



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Christ the King November 26, 2023

10:15 a.m.

Last Sunday after Pentecost

Service offered both in-person and online

Online Bulletin

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

Safety Protocols –Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to want some additional distance, we've reserved several pews in the front on 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 to 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!"

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

Concerto I

Matthew Camidge

Processional

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hymnal 616

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

Praise our great and gracious Lord

Hymnal 393

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; 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

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95:1-7a

The response appointed for this morning is a portion of Psalm 95. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,*
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

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

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

Gradual Hymn

O day of peace that dimly shines

Hymnal 597

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

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, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell

you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Richard Swanson

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, let us pray to the Lord, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For our community, and for solace and security for all its people, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this assembly, and for our growth in grace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

¹ universal; all embracing

² Relating to the Apostles, following their teachings

For all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for victims of war and injustice, and for prisoners and refugees, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who suffer, for the sick and infirm especially (*the people may add their own petitions either silently or aloud*), let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died, especially (*the people may add their own petitions either silently or aloud*), and for the promise of resurrection to be fulfilled, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant

Into your mercy we commend ourselves, and for peace at the last we pray, that all your creation may give you praise and worship, through your Son, 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

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:15,16



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 is the Lord of All

*Eisenhauer***Presentation Hymn***Please stand as you are able.***Holy God, we praise thy Name, v. 1-3****H366****The Great Thanksgiving***The people remain standing.*

Eucharistic Prayer A

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus**Holy, holy, holy Lord****Hymnal S129***The service music can be found in the front of the hymnal.*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

Spiritual Communion

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

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

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

The Invitation

This is the Banquet of the Lord.

It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.

So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,
you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long,
you who have tried to follow, and you who fear you have failed.

Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.

It is his will that those who want him should meet him 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 worshipers can find it at www.bcponline.org

Communion Music

No. 30 in F-major, Op. 68

Robert Schumann

He is King of Kings

Spiritual

Arr. Horace Clarence Boyer

He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords; Je-sus Christ, the first and last
no man works like Him. He is no man works like Him. 1. He 2. I
built His throne up in the air_ no man works like Him; 1. And 2. But
was young when but I be - gun_ D.S.
call the saints from ev - 'er where no man works like Him. He is
now my race is al - most won_

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

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

Crown him with many crowns

Hymnal 494

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

Prelude on Diademata

*setting by Alan Smith
Tune: George J. Elvey*

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

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

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

Servers:	Drew Darby & Roger Crow	Lectors:	Ralph Armstrong & Bridget Wareham
Acolyte:	Rosie Dunlevy	Acolyte:	Pippa Darby
Chalice:	Kay Armstrong	Ushers:	Steve Jones & Tegan Jones
Altar Guild:	Pam Klebaum	Flower Guild:	Lisa Cross
Cantor:	Daniel Smithson	Welcome Greeter:	Ernie Fickerson
Video Production:	Patrick VanHorn	Lock-up Team:	Greg Jackson


GiftForward.com
2023 FUNDRAISING SEASON

PRODUCT PRICING

 Classic Wreath \$52.00	 Victorian Wreath \$56.00	 Cranberry Splash Wreath \$57.00	 Table Top Tree \$55.00
 Wintergreen Wreath \$57.00	 Elfin Delight Wreath \$61.00	 Santa's Sleigh Bells Wreath \$61.00	 Living Christmas Tree \$70.00
 Winter Woods Wreath \$61.00	 Clara Centerpiece \$55.00		
 Classic Spray \$48.00	 Victorian Spray \$49.50	 Cranberry Splash Spray \$49.50	 Wintergreen Spray \$49.50
 Elfin Delight Swag \$51.00	 Santa's Sleigh Bells Swag \$52.00	 Winter Woods Swag \$51.00	

This pricing includes all costs including processing, packaging, FedEx delivery AND \$8.00 PROFIT FOR EACH ITEM PURCHASED

Fall & Holiday Wreath Sale Fundraiser

Orders Placed Online and Shipped Directly

Order by Dec. 7th. Thank you!

Our End-of-Year Fundraiser is a Wreath Sale. We've opted to keep things simple by doing this sale online. Anyone who is interested will be able to order the wreaths and greens of their choice delivered to their own home, or to the homes of family and friends.

To learn more about it, go to:

www.GiftitForward.com

Use the Fundraising Code:

StPaulCA003

Thank you!

