



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.

Third Sunday of Easter

April 23, 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 through the generosity of your pledge.

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

Psalm Prelude

Craig Phillips

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

Processional

Alleluia, alleluia!

Hymnal 208

Cantor: Reid Edwards

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant
People

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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, 36-41

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

The response appointed for this morning is a portion of Psalm 116. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."
- 10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.

14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

A Reading from the First letter of Peter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

Luke 24:13-35

Remain standing and face the Gospel.

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

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about

Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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.

¹ universal; all embracing

² relating to the Apostles; following their teachings

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.

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.*

OffertoryMy Good Lord's Done Been Here *Traditional Spiritual, Arr. Moses Hogan***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

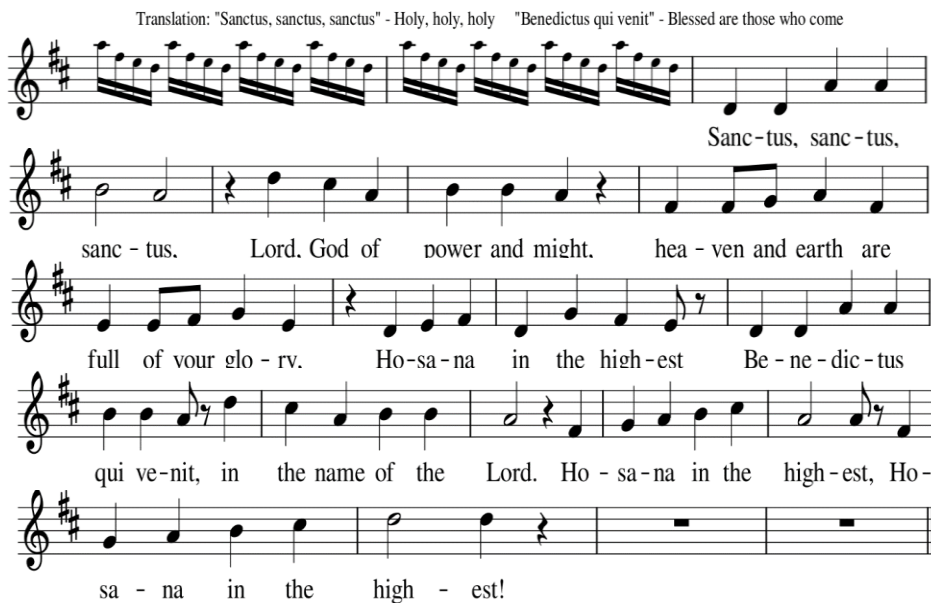
*The people remain standing as they are able.**Celebrant* The Lord be with you.**People** **And also with you.***Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.**People** **We lift them to the Lord.***Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**People** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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



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

Improvisation on the Day's Hymns

Felix Eisenhauer

Break Thou the Bread of Life

Words: Mary A. Lathbury

1. Break thou the bread of life, Dear Lord, to me,
2. Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, To me, to me,
3. Teach me to live, dear Lord, On - ly for thee,

1. As thou didst break the loaves Be - side the sea;
2. As thou didst bless the bread By Gal - i - lee;
3. As thy dis - ci - ples lived in Gal - i - lee;

1. Be - yond the sa - cred page I seek thee, Lord;
2. Then shall all bond - age cease, All fet - ters fall,
3. Then, all my strug - gles o'er, Then, vic - t'ry won,

1. My spir - it pants for thee, O liv - ing word!
2. And I shall find my peace, My all in all.
3. I shall be - hold thee, Lord, The liv - ing one.

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.

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

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 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more Hymnal 296
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

Victory

arr. Edward Broughton

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

Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Roger Crow	Lector:	Bridget Wareham & Ralph Armstrong
Chalice:	Kay Armstrong	Ushers:	Steve Jones & Dan Wakelee
Altar Guild:	Louise Bretz & Pam Klebaum	Flower Guild:	Lisa Cross
Cantor:	Reid Edwards	Welcome Greeter:	Joanne Wakelee
Video Production:	Woody Bretz	Lock-up Team:	Greg Jackson

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

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
Sun. 5/28	Pentecost Sunday (Baptism) – service at 10:15am; Pentecost Picnic after service
Sat. 6/3	Rummage Sale – donations can be dropped off starting in May!

Prayer Intentions for the Week of April 23, 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, Michele, Patrick, Connor, 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 spiritual, physical and moral development of our children and youth; the children, youth, and adult leaders of our Sunday School, Youth Group, Boy Scout Troop 179, La Famiglia Preschool, KinderMusik, Pulse Drumming and Ventura Charter School for Arts and Global Education
- + The Vestry's leadership that our parish's mission may be accomplished. Our 2022 vestry members and officers are Grace Dunlevy (Senior Warden), Jordan Daniels (Junior Warden), Peter Anderson (Treasurer), Lori Burke (Clerk), Kathleen Crookston, Lisa Cross, Tim Helms, Greg Jackson, Sarah Lamola, Kathy Loest, Daniel Smithson, Wendy VanHorn, Bridget Wareham, and the Rev. Susan Bek (Rector).
- + 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: *Hillsides-the Episcopal Home for Children*, Pasadena; *Neighborhood Youth Association*, West LA.; *Holy Family Services*, Ventura County.
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Waiwso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Unitarian/Universalist*, *Center for Spiritual Living*, *An Lac Mission (Buddhist)*, *Mormon Church*

IN MEMORIAM

Larry Durham, Bryant Temple, Bob Campion 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 23, 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 THIRD SUNDAY IN EASTER, and the celebration continues!

This week we hear the story of the disciples on the Road to Emmaus. Though the risen Jesus walked with them as they traveled, they did not recognize him. He taught and enlightened them as they walked and beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. Still, it wasn't until he blessed and broke the bread that they recognized him, and in that moment, he was gone. Come join us as we pray, "be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread." Come hear amazingly beautiful music, inspiring scripture and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come receive the bread and wine made holy. Come get inspired!



You are Invited to Coffee Hour

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.



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.



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.



We're collecting socks and glasses for people who are in need...

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><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</p> <p><i>Confirmation will be on Saturday, May 6 at 10am at St. John's Cathedral in Los Angeles.</i></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><i>Please contact Rev. Susan for more information.</i></p>
	<p>FIRST FRIDAYS POTLUCK AND BIBLE STUDY – Fri. 5/5 at 6pm in Kahler Hall</p> <p>Join us on the First Fridays of the Month for a fun potluck dinner and Bible Study. Bring something to share if you are able, or just bring yourself. There's always plenty of food. We'll pray, eat, share and support one another on this journey of faith, and study some scripture together. All are welcome, so bring a friend if you know someone who might be interested. We look forward to seeing you there!</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i></p> <p>Spirituality in Nature Group</p> <p>SPECIAL EVENT - Sat. May 13th, Sign Up Early - Tickets usually sell out!</p> <p>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</p> <p>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>
	<p>GRADUATION BLESSING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL– May 7th</p> <p>Congratulations, graduates! If you, or anyone you know is graduating from something (anything, we're happy to celebrate all accomplishments!), please join us for our annual Graduation Blessing and Ice Cream Social. We'll call graduates forward for a special blessing during the service then celebrate with ice cream during coffee hour. And, for those who can't be with us, please let us know so we can lift them in prayer and send a nice card with a special graduation blessing. Send their information to: office@saintpaulsventura.org</p>
 <p>This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page</p>	<p><i>"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7</i></p> <p>Thank you for your generosity!</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Generosity involves the giving of time, talent and treasure.</p> <p>Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself!</p> <p>We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>