



# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.*



*Online Bulletin*

## 6th Sunday after Pentecost

**Proper 9, Year A**

**July 9, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.**

*Service offered both in-person and online*

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

**Safety Protocols** –Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to want 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 worshiping 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 are 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**

Prelude

*William Grant Still*

**Processional**

**God, my King, thy might confessing, v.1-3**

**Hymnal 414**

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

*Cantor: Daniel Smithson*

**Opening Salutation**

*Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355*

*Celebrant*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People**

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

**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**

**O praise ye the Lord! v. 1**

**Hymnal 432**

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the reading of scripture.*

*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

**Zechariah 9:9-12**

A reading from the Prophet Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 145:8-15

The response appointed for this morning is a portion of Psalm 145. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the even-numbered verses. The congregation is invited to read the odd-numbered verses.

8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

**9 The LORD is loving to everyone  
and his compassion is over all his works.**

10 All your works praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful servants bless you.

**11 They make known the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power;**

12 That the peoples may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

14 The LORD is faithful in all his words  
and merciful in all his deeds.

**15 The LORD upholds all those who fall;  
he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

## Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn

**Breathe on me, Breath of God**

**Hymnal 508**

*All stand as able to sing.*

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

*Remain standing and face the Gospel.*

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

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

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Sermon

The Reverend Nancy Brown

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

## Nicene Creed

*BCP p. 358*

*All stand as able and together say*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic<sup>1</sup> and apostolic<sup>2</sup> Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.*

*Server*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Father, we pray for your holy Church:

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble and all who suffer in mind, body and spirit, especially *(The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.)* Let us pray to the Lord;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest especially *(The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.)* Let us pray to the Lord;

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Celebrant*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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<sup>1</sup> universal; all embracing

<sup>2</sup> Relating to the Apostles, following their teachings

## The Confession

BCP p. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A period of silence is observed.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **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.*

## Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Special Occasions

# *Liturgy of the Table*

## *Holy Communion*

## Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.



*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

Simple Gifts

*setting by Wayne Kerr*

## Presentation Hymn

*Please stand as you are able.*

**The Doxology**

**Hymnal 380 v. 3**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing.*

Eucharistic Prayer C

*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.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Sanctus**

**Santo, santo, santo**

**W785**

**Santo, santo, santo**

**Holy, holy, holy**

**Mi corazon te adora!**

**My heart, my heart adores you!**

**Mi corazon te sabe decir:**

**My heart is glad to say the words:**

**Santo eres Señor.**

**You are holy Lord.**

*You are invited to stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Leah, Rachel, Bilhah and Zilpah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

### **Spiritual Communion**

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

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

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

### **The Invitation**

This is the Banquet of the Lord.  
It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.  
So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long,  
you who have tried to follow, and you who fear you have failed.  
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.  
It is his will that those who want him should meet him in this holy way.

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*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.*

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*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](http://www.bcponline.org)*

**Ubi Caritas***Words: adapt. Taizé Community**Music: Jacques Berthier*

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,  
Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.  
live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

**Post Communion Prayer:***Please stand or kneel as you prefer.*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. 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**

May the peace which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit rest upon you and remain with you this day and forever more. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn****Thou art the Way, to thee alone****Hymnal 457***Please stand as you are able and turn to face the cross as it passes by.***Dismissal**

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

**Postlude**

Fughetta in D

*Theodore Duboise***Acknowledgements and Copyright Information**

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Check out next Sunday's readings at [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

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

<b>Server:</b>	Roger Crow	<b>Lector:</b>	Janet Koehn & Ted Andrews
<b>Chalice:</b>	Virginia Hernandez	<b>Ushers:</b>	Susan & Rob Talmadge
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Susan Talmadge & Roger Crow	<b>Flower Guild:</b>	Roger Crow & Virginia Hernandez
<b>Cantor:</b>	Daniel Smith	<b>Welcome Greeter:</b>	Patricia Malchak
<b>Video Production:</b>	Patrick VanHorn	<b>Lock-up Team:</b>	Woody Bretz

# St. Pauls Episcopal Church

## FUNDRAISER AT PRESTO PASTA

### Monday, July 24th, 2023

Eat at Presto Pasta anytime on this day and they will donate 20% of your total bill to St. Paul's. Valid on dine in or take out. Simply show printed flyer or display on your phone at the restaurant. Flyers may not be distributed at Presto Pasta.

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**SEE MENU ONLINE AT PRESTOPASTA.COM**

## ***Prayer Intentions for the Week of July 9, 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, Bob, Morgaine, Ron, Pam, Matthew, all refugees, first responders, and everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, natural disaster, poverty, and injustice.

### ***THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:***

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

### ***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***

*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  
Joseph Wareham, Sexton

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# St. Paul's Announcements July 9, 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.

**ST. PAUL'S Enews**  
announcements, enrichment, encouragement  
Because faith isn't just for Sundays!

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](mailto:office@saintpaulsventura.org)

*Please join us in welcoming our guest priest today, the Reverend Nancy Brown*

Today at  
**ST. PAUL'S**

**and after church today...**



## Today is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 2023

### Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 9A, Track 2

In this week's gospel lesson we hear Jesus say, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Come and rest in the Lord. Worship in the beauty of holiness. Come hear amazingly beautiful music, inspiring scripture, and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!



