



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
December 24, 2023 at 10pm
Service offered both in-person and online



Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Whether you are joining us online or in-person, we're glad you're here!

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 volunteer assistants 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.



SUNDAY MORNINGS

Holy Eucharist – 10:15am

Attend in-person or online at:

www.SaintPaulsVentura.org/live www.Facebook.com/SaintPaulsVentura www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura

Sunday School at 10am



Thank you!

We are grateful for the Christmas Flower and Music donations made by so many. Please see the announcements section for dedications made in thanksgiving for God's gifts and in memory of those we love.

If you'd like to arrange for flowers given in memory or thanksgiving at a Sunday service, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Christmas Carols

We begin this most holy night with 30 minutes of music. The Liturgy will begin at 10:30pm. Please remain seated. We invite you to join us in singing the hymns listed in bold print.

It came upon the midnight clear	Hymnal 89
Angels from the realms of glory	Hymnal 93
God rest you merry, gentlemen	Hymnal 105
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	<i>Traditional Polish Carol</i>
The first Nowell	Hymnal 109
What child is this	Hymnal 115
No room, no room	<i>Ruth Morris Gray</i>
Away in a manger	Hymnal 101 (traditional tune)
Noche de Paz (Silent Night)	<i>arr. César Alejandro Carillo (Venezuela)</i>
O little town of Bethlehem	Hymnal 79
Love came down at Christmas	Hymnal 84
Carol of the Bells	<i>Words by P. Wilhousky Music by M. Leontovich, arr. P. Wilhousky</i>



Holy Eucharist

Liturgy of the Word

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

Processional

O come, all ye faithful

Hymnal 83

Opening Salutation

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. 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

Angels we have heard on high

Hymnal 96

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of Scripture.

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

Tonight, we will be reading Psalm 96. We'll read it responsively breaking at the asterisk.

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
**he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."**
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

A Reading from the letter of Paul to Titus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able and face the Gospel.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Sermon

The Reverend Susan Bek

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Nicene Creed

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 and apostolic 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

Brothers and sisters, on this most holy night of our Lord's birth, let us pray for ourselves and all those in need of our prayers that we may find peace, joy, and contentment in this holy season, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the church of Christ, that it may faithfully proclaim the good news of salvation and may care for the needs of God's people in all corners of the world, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For peace in our troubled world, that the darkness of injustice and pandemic may be replaced by the light of peace and love, we pray to you O Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all those in need of our prayers: the homeless, the unemployed, the hungry, those who are imprisoned in body or soul, and all those for whom this season is one not of joy but of trial and sadness, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the sick, that their illnesses may be turned into health and their sorrow into rejoicing, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who labor this night on behalf of others: doctors, and nurses, police officers and firefighters, other emergency personnel and first responders, we pray to you O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those in the Armed Forces and all whose work prevents them from sharing this evening with those they love, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving we remember the lives of those who have gone before us in the faith. That we, like them, may remain faithful to the end and live forever in the light of your eternal glory, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant

Mighty God, mercifully hear the prayers of the people you have chosen as your own. Give us zeal in our ministries and joy in our work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand as they are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements



A little instruction for the passing of the flame...

TONIGHT'S SERVICE CONCLUDES WITH SILENT NIGHT BY CANDLELIGHT

As you leave the altar rail after you receive communion, pick up a vigil candle. At the end of the service, we'll pass the flame. Beginning with the Christ Candle, the symbol of Christ's presence with us, the flame will be tended and passed from one person to another. Altar Ministers and Choir members will bring the flame to the first person in each row. You can help by passing it down the row. **To receive the light, tilt your *unlit* candle into the flame. Once it's lit, always keep your candle in an upright position** to avoid spilling hot wax. Please assist and supervise any children. Thank you!

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2



Thank you for your donation, and for your pledge.

Your generosity is appreciated!