Prayer Intentions for the Week of November 26, 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, Virginia, Tegan, Eric, Charlotte, Lou, James, all refugees, first responders, and everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, natural disaster, poverty, and injustice.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

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

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 Wiawso, Ghana*
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Unitarian/Universalist, Center for Spiritual Living, An Lac Mission (Buddhist), Mormon Church*

IN MEMORIAM

James Hathaway, Sheila Fattarelli, Mercy Trinkkeller 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 Eisenhower, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhower, Choir Director
Sara Edwards, Organist
Joseph Wareham, Sexton

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Website: www.saintpaulsventura.org Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventur

St. Paul's Announcements November 26, 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...



Last Sunday after Pentecost, Feast of Christ the King

Today is the last Sunday of the Church Year, a day on which we recognize Christ as King of all: the Jews, the Gentiles, the world, all of creation, and all of history. Come join in the celebration, the Feast of Christ the King. Come enjoy inspiring scripture, beautiful music, and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!

Join us for Coffee Hour and Much More Today!



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. We will also be packing toiletries for the homeless, as tomorrow is our day with Family to Family.

Family to Family

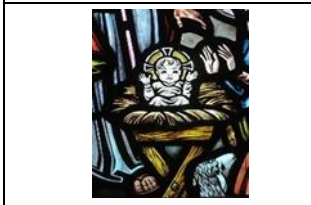


Thank you for helping feed the hungry!
LAST MONDAY, November 20th
Because of the generosity of this congregation, and the willing hands of all our volunteers, we were able to serve about 120 lunches and personal care packs. Thank you so much!

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SHOPPE
BRINGED TO YOU BY ACTION

Want to help needy families feel the love of Christ this Christmas?
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SHOPPE TOY COLLECTION – through December 7th
We are collecting new, unwrapped toys to help make Christmas a little brighter for some families who are finding things challenging. We have a large collection box in the Narthex as well as a list of gift ideas; bring your donations and leave them in the box. Presents for teens are especially needed! You can make a difference! Thanks for helping us share the love of Christ this season. Last day for giving: Thursday, Dec. 7th.



Children's Christmas Shoppe!
It's coming on December 15th and we are seeking donations of gently used trinkets/jewelry/décor, etc... for children to purchase and gift to their parents, grandparents and siblings. See Grace Dunlevy or contact the church office: (805) 643-5033 or office@saintpaulsventura.org. Thank you!

	<p style="text-align: center;">Memorial Service A service celebrating the life of Sheila Fattarelli will be held at St. Paul's on Saturday, Dec. 2nd at 10am <i>May she rest in peace and rise in glory. And may God bless those who mourn with a sense of peace and delight at the wonderful memories they have to treasure. Amen.</i></p>
	<p><i>Lots of hands make light work...</i> Want to Help Prepare the Church for Christmas? If so, you're invited to a meeting on Sunday, December 3rd at 11:45am. Together with the Altar Guild and Flower Guild, we'll be making plans to decorate the sanctuary, and we could use your help. Join us for this planning meeting and mark your calendar for the Greening of the Church on Dec. 23rd from 9am - Noon. Bring a friend; it's fun and rewarding!</p>
	<p>Eucharistic Prayer Ministry is Coming Back! Special Training on Dec. 10th! Eucharistic Prayer Ministry is a special ministry that takes place during the Sunday Eucharist in the Side Chapel and is available for anyone who needs prayer for whatever reason. After a hiatus, this beloved ministry will be starting up again soon, and we will have a special training after church on Sunday, December 10th for anyone who would like to be a Eucharistic Prayer Minister. Please plan on joining us in the church if you are interested, or even if you just want to learn more about this wonderful ministry.</p>
	<p>Book Club – Monday, December 4th at 5:30pm on Zoom The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Our next selection is <i>A Land Twice Promised: An Israeli Woman's Quest for Peace</i> by Noa Baum. This is a deeply personal memoir of an Israeli storyteller who grew up in Jerusalem and formed an unlikely friendship in America with a Palestinian woman. Noa Baum writes with honesty, compassion, and humor, as she captures the drama of a nation at war and her discovery of humanity in the enemy. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday</p>
	<p><i>Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?</i> Spirituality in Nature Group – Thursday, December 21st at 6 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. Join us on the longest night of the year as we reflect and observe the miracles of the universe through a telescope and have a fire to bring light to the earth. Potluck in Kahler Hall – soup provided so bring something to share that goes along! Our activities are appropriate for all ages and friends are always welcome.</p>
	<p>Giving Flowers in Memory or in Thanksgiving Donating the flowers for a Sunday service is a lovely way to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. It's quick and easy to arrange, and really helps the church too! Use an envelope from the pew rack in front of your seat or email us the information. Enclose a donation, (\$65-\$100 is suggested), or go to our website and click "Giving". Be sure to mention that it's a Flower Donation. We look forward to remembering or celebrating with you, and we appreciate your support!</p>
	<p>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 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</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> 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!</p>