



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Year B, March 24, 2024 at 10:15 a.m.

Service offered both in-person and online

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

Safety Protocols –Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to want some additional distance, we've reserved 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 Nairi 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 palms and flowers were 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!

Before the Service

Holy Water Blessing

Children are invited to gather at the fountain and help bless the water that will be used to bless our palms and palm crosses.

Celebrant Almighty God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into new life, and by the power of your life-giving Spirit ever cleanses and sanctifies your people: Bless, we pray you, this water for the service of your holy Church; and grant that it may be a sign of the cleansing and refreshment of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

People **Cleanse me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

We gather on the patio around the fountain.

Welcome

Father Dick Swanson

Liturgy of the Palms

Opening Salutation

Celebrant Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

People **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Here is read Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

All are invited to process following the cross to the entrance of the church singing.

Help yourself to palms and palm crosses as you walk by.

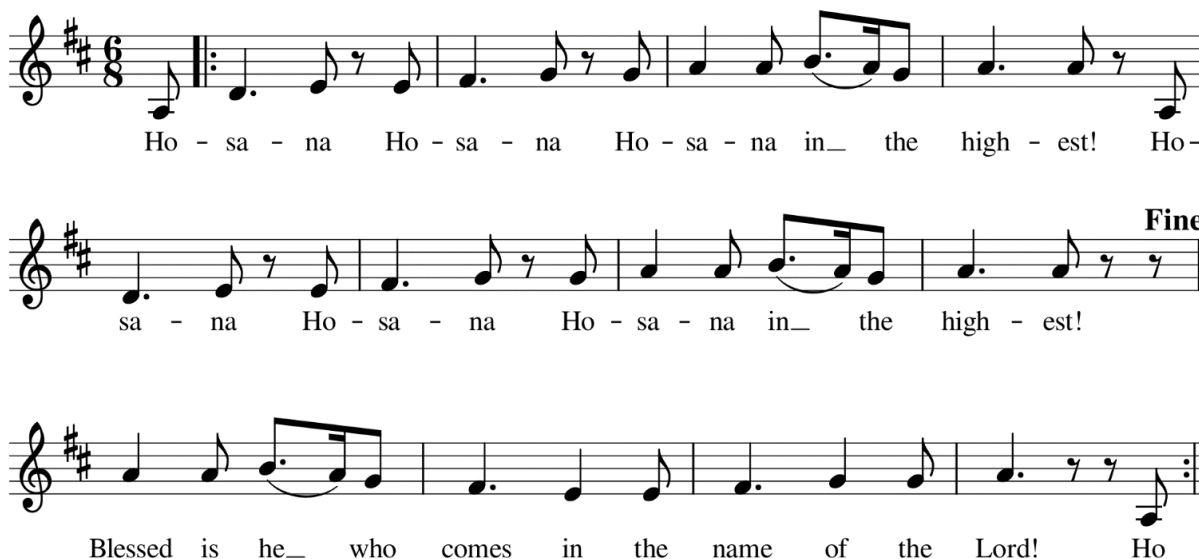
Please stop and gather outside the church doors.

Procession to the Church

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace;
People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Procession of the Palms

Felix Eisenhauer



Ho - sa - na Ho - sa - na Ho - sa - na in_ the high - est! Ho -
sa - na Ho - sa - na Ho - sa - na in_ the high - est! **Fine**
Blessed is he_ who comes in the name of the Lord! Ho

*Please stop and gather outside the church doors.
Said at the entrance of the church:*

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please enter the church and take your seats.

People's Processional *A Solemn Procession for Organ and Trumpet* *Raymond Haan*

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Processional Hymn **All glory, laud, and honor** **Hymnal 154**
Today's Cantor: Daniel Smithson

Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures for ever**

Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; 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.

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

Philippians 2:5-11

A Reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

Psalm 31:9-16

The response appointed for this morning is a portion of Psalm 31. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd verses; the congregation is invited to read the even verses.

9 Have mercy on me, O God , for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

**10 For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

**12 I am forgotten like the dead, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

**14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O God.
I have said, "You are my God.**

15 My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

**16 Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me.**

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as is your custom.

Server

Christ Jesus was obedient unto death on a cross, and exalted by God he continues to plead for all humankind. Let us join in prayer for all our brothers and sisters, saying: Holy God, we place our lives in your hands: Lord, hear our prayer.