*We look forward to doing great things in the name of Christ
with whatever you are able to give.*

Offertory

The holly and the ivy

English Traditional Carol, arr. John Rutter

Presentation Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

Joy to the world! (v. 1, 2, 4, 1)

Hymnal 100

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders, of his love.**

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.**

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing.

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.**

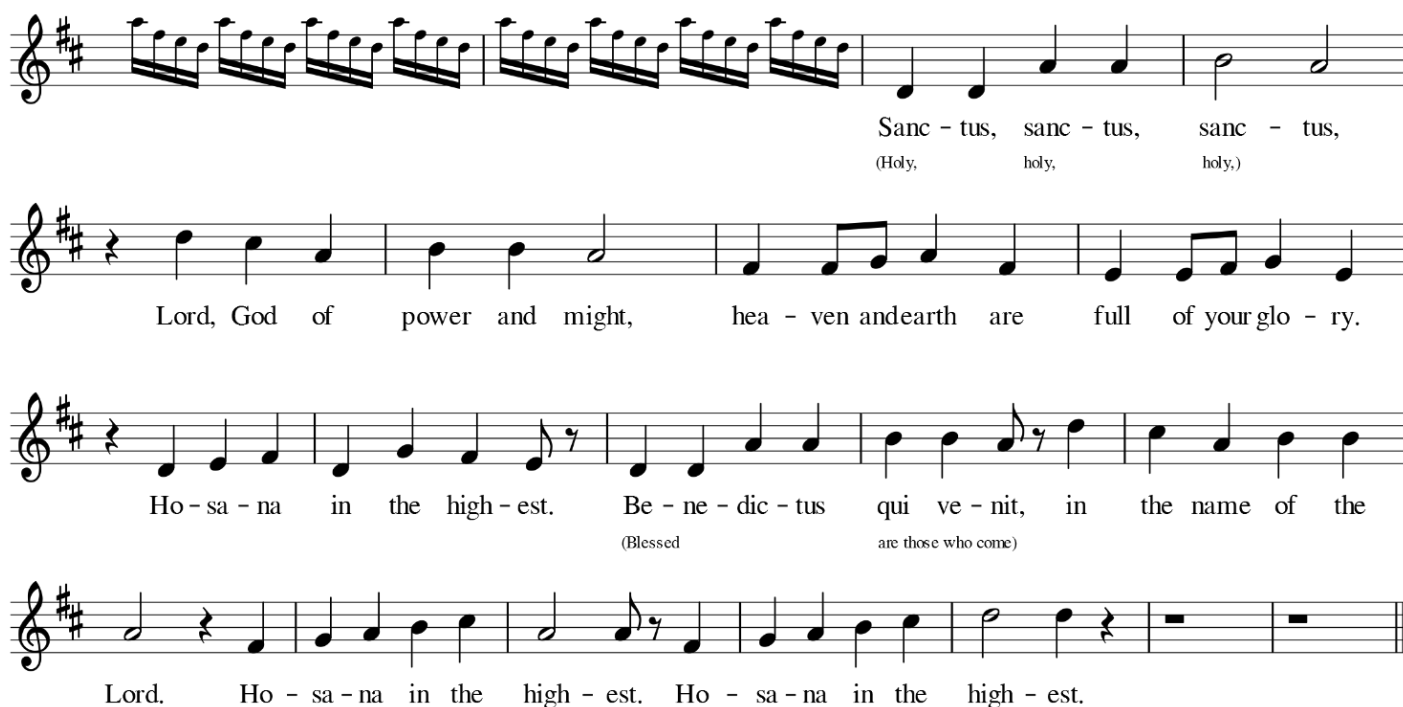
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin and receive power to become your children.

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

Sanctus from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer



Sanc - tus, sanc - tus, sanc - tus,
(Holy, holy, holy,)

Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Be - ne - dic - tus qui ve - nit, in the name of the
(Blessed are those who come)

Lord. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, Joseph, Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **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.

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 cannot all be 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 worshipers: Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive the Eucharist. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.

