



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 11, Year A

July 23, 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, www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura, 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 Cassidy 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

Sarabande
Sarabande

*G.F. Händel, adap. John Schriveyner
James Mansfield*

Processional

Praise to the living God!

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

Hymnal 372

Cantor: Reid Edwards

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.

Collect of the Day

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

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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**Isaiah 44:6-8**

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86:11-17

The response appointed for this morning is a portion of Psalm 86. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

- 11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12 I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.
- 13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
- 14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15 But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 13:24-30, 36-43

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 put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

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 catholic¹ and apostolic² Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please stand, 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.

¹ universal; all embracing

² Relating to the Apostles, following their teachings

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.**

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

Dear Lord and Father

*Tune: C.H.H. Parry,
Arr. Lawrence P. Schreiber*

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.

For in-person worshippers: 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 worshippers can find it at www.bcponline.org

Communion Music

Etude in E-flat Major/Etude in C-sharp Minor

Felix Eisenhauer

Eat This Bread

Words: John 6, adapt. Robert J. Batastini

Music: Jacques Berthier

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and nev-er be hun-gry." and "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst." The music consists of two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line.

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

Lord dismiss us with thy blessing

Hymnal 344

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

Dismissal

*Celebrant
People*

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

Postlude

Postlude on Sicilian Mariners

arr. Alfred Fedak

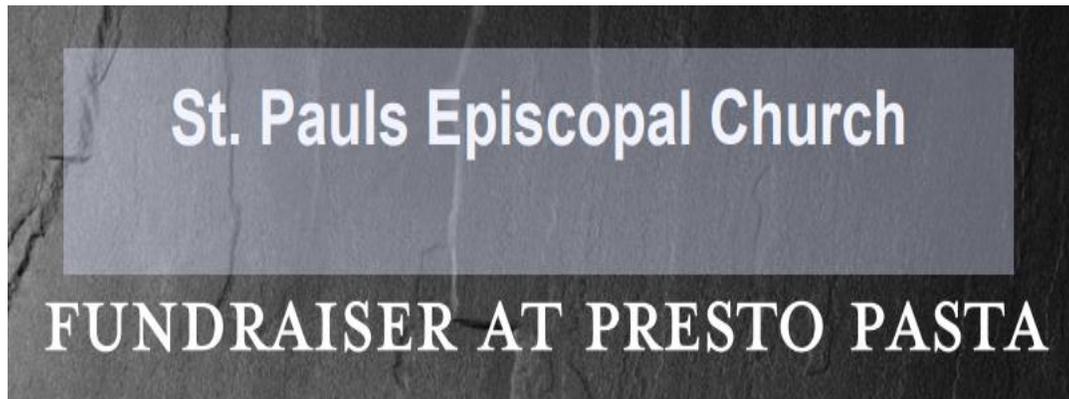
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Check out next Sunday's readings at www.lectionarypage.net

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

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



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.

Presto Pasta Ventura, 5722 Telephone Rd

Prayer Intentions for the Week of July 23, 2023

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury	Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Dick Swanson
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop	President Joseph Biden, Congress, Federal Courts
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan	Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Bert, Mary Morgan, Bob, Morgaine, Ron, Pam, Matthew, Gloria, Michelle, Ray, Tisha, 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 spiritual, physical and moral development of our children and youth; the children, youth, and adult leaders of our Sunday School, Youth Group, Boy Scout Troop 179, La Famiglia Preschool, KinderMusik, Pulse Drumming and Ventura Charter School for Arts and Global Education
- + The Vestry's leadership that our parish's mission may be accomplished. Our 2023 vestry members and officers are Grace Dunlevy (Senior Warden), Jordan Daniels (Junior Warden), Peter Anderson (Treasurer), Lori Burke (Clerk), Kathleen Crookston, Lisa Cross, Tim Helms, Greg Jackson, Sarah Lamola, Kathy Loest, Daniel Smithson, Wendy VanHorn, Bridget Wareham, and the Rev. Susan Bek (Rector).
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- + Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles: *Hillsides-the Episcopal Home for Children, Pasadena; Neighborhood Youth Association, West LA.; Holy Family Services, Ventura County.*
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiaowo, Ghana*
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Unitarian/Universalist, Center for Spiritual Living, An Lac Mission (Buddhist), Mormon Church*

IN MEMORIAM

Fred, Brian, Gloria Burke 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
Joseph Wareham, Sexton

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St. Paul's Announcements July 23, 2023

Thank you for joining us today! Please contact the church office for more information. God bless you!

