



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.

Ascension Sunday

May 21, 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 Today God's Son Triumphs/Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn *arr. J.S. Bach; melody: Gesius*
Fanfare on Llanfar *Raymond H. Haan*

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

Processional **Hail the day that sees him rise** **Hymnal 214**
Cantor: Sophie Cotsis

Opening Salutation *Book of Common Prayer p. 355*

Celebrant Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

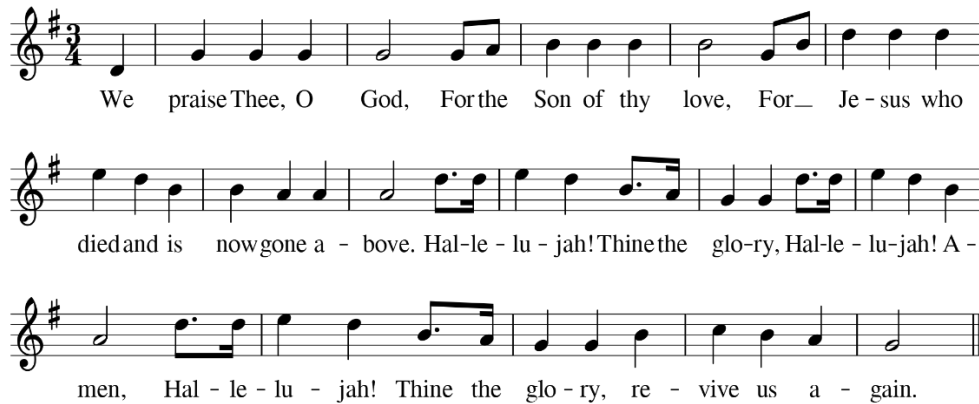
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Revive Us Again

Words: William P. McKay

Music: John H. Husband



Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **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 1:1-11

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

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

Psalm 47

The response appointed for today is Psalm 47. We will read it by whole verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses. The congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

- 1 Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a cry of joy.
- 2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared;
he is the great King over all the earth.**
- 3 He subdues the peoples under us,
and the nations under our feet.
- 4 He chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**
- 5 God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.**
- 7 For God is King of all the earth;
sing praises with all your skill.
- 8 God reigns over the nations;
God sits upon his holy throne.**
- 9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together
with the people of the God of Abraham.
- 10 The rulers of the earth belong to God,
and he is highly exalted.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Gradual Hymn

When Christ was lifted from the earth

Hymnal 603

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

Remain standing and face the Gospel.

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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.

Blessing for Church Musicians

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.*

Offertory

Cor meum est templum sacrum

Patricia Van Ness

Cor meum est templum sacrum
Sanctius quam etiam mente concipiam
Sapientius quam etiam mea labra loqui possint
Fons mysterii et gratiae.
Cor meum primo tu creavisti vero
Et multis cum mirandis complexisti.
Quod fingens cum manibus tuis formasti
Et simul cum spiritu tuo tetigisti.
Cor meum in tempestavitate sua mihi se detegit
Et aurea venustate flumina
Fluentia monstrans
Me ad itinera infiniti splendoris abscondita perducit.
Tranquillitas tua expectantem tempus eius me tangit.
Et cor meum tuum ut domum ubertim et perplexum fecisti,
Ut aedem sapientiae ultro intelligentiam meam formasti
Ut templum gratiarum et mysteriorum cum tuis manibus finxisti.

My heart is a holy place
Wiser and holier than I know it to be
Wiser than my lips can speak
A spring of mystery and grace.
You have created my heart
And have filled it with things of wonder.
You have sculpted it, shaped it with your hands
Touched it with your breath.
In its own season it reveals itself to me
It shows me rivers of gold
Flowing in elegance
And hidden paths of infinite beauty.
You touch me with your stillness as I await its time.
You have made it a dwelling place of richness and intricacies
Of wisdom beyond my understanding
Of grace and mysteries, from your hand

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.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	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 stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive the Eucharist. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.

The Common Cup will be offered on the right side of the altar rail.

Intinction (dipping) will be offered on the left (Loma Vista) side.

Regardless of which side you are sitting on, when you come forward, please go to whichever side is offering the wine in the way you prefer to receive it.

Those receiving by intinction are asked to help themselves to a small paper cup.

Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer.

You may also choose to return to your seat without receiving the wine.
Be assured that it is a sufficient experience of communion.