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

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

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

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

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

You may also choose to return to your seat without receiving the wine.

Be assured that it is a sufficient experience of communion.

If you'd like to come forward but would prefer not to receive,
please cross your arms over your chest and the priest will offer you a blessing.

*Suggestion: Before or after Communion, see the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) pp. 833-834.
You'll find some wonderful prayers there. It can be found online at www.bcponline.org*

Communion Music

Please pick up a candle as you return from Eucharist.

Wonderful Peace (Jul, Jul Strålande Jul) *English Text by Norman Luboff*
Music by Gustaf Nordqvist, Piano Part by Dan Davison

Oh, Holy Night *Adolphe Charles Adams*

Andante from Organ Sonata No. 4, BWV *J. S. Bach*
Transcription A. Strandal

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming **Hymnal 81**

Good Christian friends, rejoice **Hymnal 107**

Go tell it on the mountain **Hymnal 99**

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen

Blessing

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas fill you with love.
And may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit rest upon you
and remain with you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Instrumental Music for Passing of the Light

Candles will be lit. Please pass the light by tipping your unlit candle into another's flame.

Please sit or kneel once your candle is lit.

Recessional Hymn

Night of Silence/Silent night

Hymnal 111

arranged and additional music by Daniel Kantor

Soloists: Taylor Berstein, Daniel Smithson, Jordan Daniels

*We will sing the hymn twice-once while kneeling or sitting
and again, while standing, as you are able, for the recessional.*

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth. Jesus, Lord at thy birth.**

Dismissal

*Celebrant
People*

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

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

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Thank you for joining us. We invite you to come again.
Sunday Services are available online and in-person at 10:15am.
All are welcome.

Many thanks to all who helped to make this service so special including:

Guest Musician: Hayles King, trombone

St. Paul's Choir: Sopranos: Laura Andrews, Taylor Bernstein, Alexandra Caldor, Jordan Daniels, Annelise Ebell, Amy Schaffer; Alto: Sophia Cotsis, Ginny Dilworth, Sara Edwards, Rose Hayden-Smith, Bridget Wareham; Tenor: Felix Eisenhauer, Robert Kubilos, Daniel Smithson; Bass: Robert Brown, Reid Edwards, Alexis Renteria

Music Minister: Felix Eisenhauer

Choir Conductor: Tara Eisenhauer

Organist: Sara Edwards

Cantor: Sophia Cotsis

Altar Guild: Louise Bretz, Roger Crow, Anna Darby, Grace Dunlevy
Dela & Jim Parker, Pam Klebaum and Susan Talmadge

Flower Guild: Lisa Cross, Roger Crow, Anna Darby, Grace Dunlevy, Virginia Hernandez,
Tegan Jones, Sarah Lamola and Kate Shanahan

**And a special "Thank You!" to everyone who helped with the
Greening of the Church.**

Tonight's Volunteer Ministers

Servers: Roger Crow, Drew Darby

Chalice: Virginia Hernandez

Ushers: Sally Weimer

Lectors: Janet Koen and Judy Gold

Welcome Minister: Kay Armstrong

Video Production: Patrick VanHorn



St. Paul's Announcements December 24, 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 this week. 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



Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us?

A warm welcome to you! We are so glad you joined us today. We are a friendly and welcoming congregation. Our ushers and greeters and production team will be happy to do anything they can to make your time with us more comfortable and meaningful. If you view the services online, please complete the newcomer card linked in the description. If you attend in-person, please introduce yourself to our clergy, they're looking forward to meeting you. We invite you to come back soon.



On the 1st day of Christmas...

Christmas Day Service at 9am

A great way to spend Christmas morning!

On the 7th day of Christmas...

Sunday, December 31st at 10:15am

Once Christmas arrives, we begin the twelve days of Christmas, or Christmastide, which runs through January 5. During this season we recognize God with us; a God who knows and understands our fears and sends forth angels who proclaim, "Fear not!" The celebration continues!