We invite you to join us again next Sunday.



Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

Whether you're new, visiting or have been a member for years, we're so glad you joined us today. **A warm welcome to you!** Our Sunday services are available online and in-person. Please let us know if we can do anything to support you on your spiritual journey.

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

Today at
ST. PAUL'S

and after church today...

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



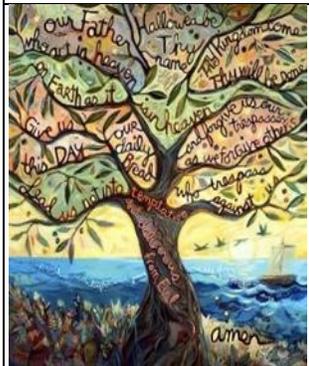
Today is the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

This week we get another parable about sowing seeds. This time there are two sowers – one who sows wheat with good seed and one who comes in the night to sow weeds among the wheat. If gathered too quickly, the wheat would be lost along with the weeds, so they had to wait for the wheat to mature before it could be harvested. Come learn what this parable means and how we can apply what Jesus teaches in our lives today. 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.



Wed. Morning Spiritual Experience - Listening to the Lord's Prayer.

It is said that *the bodies of the early Christians were shaped by the Lord's Prayer*. What might that look like? To embody the Lord's Prayer and bring it to life in the everyday? Come and be a small group of spiritual companions interested in listening closely to the Lord's Prayer through *lectio divina*, movement and the lead of the Holy Spirit. We will meet in the side chapel of St. Paul's Episcopal church on Wednesdays, 9-10am from July 19-August 9. If you are interested in participating in this 4 week gathering of spiritual companions to listen more deeply to the Lord's Prayer, please join us on Wednesdays in the chapel. For more information, please contact the church office.

Family to Family

Thank you for helping feed the hungry!

LAST MONDAY, June 19th

Because of the generosity of this congregation, and the willing hands of all our volunteers, we were able to serve about 100 lunches. Thank you so much!

 <p>RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER</p>	<p><i>Join us as we raise funds for St. Paul's and enjoy a delicious meal...</i></p> <p>July Fundraiser – Presto Pasta on Monday 7/24 Eat at Presto Pasta, 5722 Telephone Road, Ventura anytime on Monday, July 24th and they will donate 20% of the total bill to St. Paul's. Valid on dine in and take out. Simply show the printed flier on p. 9 of this bulletin or open our Enewsletter and display it on your phone at the restaurant. We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you for your support!</p>
 <p>SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>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 5th grade are invited to join us!</p>
	<p><i>This time we're reaching out to support Ventura's kids as they go back to school...</i></p> <p>OUTREACH PROJECT Last month we REACHED for Sobriety. Thank you for all your support! <i>Your generosity is appreciated.</i></p> <p>June & July – REACH for Back-to-School Supplies 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>Book Club</p>	<p>Book Club – Monday, August 7 at 5:30pm on Zoom The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next book is <i>The First Ladies</i> by Marie Benedict. Benedict is one of our favorite historical fiction authors and we have enjoyed several of her novels. This is the story of the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune-an unlikely friendship that changed the world. They are drawn together because of their shared belief in women's rights and the power of education. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
 <p>This Summer at St. Paul's</p>	<p><i>Interested 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>



Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?

Reflections on the Labyrinth and Family Potluck

Spirituality in Nature Group – Monday, August 16 at 6:00 PM

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 for a Family Potluck on 8/16 at 6pm here at the church. We will be using the Labyrinth and Kahler Hall.



Summer sun means pick-up choir fun!

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 today, June 11th, 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.



Going on Vacation?

If you are on our regular schedule of Sunday volunteers (*Ushers, Servers, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Welcome Committee, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Lock Up Team, etc.*) 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.



2024 Choir Pilgrimage Tour

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

<https://sites.google.com/view/choirtour/home>

HOW YOUR DONATION CAN HELP

Your donations will support the 2024 Music Ministry Tour & 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 through PayPal or with a check, be sure to add the memo – for Choir Pilgrimage Tour. Thank you!



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 office 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!

