



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 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 our mothers, Angeles B. de Moriel and Simona Guillén
by Guadalupe and the Rev. Canon Anthony Guillén.*

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

Lullaby
Bicinium on Wir Pflügen

Grayston Ives
John Barr

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

Processional

We plow the fields, and scatter

Hymnal 291
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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 17:22-31

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

Psalm 66:7-18

The response appointed for today is a portion of Psalm 66. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses. The congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

7 Bless our God, you peoples;
 make the voice of his praise to be heard;

**8 Who holds our souls in life,
 and will not allow our feet to slip.**

9 For you, O God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**10 You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water;
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows,
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

**14 Come and listen, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

15 I called out to him with my mouth,
and his praise was on my tongue.

**16 If I had found evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;**

17 But in truth God has heard me;
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

**18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld his love from me.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

A Reading from the First letter of Peter.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

Holy Gospel
Remain standing and face the Gospel.

John 14:15-21

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

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

The Sermon
A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Reverend Susan Bek

Nicene Creed
Please stand as you are able.

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

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.

Prayer for Mother's Day

Today, we give thanks to God for everyone who's ever loved us, nourished us, cared for us, prayed for us, held our hand when we were scared, celebrated our accomplishments, cried and mourned with us, taught us, led us, guided us, and made us feel deeply loved and valued.

Holy God, thank you for the blessings we've received through these wonderful people. We pray that you will bless them today and always. Amen.

Prayer to End Racism – April

One God, in Three Persons, creator of one human species, in many hues:
all who pray to you are descendants of Adam and Eve,
all members of one race called "human."
Forgive the blindness that causes our eyes
to notice and magnify those things we regard as different from ourselves in others.
Teach us to see clearly, that we, your children,
are far more alike than we are different.
Help us to put aside the racial prejudices imbedded within us,
and to see within every person the Child of God you created,
our siblings, destined for Glory.
In the name of One who died for all persons, of all colors,
Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

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.

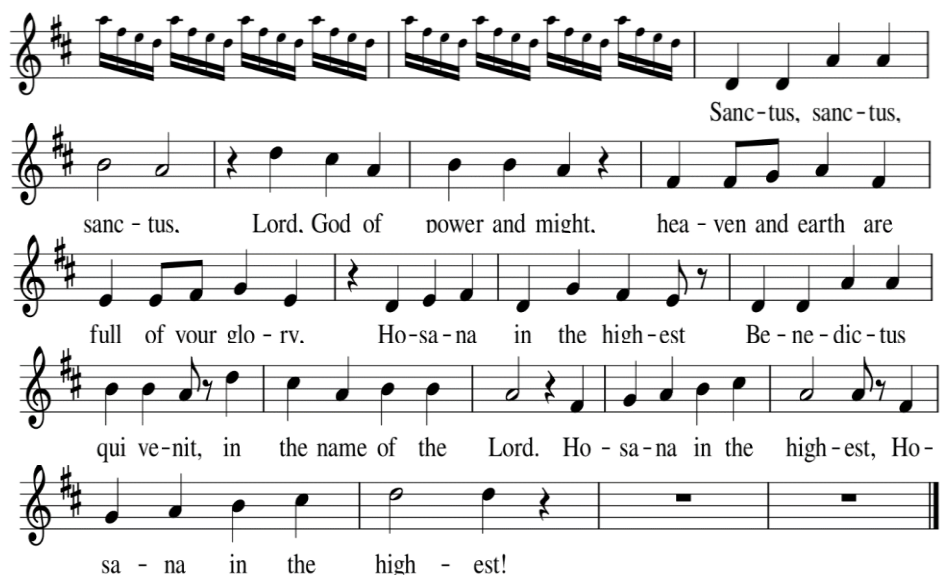
Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

Sanctus from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer

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



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 Eisenhower

Amazing Grace

H671

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

I sing the almighty power of God

Hymnal 398

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

Exultation

Richard Lloyd

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

Unless otherwise noted, permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-719533 and CCLI #21673033. All rights reserved. Prayers of the People: Intercessions for the Christian People, Pueblo Publishing Company, 1988. Eucharistic Prayer 3 is from Enriching Our Worship 1 Church Pub. Inc. (1998).

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

Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Roger Crow	Lector:	Janet Koehn & Ted Andrews
Chalice:	Virginia Hernandez	Ushers:	Dan Wakelee & Steve Jones
Altar Guild:	Susan Talmadge & Roger Crow	Flower Guild:	Roger Crow & Virginia Hernandez
Cantor:	Reid Edwards	Welcome Greeter:	Joanne Wakelee
Video Production:	Patrick Van Horn	Lock-up Team:	Woody Bretz

Prayer Intentions for the Week of May 14, 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, Isaac, Ralph, Marilyn, Michelle, 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 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 Wiaaso, Ghana*
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Church of the Foothills, First Christian Church, Church of Christ*

IN MEMORIAM

Bob Campion, Amelia Sugden 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

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

St. Paul's Announcements May 14, 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. 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 SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER, and the celebration continues!

