakelee – dan.wakelee@att.net for more information. SPECIAL EVENT - Sat. May 13th, Sign Up Early - Tickets usually sell out! Come explore part Channel Islands National Park with the Spirituality in Nature Group. Whether you have been to the islands before or have never visited, this is an opportunity to experience and better understand this amazing place. This is a full day trip to Scorpion Ranch on Santa Cruz Island on Saturday May 13. There will be a moderate guided hike on the island. As always, there is the possibility of seeing marine mammals during the boat ride. RSVP required by May 1 (boat tickets usually sell out on weekends) – please contact Dan Wakelee – dan.wakelee@att.net</p>
	<p>Book Club – Monday, May 1 at 5:30pm on Zoom The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next selection is The Spoon Stealer by Lesley Crewe. Born into a basket of clean sheets-ruining a perfectly good load of laundry-Emmeline never quite fit in on her family's Nova Scotian farm. The story is full of humor, family secrets, women's friendship, lovable animals, and immense heart. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
 This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page	<p><i>"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7</i></p> <p>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!</p>



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April 17, 2023 & 4:00 PM

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