Establish peace and friendship among all earth's peoples; let violence and enmity give way to concord. Holy God, we place our lives in your hands:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Renew your church's longing for your reign of justice; may Christians work together to establish what is right in your eyes. Holy God, we place our lives in your hands:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant a share in Christ's exaltation to all who share his degradation, especially to those whose poverty and helplessness are exploited by the powerful. Holy God, we place our lives in your hands:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Heal the wounds which crime has inflicted on our cities and help our judges and lawmakers to fashion a society based on trust and respect. Holy God, we place our lives in your hands:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those that suffer in body, mind, or spirit. The congregation is invited to share your intercessions at this time. *(Pause for prayers from the people)*

Holy God, we place our lives in your hands:

Lord, hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died *(Pause for prayers from the people.)* We pray for all those who we love but see no longer, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Holy God, we place our lives in your hands:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open our eyes to the sins we have committed; may our repentance lead us to seek forgiveness and restore us to the Paradise of your presence. Holy God, we place our lives in your hands:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant

Holy God, the prayer of Christ brought forgiveness to those who crucified him, and the prayer of the thief brought him a place with Christ at your side. Hear the prayers we now make to you and sustain your people in their need. We make our prayer through Christ, our crucified 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

Prayers for birthdays and anniversaries.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

I appeal to you brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*



*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

Ave Verum Corpus

William Byrd

| | |
|---|--|
| Ave verum corpus, Natum de Maria virgine; vere passum immolatum in crucis pro homine. Cuius latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine. Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine. | Hail, true body, born of the virgin Mary; who, having truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mankind. whose pierced side, flowed with blood. May it be for us a foretaste in the trial of death. |
|---|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| O Dulcis! O pie! O Iesu fili Mariae, Miserere mei. Amen. | O sweet, O holy, O Jesus, Son of Mary, Have mercy on me. Amen. |
|--|--|

Presentation Hymn

O sacred head, sore wounded, v. 1-3

Hymnal 168

Please stand.

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Celebrant</i> | The Lord be with you. |
| People | And also with you. |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | Lift up your hearts. |
| People | We lift them to the Lord. |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

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

Hymnal S130

This hymn is part of the service music which can be found in the front of the hymnal.

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

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Be known to us Lord, Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

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

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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. Online worshipers can find it at www.bcponline.org

Communion Music

Andante from Piano Sonata in A, Op 120, D664

Franz Schubert

Ubi Caritas et amor

Words: 1 Corinthians 13:2-8

Music: Jacques Berthier

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

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

The musical score is written for two staves in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The lyrics are written below the notes. A circled chord in the first staff is marked with a dashed line. A triplet of eighth notes in the second staff is marked with a '3'.

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

Concluding Hymn

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended

Hymnal 158

The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as you are able.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Saint Mark

Please be seated for the Passion Gospel. The congregation will read the part of the **Crowd**.

At the mention of the place of the Golgatha, please stand as you are able.

Meditation Music

Pie Jesu

from Requiem, Andrew Lloyd Webber

Annelise Ebell and Sophia Cotsis, soloists

Pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu
Qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona eis requiem, dona eis requiem
Pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu, pie Jesu
Qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona eis requiem, dona eis requiem
Agnus Dei, Agnus Dei, Agnus Dei
Qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona eis requiem, dona eis requiem
Sempiternam
Sempiternam
Requiem

Merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus
Father, who takes away the sins of the world
Grant them rest, grant them rest
Merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus
Father, who takes away the sins of the world
Grant them rest, grant them rest
Lamb of God, Lamb of God, Lamb of God, Lamb of God
Father, who takes away the sins of the world
Grant them rest, grant them rest
Grant them rest, grant them rest
Grant them rest, grant them rest
Rest

Prayer over the Congregation

Silent Recession

*Once the candles are extinguished, the ministers leave in silence followed by the congregation.
Please take your Holy Week flier with you and join us for as many Holy Week services as you can.*

Acknowledgements and Copyright Information

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Prayer Intentions for the Week of March 24, 2024

| | |
|--|--|
| 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, Kathy, Kara, Erika, Rev. Susan, Rob, Iranice, Carrie, Mary, all refugees 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, Amelia, Rachel, Dave, Kim, Linda, Virginia, Michelle, Sheila, Jeanice, Kevin, Susan, Ed, Debbie, Carol, Vivian and Ulrich.

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 Greg Jackson (Senior Warden), Jordan Daniels (Junior Warden), Peter Anderson (Treasurer), Lori Burke (Clerk), Laura Andrews, Kathleen Crookston, Lisa Cross, Tim Helms, Pamela Price Klebaum, Sarah Lamola, Miles Sexton, Daniel Smithson, Susan Talmadge, Wendy VanHorn, 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

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
Drew Darby, Seminary Intern
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Choir Director
Sara Edwards, Organist
Joseph Wareham, Sexton
Cassidy Cross, Sunday School

St. Paul's Announcements March 24, 2024

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.

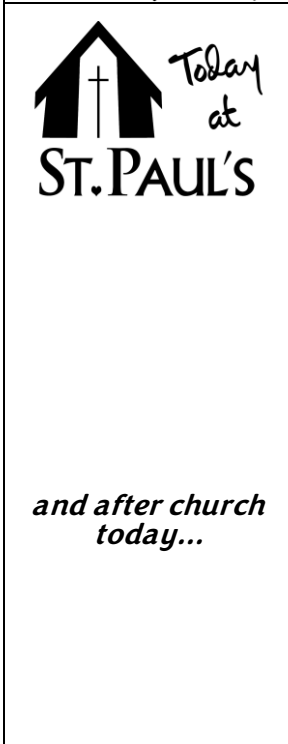


Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

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



Thanks for joining us on...