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

First Gymnopédie

Erik Satie

He is King of Kings

Spiritual, arr. Horace Clarence Boyer

♩

He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords; Je-sus Christ, the first and last

1. no man works like Him. He is no man works like Him. Fine
2. I 1. He
2. I

built His throne up in the air— no man works like Him; 1. And
was young when but I be - gun— 2. But

D.S.

call the saints from ev - 'er where no man works like Him. He is
now my race is al - most won—

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

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hymnal 460

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

Let's Go Fly a Kite

Richard M. and Robert B. Sherman

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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 Gold & Judy Drew
Chalice:	Christopher Craven	Ushers:	Sally Weimer & Eric Craven
Altar Guild:	Grace Dunlevy & Anna Darby	Flower Guild:	Anna Darby & Grace Dunlevy
Cantor:	Sophie Cotsis	Welcome Greeter:	Pat Malchak
Video Production:	John Loest	Lock-up Team:	Rev. Susan



5/21 Ascension Sunday

10:15am Sunday Service with Choir Recognition
4pm Kite Flying at Harbor Cove

5/28 Pentecost Sunday

10:15am Sunday Service
11:30am Pentecost Picnic
& Fair Trade Sales

5/31 Fundraiser at Topper's Pizza on Front Street

3:30-9pm

6/3 Rummage Sale

Donations can be dropped off Tuesday – Thursday 9am -3pm
Please call to let us know you're coming. Thanks!

Prayer Intentions for the Week of May 21, 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, Marilyn, Jordan's brother, Morgaine, Jay, 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

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 21, 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



and after church today...



Today we remember the Ascension, and the celebration continues!

Join us this Sunday as we remember the Ascension, the occasion when the risen Christ rose into heaven after appearing to his followers for forty days. Come learn about this important story of our faith. Come enjoy inspiring scripture, beautiful prayers, wonderful music and an uplifting message. Come get inspired!



And we offer our Appreciation to the Choir






We are grateful for all the beautiful and inspiring music they've shared with us this year! Please join us in showing our appreciation to this dedicated and talented team of musicians.



Join us for Coffee Hour

In-person worshippers are invited to join us in Kahler Hall (just down the stairs) for a cup of coffee, or tea and some refreshments. This gives us 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.

	<p>LET'S GO FLY A KITE! – at 4pm TODAY</p> <p>It is a long-standing tradition of St. Paul's Ventura to fly kites as we remember the Ascension. Join us at 4pm at Harbor Cove Beach (across from Ventura Harbor Village). Bring a kite, a friend, sand toys, some food or don't bring a thing. Just come have some fun as we remember and give thanks to God.</p>
	<p>Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us?</p> <p>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> <div data-bbox="812 514 1096 745">  </div> <p>PENTECOST SUNDAY – May 28th</p> <p>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!</p> <p>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!</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</p> <p>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>
	<p>OUTREACH PROJECT in MAY – Let's REACH to support Sober Living</p> <p>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>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 from 3:30-9pm 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>Book Club – Monday, June 5 at 5:30pm on Zoom The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next selection is <i>My Brilliant Friend</i> 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</p>
	<p><i>Interesting in checking out a ministry this summer?</i></p> <p>Summer Ministry Experiences If you’ve wondered what it would be like to serve the church in some of our most important ministries or would like to learn more about the church and how it functions, you’re invited to have a Summer Ministry Experience. We’ll connect you with the ministry team or teams of your choice and arrange a week (or more) for you to join in and experience a ministry that interests you. No prior experience necessary. We’ll be pleased to have you join us!</p> <p>CHOOSE FROM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pick Up Choir – Sing with our wonderful choir. Altar Guild - Learn about our sacred vessels and how to set the church for services Usher – Help greet worshipers and assist with the service Flower Guild - Learn how to make beautiful flower arrangements Welcome Greeter – Join one of our friendly teams that greet everyone on Sundays. <p>SUMMER SERVICES will be powerful, uplifting, and run just over an hour. Join us for interesting lessons, moving sermons and great fellowship with friends, old and new. We are so blessed to live here! Come to church and still have time to hit the beach and enjoy some summer fun!</p> <p>FANS have been installed along the outer aisle for your comfort. As things heat up in our warmer months, please feel free to turn them on. Check with those around you, perhaps the oscillating feature would be helpful. Be mindful of the needs of others. We encourage those who prefer to be away from the fans to sit toward the center of the church.</p>
	<p><i>Summer sun means pick-up choir fun!</i></p> <p>Summer Pick Up Choir Want to experience what it's like to be in St. Paul's Choir but can't commit year round? No problem, join us on any (or all Sundays) starting June 3rd to participate in our Summer Pick-Up Choir. Meet us in the choir room at 9:30am for warm-ups, vocal exercises, and to learn the communion hymn for the day. From there, we'll head over to the labyrinth for a moment of reflection and to pray the Choristers' Prayer. Then we'll take our seats in the "choir pews" (the pews across from the piano) and support the congregation in their musical worship. We don't wear choir robes over summer - keeps us cooler! Questions? Just ask Felix, our Music Minister.</p>



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. 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!



St. Paul's Ventura

RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, June 3rd
8am - 1pm

plenty of parking
in the lot
West of the Church

3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura
office@saintpaulsventura.org
805 643-5033

Save the date!

Rummage Sale

Sat. June 3rd

8am - 1pm 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!

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!