Jesus says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." He promises that he will not leave us orphaned but will send the Holy Spirit to be with us forever. Come learn about the Holy Spirit and all that this Advocate can do to support us as we continue on the journey of faith. Mother's Day is a great day to come to church. It's a Bring-A-Friend Sunday, so bring a friend and come hear amazingly beautiful music, inspiring scripture and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

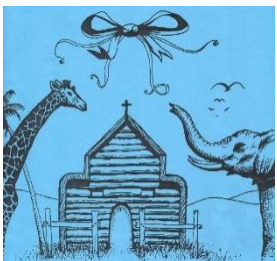
Today, we give thanks to God for everyone who's ever loved us, nourished us, cared for us, prayed for us, held our hand when we were scared, celebrated our accomplishments, cried and mourned with us, taught us, led us, guided us, and made us feel deeply loved and valued. Holy God, thank you for the blessings we've received through these wonderful people. We pray that you will bless them today and always. Amen.

and after church today...



Join us for Coffee Hour 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.



African Team Ministries

On Mother's Day - Sunday, May 14th

Serving the Church in East Africa for the past 20 years through Crafts and Jewelry. Come see the beautiful display and pick up some wonderful items for yourself or to use as gifts for others. The proceeds from the handcrafted items will make it possible to provide Drip Irrigation Kits for the families in the drought and famine areas. Online store: <https://africanteamstore.square.site/>

	<p>Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us? A warm welcome to you! We're so glad you joined us today. 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 again soon.</p>
	<p>NEW OUTREACH PROJECT – Let's REACH to support Sober Living This month, we're reaching to support sobriety. Ventura Serenity House is setting up a new location. The Gooden Center will become a place where women who have struggled with sobriety can go to get the support they need to put their lives in order. We are looking for new or gently used items with which to set up this new home and make it comfortable for the women, children and staff who will live there. Want to help? Grab a REACH bag or check out their Amazon Wishlist at https://tinyurl.com/2p89jk3u</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i> Spirituality in Nature Group - Sat. May 13th, Tickets are Sold Out Our group will explore part of the Channel Islands National Park with the Spirituality in Nature Group. This is a full day trip to Scorpion Ranch on Santa Cruz Island. If you need further information, please contact Dan Wakelee – dan.wakelee@att.net</p>
	<p>Choir Recognition - Sunday, May 21st Please join us as we show our appreciation for the amazingly talented members of our Choir and Music Department. We are so grateful for the inspiration they share with us! Your cards and comments are welcome. This is a great time to say, "Thank You!"</p>
	<p>LET'S GO FLY A KITE! – On Ascension Sunday, May 21st 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>Memorial Service for Doug Wied on Saturday, May 27 at 10am <i>O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Doug and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. And may God bless those who mourn with a sense of peace and delight at the wonderful memories they have to treasure. Amen.</i></p>
	<p>May Restaurant Fundraiser – Topper's Pizza on Front Street Wed. 5/31 Eat at Topper's Pizza at 1076 E. Front Street in Ventura between 3:30 - 9pm and show them the flier at the back of the bulletin or in the Enews, and St. Paul's will receive 20% of food and soft beverage sales. For dine in - simply show the printed flier or display it on your phone at the restaurant. For take out – must order through Topper's and be within their delivery area. We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you for your support!</p>
 <p>Wear Red for Pentecost</p>	<p>MULTI LINGUAL SPEAKERS NEEDED – Pentecost Sunday – May 28 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 20:19-23 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>
	<p>New Member Blessing on Sunday, May 28th If you have recently become a member of St. Paul's, or if you have not yet participated in a new member blessing (the pandemic made this especially difficult for a while, so we're still catching up), we invite you to join us for this very special occasion. New members please RSVP by the Tuesday before this date so we can prepare. revsusan@saintpaulsventura.org</p>



PENTECOST SUNDAY – May 28th

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

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!

The Men's Group will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs and beans. We ask members of the congregation to please bring a side dish or dessert to share if you are able. Thank you!



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

The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next selection is *My Brilliant Friend* by Elena Ferrante. It is a rich, intense story of two friends and through their lives we see their neighborhood, city and country (Italy) transformed. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday



Save the date!

Rummage Sale - Sat. June 3rd 9am – 1:30pm in Kahler Hall

You can begin dropping off items as of May 1st on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 9am -3pm. Please contact the church office to let us know you're coming – 805 643-5033. Invite your friends to join us and help support the church for this important fundraiser. And if you can volunteer to assist us, please let us know. We really appreciate it!



Would you like to pick a date to donate for the flowers?

Flower Arrangement Donations and Dedications

Donating the flowers for a Sunday service is a lovely way to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. It's quick and easy to arrange, and really helps the church too! Use an envelope from the pew rack in front of your seat or email us the information. Enclose a donation, (\$65 is suggested), or go to our website and click "Giving". Be sure to mention that it's a "Flower Donation." Give us the date on which you'd like dedicate the flowers and provide us the information about who they're given in memory of, or what you are thankful for. We look forward to remembering or celebrating with you, and we appreciate your support! If you need assistance with this, please contact the church office 805 643-5033 or church@saintpaulsventura.org



This QR Code
takes you straight to
our 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. Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself! We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share today. Thank you for your generosity!

Pizza Night!

Family Fundraiser

Benefitting

St Paul's Ventura

Where: Toppers Pizza Place
1076 E. Front St.
Ventura
(805)385•4444 or 495•4444



When: Wednesday, May 31, 2023
3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

What: Toppers Pizza will donate back 20% of pre-tax sales generated by our group!

How to Help: Just follow these steps to help raise funds!

- 1) Bring the whole family to Toppers during the above period for a great pizza!
- 2) Show this flyer to the cashier **when you place your order** (or tell operator for phone orders).
- 3) No coupons or other discounts will be honored in conjunction with this fundraiser.
- 4) No flyers may be handed out in or around the restaurant during the event.
- 5) **Online Orders are not included.**



Proud to be part of the community!