



## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



*Online Bulletin*

### **14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Proper 17, Year A**

**September 3, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.**

*Service offered both in-person and online*

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**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.

By tradition, The Episcopal Church offers Holy Communion to all baptized persons. If you are not baptized, but wish to receive, we invite you to participate fully in the opening part of the service, called the Ministry of the Word, hearing God's word and reflecting on your life, enabling you to come to the table for communion, if you so choose, with a heart prepared to receive. We hope that if you feel touched by the word and sacrament and wish to learn more about the life-giving power of the Spirit of the Risen Christ, you will contact the church office to inquire about participating in Holy Baptism.

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!"

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**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!*

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## ***Liturgy of the Word***

### **Prelude**

Andante Cantabile  
Ayre

*P.I. Tchaikovsky, arr. David Paxton  
John Barr*

### **Processional**

**The God of Abraham praise, v. 1-3**

**Hymnal 401**

*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*  
**People**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**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 bless the Lord, my soul, v. 1-2**

**Hymnal 411**

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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**

**Jeremiah 15:15-21**

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 26:1-8**

The response appointed for this morning is a portion Psalm 26. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses. The congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

1 Give judgment for me, O LORD,  
for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

**2 Test me, O LORD, and try me;  
examine my heart and my mind.**

3 For your love is before my eyes;  
I have walked faithfully with you.

**4 I have not sat with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

5 I have hated the company of evildoers;  
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,  
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell  
and the place where your glory abides.**

## **Second Reading**

Romans 12:9-21

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

*Reader*        The word of the Lord.

***People*        Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual Hymn**

**Take my life, and let it be**

**Hymnal 707**

*All stand as able to sing.*

## **Holy Gospel**

Matthew 16:21-28

*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 began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

## The Sermon

The Reverend Canon Jerome Kahler

*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.**

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

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

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.**

## **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**

Jesus Loves Me

*arr. John Payne*

**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****Mi corazon te adora!****Mi corazon te sabe decir:****Santo eres Señor.****Holy, holy, holy****My heart, my heart adores you!****My heart is glad to say the words:****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)*

## Communion Music

Improvisation on the Day's Hymns

Felix Eisenhauer

### I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Music: Indian Folk Melody

Words: ascribed to an Indian prince, arr. Felix Eisenhauer

1. I have de - cid - ed\_\_\_\_\_ to fol - low Je - sus,\_\_\_\_\_ I have d -  
2. Though no one join me,\_\_\_\_\_ still I will fol - low,\_\_\_\_\_ Though no one  
3. The wold be - hind me,\_\_\_\_\_ the cross be - fore me,\_\_\_\_\_ The world be -

cid - ed\_\_\_\_\_ to fol - low Je - sus,\_\_\_\_\_ I have de - cid - ed\_\_\_\_\_  
join me,\_\_\_\_\_ still I will fol - low,\_\_\_\_\_ Though no one join me,\_\_\_\_\_  
hind me,\_\_\_\_\_ the cross be - fore me,\_\_\_\_\_ The world be - hind me,\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to fol - low Je - sus,\_\_\_\_\_ No turn-ing back,\_\_\_\_\_ no turn-ing back!\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ still I will fol - low,\_\_\_\_\_ No turn-ing back,\_\_\_\_\_ no turn-ing back!\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ the cross be - fore me,\_\_\_\_\_ No turn-ing back,\_\_\_\_\_ no turn-ing back!\_\_\_\_\_

## 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

**God is Love, let heaven adore him**

**Hymnal 379**

*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

Allegro Vivace

*G.F. Händel, from the  
"Water Music", arr. Gerald Peterson*

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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>	Kara Craven	<b>Lector:</b>	Kathy & Tim Helms
<b>Chalice:</b>	Miles Sexton	<b>Ushers:</b>	Dan Wakelee & Sally Weimer
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Pam Klebaum	<b>Flower Guild:</b>	Sarah Lamola & Tegan Jones
<b>Cantor:</b>	Daniel Smithson	<b>Welcome Greeter:</b>	Kay Armstrong
<b>Video Production:</b>	Woody Bretz	<b>Lock-up Team:</b>	Miles Sexton



**Sat. 9/9 SING Event – Rincon Beach Park Walk**

**Sun. 9/10 Homecoming Sunday**

**Sun. 9/17 Make a Difference Sunday**

How can we serve the Lord in the name of Christ?

**Sat. 9/23 BBQ Line Dancing Fundraiser**

**Sun. 10/8 Blessing of the Animals**

**Sun. 10/15 Family Picnic at Foster Park**

**Sun. 10/29 Sunday School Halloween Party during Coffee Hour**

## ***Prayer Intentions for the Week of September 3, 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, Susan, Tessa, Gino, Barb, Noel, Brycen, Pam, 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, Kristi and Helen.

### ***IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:***

Drew Darby, his wife Anna, and their family.

### ***FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:***

- + Twelve step programs of recovery and healing; especially Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at St. Paul's
- + Our local public and private hospitals, and the health care professionals who serve us
- + 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.: *Temple Beth Torah, the Islamic Center of Oxnard, Ventura Seventh Day Adventist Church*

### ***IN MEMORIAM***

*Esther McClain 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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Website: [www.saintpaulsventura.org](http://www.saintpaulsventura.org) Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura

# St. Paul's Announcements September 3, 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](mailto:office@saintpaulsventura.org)



**and after church today...**

*Please join us in welcoming our guest priest today, the Reverend Canon Jerome Kahler*



## Today is the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

This week we gather to pray that God, the giver of all good things, will increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works. Today we learn from Romans, chapter 12 the importance of loving our enemies and are told, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." In our continuing study of the Book of Matthew we'll hear Jesus teaching his disciples that to be his followers they must be willing to pick up their cross and follow him. Join us as we learn how to be good and true followers of Jesus. 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.