## 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.






## Fair Trade Sales – Today!

St. Paul's is an Abolitionist Congregation, committed to ending the scourge of modern-day slavery. We sell fair trade products through the Equal Exchange to support farm cooperatives around the world giving farmers a fair price and a better future. Locally our sales support ending human trafficking through the Abolitionist Committee. Please stop by our table outside near the fountain to check out delicious chocolate, coffee and tea! Cash and checks accepted. Please see Joanne Wakelee or contact the church office with questions.







**SUMMER**  
SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Summer Sunday School!

This Summer we're presenting a series, entitled "Mending God's World". During each two week unit, we will explore the themes of: Feed, Heal, Forgive, Pray and Rest. Children from age 2 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us!

	<p><i>This time we're reaching out to support Ventura's kids as they go back to school...</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OUTREACH PROJECT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Last month we REACHED for Sobriety. Thank you for all your support! <i>Your generosity is appreciated.</i></p> <p><b>June &amp; July – REACH for Back-to-School Supplies</b></p> <p>We invite you to join in whatever way you can to support our current REACH project. Your prayers are welcome! REACH bags are available for your convenience. Take one with you when you go shopping and bring it back with your gifts of love and care to help support God's children. Every child in Ventura County deserves to go back to school with all the supplies they need to succeed. Thanks for helping make this happen. Your support is appreciated!</p>
	<p><b>Book Club – Monday, August 7 at 5:30pm on Zoom</b></p> <p>The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1<sup>st</sup>monday</p>
	<p><b>Year of Prayer to End Racism</b> - The Diocese of West Virginia has released an inspiring and motivating series of prayers to be used throughout the year as we work and pray for an end to racism. We encourage one another to use these in our personal prayer life, and to commit ourselves to becoming more and more, day by day the people God is calling us to be.</p>
	<p><b>Going on Vacation?</b></p> <p>If you are on our regular schedule of Sunday volunteers (<i>Ushers, Servers, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Welcome Committee, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Lock Up Team, etc.</i>) and will be away on a Sunday when you're scheduled to serve, please try to trade with someone and let the church office know who to expect that Sunday. If you need our assistance, please let us know. Thank you so much for serving the church, and we wish you a wonderful vacation! Any questions, contact the office.</p>
	<p><i>Interested in checking out a ministry this summer?</i></p> <p><b>Summer Ministry Experiences</b></p> <p>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"> <li><b>Pick Up Choir</b> – Sing with our wonderful choir.</li> <li><b>Altar Guild</b> - Learn about our sacred vessels and how to set the church for services</li> <li><b>Usher</b> – Help greet worshipers and assist with the service</li> <li><b>Flower Guild</b> - Learn how to make beautiful flower arrangements</li> <li><b>Welcome Greeter</b> – Join one of our friendly teams that greet everyone on Sundays.</li> </ul> <p><b>SUMMER SERVICES</b> 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><b>FANS</b> 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><b>Summer Pick Up Choir</b></p> <p>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 today, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 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? Ask Felix, our Music Minister.</p>
	<p>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</p> <p><b>Beach Walk</b></p> <p><b>Spirituality in Nature Group – Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM</b></p> <p>Do you find God in nature? The goals of the Spirituality in Nature Groups are to explore nature to better understand what it means to be stewards of God's creation, and to strengthen our connection with the amazing natural world around us. We invite you to join us on 7/17 at 6:30pm. Park at Sanjon, carefully cross Harbor Blvd., and meet on the beach.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EPISCOPAL NIGHT AT DODGER STADIUM</b></p> <p>The Diocese of Los Angeles will once again descend on Echo Park for Episcopal Night at Dodger Stadium on Friday, Sept. 1, for a game against the Atlanta Braves. Tickets (\$30 each in the reserved section) may be ordered through Kara in the office. Ticket requests need to be sent via email to the office before July 18<sup>th</sup> or sign up on the clipboard during coffee hours. Fireworks after the game!</p>
	<p><b>2024 Choir Pilgrimage Tour</b></p> <p>St. Paul's Choir is embarking on an adventure, a life-changing journey and YOU are invited! Learn about the choir tour and pilgrimage to Italy and Switzerland in 2024, why we are doing this, and how to support us to make this dream a reality go to <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/choirtour/home">https://sites.google.com/view/choirtour/home</a></p> <p><b>HOW YOUR DONATION CAN HELP</b></p> <p>Your donations will support the 2024 Music Ministry Tour &amp; Pilgrimage and help to cover the cost of fundraising, as well as tour and travel expenses. Any remaining funds will support the music ministry in endeavors that may incur expenses beyond what the Music Ministry's regular budget can support. Examples would be tours, pilgrimages, performance opportunities that may have a fee, or expenses involved with traveling to sing at other venues/churches. When donating, be sure to add the memo – for Choir Pilgrimage Tour. Thank you!</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Rector's Discretionary Account is running low. Special Donations Requested.</b></p> <p><b>RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND:</b> Donations to this fund are used at the Rector's discretion to help those in need. Because of your generosity, we have been able to help families who need assistance for a variety of reasons. With your help we continue to offer to bless members of the community who have nowhere else to turn. Beautiful things happen because you care. Thank you!</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><b>Thank you for your generosity!</b></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 office <a href="http://www.saintpaulsventura.org">www.saintpaulsventura.org</a> or use this QR code. Members give of their time through many ministries and share their talents through lots of volunteer opportunities. Please contact our clergy if you'd like to get involved in something new. Generosity involves the giving of time, talent and treasure. Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself! We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share. Thank you!</p>