We're so excited to be able to offer baptisms again!

UPCOMING BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY - 1/7/24

We become members of the body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism. If you have not been baptized, and would like to be, please speak with Rev. Susan to make arrangements. *About Baptism: Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church. The bond which God establishes in Baptism is indissoluble. Through Baptism and the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven of our sins and raised to the new life of grace. We are also formally initiated into the fellowship of Christian community.* This is a very important and moving occasion. The prayers and presence of the community are requested.



Please consider the church this Christmas...

WISH LIST SUGGESTIONS for End-of-Year Donations

Perhaps you can help make a wish come true this Christmas. Gifts and donations may be made at any time, for any purpose, and in case you're interested in making an end-of year donation, the items currently on our wish list include: new flooring for the sanctuary, new counters are needed in the Kahler Hall kitchen, new counters and sinks are needed in the sacristy (where the Altar Guild and Flower Guild do their work), and Kahler Hall needs exterior painting. We appreciate your support! If you'd like more information, please contact Rev. Susan. Thank you!



This QR Code takes you straight to Giving Page

"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Thank you for your generosity!

Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at www.saintpaulsventura.org or use this QR code. We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to give. **Thank you so much!**



January 7, 2024
February 4, 2024
February 14, 2024
March 24, 2024
March 31, 2024

Baptism of our Lord
Annual Meeting
Ash Wednesday
Palm Sunday
Easter Sunday

**And while you have your calendar open,
please consider adding Sunday mornings at 10:15am.
We'd love to have you join us as we worship and praise the Lord.**



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Kara Craven, Parish Administrator
Drew Darby, Seminary Intern
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Choir Director
Sara Edwards, Organist
Joseph Wareham, Sexton

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We are grateful for the donations received for
Flowers & Music
that make our Christmas Celebrations so beautiful.

Kay Armstrong gave in memory of Ruth and Elton Brown, Dorothy and Carl Armstrong, Astra,
and in thanksgiving for friends and family.

Marilyn Beattie gave in loving memory of her husband, Louis A. Beattie, Sr.
her son, Louis A. "Andy" Beattie, Jr., her grandson, Trevor Beattie and all other family members.

The Rev. Susan and Jon Bek gave in thanksgiving for their grandchildren -
Emmanuel, Nathaniel, Joy, Jeremiah, Christina, Christian and Daniel.

William Brewer gave in memory of Carol Brewer by her loving family.

Karen Browdy and Boyd Honeyman gave in memory of their parents.

Eric Craven in loving memory of his mother, Kathleen Craven.

Lisa Cross gave in gratitude for her many blessings.

John and Virginia Dilworth gave in gratitude for the lives of Harry & Margie Dickinson.

Barbara Geair gave in memory of her mother, Helen.

Judy Gold gave in loving memory of her husband, Bob Gold.

Anthony and Guadalupe Guillén gave in memory of her parents, Maia De Los Angeles & Gabriel
Moriel, and his parents, Simona & Jesus Guillén.

Barbara Jakovich gave in memory of her brother, Richard F. Dirricq.

Kara Johnson-Craven gave in memory of her parents, Dick Johnson & Roberta Bailey Johnson and
all the Christmas music throughout the years.

Tegan Jones gave in honor of Deborah Allen and Erica Walsh.

Pamela Price Klebaum gave in loving memory of her Price family.

John M. & Kathy Loest gave in thanksgiving for St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Miles & Cathy Sexton gave in memory of Aldo & Sheila Fattarelli, Ronald K. Balden
and Jim & Nile Sexton.

Judy Strommen gave in loving memory of her husband, Deane Wareham.

Susan & Robert Talmadge gave in memory of Ed Narkevic.

Patrick & Wendy VanHorn gave in memory of Amelia Timko and Cleve Berger.

The Wied and Schmitt Families gave in loving memory of Douglas and Christine Wied.