*Join us in serving the world in the name of Christ.*

## OUTREACH PROJECT – REACHING to Help the Homeless

Last month we REACHED for Back to School. Thank you for all your support!

*Your generosity is appreciated.*

This month we will collect items to help the homeless. These items will be donated through Family to Family. You can help by donating any of the following items: razors and shaving cream, dental floss, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner and shower gel, mouthwash, bug spray for mosquitos, sunscreen lotion, bath towels and washcloths, heavy socks, canned food, small & large dog food and cat food, notepads, pencils and journals, books & board games, individual trash cans, buckets, PPE - masks and gloves, and heavy blankets. Red REACH bags are available for your convenience. Thank you for helping us put our faith into action.



*Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?*

## Spirituality in Nature Group –Saturday, September 9, 2023

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'll meet at 9 AM at the Rincon Beach Park (near Carpenteria). Plan to join us!

	<p><b>Book Club – Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm on Zoom</b></p> <p>The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next book selection is <i>Solito</i> by Javier Zamora. A young poet tells the story of his harrowing migration from El Salvador to the United States at the age of nine. This is the One County, One Book selection for 2023 and the author talk will take place on September 30. The event will include a VIP reception with the author, and booths featuring vendors, non-profits, local authors and children's story time and will take place on the CSUCI campus. Details will follow. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1<sup>st</sup>monday</p>
	<p><i>Invite everyone you know – especially those who at some time attended school or church at St. Paul's...</i></p> <p><b>Homecoming Sunday - September 10<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p>Join us for our Fall kick-off as we celebrate the beginning of a new program year. It's time for the ministries that took some time off, or went on summer schedule, to be back in full swing again. We're encouraging everyone who's been away to come back and join in the celebration. Invite your friends, old and new, to join us too! We'd love to have everyone join us. All are welcome!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Service begins at 10:15am 11:30am All Star Hot Dog and Chili Bar in Kahler Hall <b><i>Bring a Friend and come join in the fun!</i></b></p>
	<p><i>Help us share the Good News and keep the church growing...</i></p> <p><b>We invite you to BRING-A-FRIEND on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p>Please help us reach out to everyone who has ever been a part of St. Paul's Church and/or Parish Day School and invite them back for this special HOMECOMING service and celebration of the past 134 years of mission and ministry. Former teachers, students, staff, members – all are welcome. Newcomers are invited too! So, mark your calendar and grab the phone, some e-invite cards, or jump on email and help us spread the word. Thank you for your help!</p>
	<p><i>We are all called to be faithful stewards of our many blessings...</i></p> <p><b>5-Week Workshop on Personal Financial Health begins Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> - 11:45am-12:45pm</b></p> <p>Join Financial Wellness Coach, Louise Bretz, for a free five-week workshop. Topics include: Addressing your motivations for wanting to change your money habits; getting to know your money; the power of planning your spending; how debt and credit work; saving and investing; managing risk through savings and insurance; legacy &amp; benevolence. All are welcome. Pre-registration is highly encouraged. All are welcome!</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 through PayPal or with a check, be sure to add the memo – for Choir Pilgrimage Tour. Thank you!</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">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>



Check out the menu...

ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Great  
vegetarian  
options  
available!

### ALL STAR HOT DOG BAR

PLAIN JANE ..... Hot Dog Only  
CLASSIC ..... Mustard Only  
THE WISCONSIN ..... Cheese Only  
CHILI CHEESE DOG ..... Chili, Cheese  
ALL-AMERICAN ..... Mustard, Ketchup, Relish, Onion

### MORE ADVENTUROUS?

NEW YORK STYLE ..... Sauerkraut, Mustard  
CONEY DOG ..... Chili, Cheese, Onion  
PHILLY DOG ..... Sauerkraut, Mustard, Relish  
NACHO DOG ..... Chili, Nacho Cheese Sauce, Jalapenos  
DELI DOG ..... Mustard, Pickle Spear  
HOT DIGGITY DOG ..... Chili, Jalapenos  
HAVE IT YOUR WAY DOG ..... Made just the way you like it

### BOWL OF CHILI

Add the Toppings of Your Choice .....

Thank you  
for joining us!

Photo: MyWall.com

Come join in the fun. All are welcome!

# BOOGIE, SHUFFLE and BARBEQUE BENEFIT



Line Dancing with Woody & Louise  
Santa Maria Style BBQ Dinner  
50/50 Raffle • Kid's Games

**Saturday, September 23**  
**4:30 pm-7:30 pm**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura**

Kick up your heels  
for St. Paul's!

#### Tickets

Adult--\$25  
Senior--\$20  
Family--\$60  
Child--\$10

Family ticket is for same  
household family up to 2  
adults, 4 children.  
Ticket price does not in-  
clude beer, wine or soda.

Make a reservation at  
EVENTBRITE  
by scanning QR Code



or contact St. Paul's Office  
(805) 643-5033  
office@saintpaulsventura.org