Palm Sunday

This morning's service begins with the Procession of the Palms as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the joyful and hopeful shouts of praise from the people. Then we quickly move through the readings and find ourselves in the midst of the Passion (or suffering) of Christ. Join us as we remember the events of Palm Sunday. Though we follow Jesus into the darkness, we know how the story ends. After all the powerful events of Holy Week, we will emerge into the bright light of Easter and celebrate the resurrection of the Lord. Join us as we remember in such a way that the past comes to life in the present. Come hear inspiring scripture, beautiful music, and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church this Sunday and get inspired!



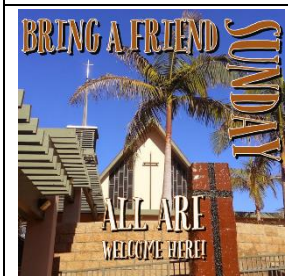
You are Invited to Coffee Hour

We invite you to join us in Kahler Hall (just down the stairs) for a cup of coffee, tea, or water and 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.



ABOUT PALM CROSSES

Members of our congregation gathered yesterday to participate in the ancient practice of Palm Cross Making. The crosses presented to you this morning were made lovingly and prayerfully. They have been blessed and set apart as holy. Please treat them with the respect and reverence reserved for holy things. Many people keep their palm cross all year long as a reminder of the love that Jesus' has for us and of the sacrifice he made for us all. Palm crosses may be returned to the church next year in advance of Ash Wednesday. They are burned and help to make up the ashes we use that day. If you need to dispose of blessed palms or palm crosses, please put them in the garden or bury them in the ground. We prefer that holy things are not put in the trash, but returned to the earth, respectfully. Thank you!



Help us share the Good News and keep the church growing...

NEXT WEEK BRING-A-FRIEND – EASTER, MARCH 31st

Mark your calendar and grab the phone, some e-invite cards, or a greeting card and invite a friend to join us on our next Bring a Friend Sunday which will be on Easter, March 31st. We can bring friends online or meet them in person at the church. Bring a Friend Sunday is a day for us to be intentional about reaching out to people God has placed in our lives. For us, this is an opportunity to introduce people to our St. Paul's community and share the Good News. For them, it is the chance to meet people, hear an uplifting message, and get inspired.



EASTER FLOWERS & MUSIC – Last Call for Dedications in Easter Bulletin

Would you like to make a donation to our Flower and Music Fund to help make our Easter services truly glorious? You can dedicate your gift in thanksgiving for your blessings or in memory of a loved one. Dedications will be published in the Easter bulletin. If you're joining us in person, please put your donation in the envelope provided in your pew and place it in the offering plate or donate. You can also give from anywhere by going online to www.saintpaulsventura.org. Click GIVE on the front page. Be sure to note "Easter Flowers & Music" and tell us how you'd like the dedication to read.



Take Home One of the Flower Rings after the Service. These rings surround the aisle candles and bring beauty to the wonderful celebration during our Easter Service. Once the service has finished, they will be available to go home and bring beauty to your family Easter gatherings as well. They also make great gifts! Quantities are limited so sign up right away if you are interested. The suggested donation is \$40. See Lisa Cross after today's service or contact the church office to reserve your flower ring.

Thank you so much for your support!



OUTREACH PROJECT – Reach for Basic Needs

This month, St. Paul's is collecting socks for adults and eyeglasses, too. Bring in your old, unwanted glasses and/or new reading glasses you can purchase at most stores. We will offer them to those in need and help bring the dignity of sight and clean socks to our neighbors. REACH bags are available for your convenience. Thank you for your support!



Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?

Mark your calendars for April 13 when we will explore the new Santa Clara River Preserve - more details to follow.



Book Club – Monday, April 1st and Monday, May 6th at 5:30pm

We picked books for the next two months at our last get together. For March, we are reading *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. This is a story of a nursing student who follows her brother into the war in Vietnam. In war, she meets-and becomes one-of-the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost. She returns to a changed and divided America. This is a novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism. We will discuss this book on April 1st.

The April book is *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See. This historical novel transports us to 15th century China and is inspired by the true stor of a woman physician born into an elite family. It is a captivating story and reimagining of the life of a woman who was remarkable in the Ming dynasty and would be considered remarkable today. This book will be the topic of our conversation on May 6th.

Zoom Information - Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday



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Thank you so much for your support!

Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

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|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Server: | Drew Darby & Roger Crow | Lectors: | Ralph Armstrong & Bridget Wareham |
| Chalice: | Kay Armstrong | Ushers: | Steve Jones & Tegan Jones |
| Acolytes: | Pranhav Rajan, Cora & William Shanahan | Cantor: | Daniel Smith |
| Altar Guild: | Pam Klebaum & Louise Bretz | Flower Guild: | Lisa Cross |
| Coffee Hour: | Laura & Ted Andrews | Welcome Greeter: | Joanne Wakelee |
| Video Production: | Patrick VanHorn | Lock-up Team: | Greg Jackson |