



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



*Online Bulletin*

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**April 21, 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](http://www.StPaulsVentura.org/live), [www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura](http://www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura), [www.Facebook.com/SaintPaulsVentura](http://www.Facebook.com/SaintPaulsVentura).

**Safety Protocols** –Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to want some additional distance, we've reserved 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 worshipping 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 were given through the generosity of your pledges and donations.**

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

*Welcome to Rev. Vicki Mouradian, Our Priest in Charge for Pastoral Care!*

**Liturgy of the Word**

**Prelude**

Psalm 23 *Emma Lou Diemer*  
 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need *arr. John Barr; tune: Resignation*

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

**Processional**

**When Stephen, full of power and grace**

**Hymnal 243**  
*Cantor: Reid Edwards*

## Opening Salutation

*Book of Common Prayer p. 355*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**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 the Lord, rise up rejoicing, v.1**

**Hymnal 334**

## Collect of the Day

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

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*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

Acts 4:5-12

*Please be seated.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

The response appointed for this morning is Psalm 23. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses and the congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

1 The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

3 He revives my soul  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

## Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

## Gradual Hymn

**The King of love my shepherd is, v.1-3**

**Hymnal 645**

*All stand as able to sing.*

## Holy Gospel

John 10:11-18

*Remain standing and face the Gospel.*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

***People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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

## **The Sermon**

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

The Rev. Vicki Mouradian

## **Nicene Creed**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic<sup>1</sup> and apostolic<sup>2</sup> Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

*Please stand or kneel as is your custom.*

*Server*

Alleluia! What was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine; what was forgotten shall be remembered, for the Lord is risen and walks among us. Let us confidently bring before God the needs of all our world, asking God for renewal, saying: Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed.

God of life, in gratitude and great joy we laud you for the gifts of Christ's resurrection. Give us hope, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

Honoring the gift of Christ's risen body, may we rise to serve all those whose needs keep them from seeing themselves as the image of God; for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who have need of the gift of Easter; for all who journey from illness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to consolation, from loneliness to love; for all our brothers and sisters, that death may have no more power over us, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who suffer and all who mourn, that the Lord God will wipe away all tears, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

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

<sup>2</sup> relating to the Apostles; following their teachings

May we be one faith with all who have died in Christ, for our life is hid with Christ in God: for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed.**

*Celebrant*

God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*In keeping with ancient tradition, we do not include the Confession during the season of Easter.*

### **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.*

**Prayers for birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.**

## ***Liturgy of the Table*** ***Holy Communion***

### **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**

Feed My Lambs

*Natalie Sleeth, arr. Tom Fettke*

### **Presentation Hymn**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us**

**Hymnal 708**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*The people remain standing as they are able.*

Eucharistic Prayer D

*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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

## Sanctus

### Sanctus from St. Paul's Mass

*Felix Eisenhauer*

Translation: "Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus" - Holy, holy, holy "Benedictus qui venit" - Blessed are those who come

Sanc-tus, sanc-tus,  
sanc-tus, 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 Lord. Ho-sa-na in the high-est, Ho-  
sa-na in the high-est!

*Please stand, sit or kneel as you prefer.*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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.

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*For in-person worshipers: Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive the Eucharist. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Be assured that it is a sufficient experience of communion.*

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

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*Suggestion: Before or after Communion, see the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) pp. 833-834. You'll find some wonderful prayers there. Online worshipers can find it at [www.bcponline.org](http://www.bcponline.org)*

## **Communion Music**

Arabesque No.1

*Claude Debussy*

The Lord's My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

*tune by J.L. Macbeth Bain*

## **Post Communion Prayer:**

*Please stand or kneel as you prefer.*

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. 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

Go in the peace of the Lord Jesus. May Christ's light shine in your hearts so that you may bring the joy and the hope of Easter to others; and 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

**Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!**

**Hymnal 205**

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

## Dismissal

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

## Postlude

Gelobt Sei Gott

*arr. John Leavitt*

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*Check out next Sunday's readings at [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)*

### ***Please join us in thanking those serving this week:***

<b>Server:</b>	Drew Darby	<b>Lector:</b>	Judy Drew & Judy Gold
<b>Chalice:</b>	Roger Crow	<b>Ushers:</b>	Wendy VanHorn & Eric Craven
<b>Acolytes:</b>	William & Cora Shanahan	<b>Cantor:</b>	Reid Edwards
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Grace Dunlevy & Anna Darby	<b>Flower Guild:</b>	Grace Dunlevy, Anna Darby & Kate Shanahan
<b>Video Production:</b>	John Loest	<b>Welcome Greeter:</b>	Marcia Semple
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	Daniel Smithson	<b>Lock-up Team:</b>	Kara Craven



### **Please add these dates to our calendar and plan to join us.**

- Mon. 4/22 Earth Day Potluck and Prayers – 6pm in Kahler Hall
- Tues. 4/23 Restaurant Fundraiser – Toppers Pizza on E Main Street
- Wed. 4/24 Vestry Meeting – 6:30 pm
- Sun. 4/28 Fifth Sunday of Easter – service at 10:15am
- Sun. 5/5 Sixth Sunday of Easter – service at 10:15 am
- Sun. 5/12 Mother's Day and Sunday after the Ascension – service at 10:15am  
Mother's Day Brunch – reservations needed!
- Sun. 5/19 Pentecost Sunday – service at 10:15 am
- Sun. 5/26 Trinity Sunday and Choir/Musician Appreciation – service at 10:15am

## ***Prayer Intentions for the Week of April 21, 2024***

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury	Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Dick Swanson, Greg Larkin, Vicki Mouradian
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, Rev. Susan, Maria, Barbara, Barb, Geno, 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, 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 ministry of Family to Family; all who volunteer and/or give financially to feed Ventura's hungry
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home
- + All who work, educate others, and pray to abolish the scourge of present-day slavery.

### ***GIVE THANKS FOR:***

- + Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles Deanery One in Ventura County: *St. Columba's*, Camarillo; *Trinity*, Fillmore; *St. Andrew's*, Ojai; *All Saints'*, Oxnard; *St. Paul's/Emmanuel*, Santa Paula; *St. Francis'*, Simi Valley; *St. Patrick's*, Thousand Oaks
- + Our World Mission Companions: *the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiawso*, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *First United Methodist, Trinity Lutheran, Our Lady of the Assumption churches and the Salvation Army*

### ***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. Canon Greg Larkin, Priest in Charge  
The Rev. Vicki Mouradian, Priest in Charge for Pastoral Care  
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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Website: [www.saintpaulsventura.org](http://www.saintpaulsventura.org) Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura

# St. Paul's Announcements April 21, 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](mailto:office@saintpaulsventura.org)



### Today is the **FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTER, and the celebration continues!**

This week we hear Jesus describe himself as the Good Shepherd and tell the disciples that he has other sheep that do not belong to this fold. "I will bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd..." Join us as we learn the importance of welcoming all, regardless of our differences, Jesus calls us to love and serve one another. Come hear inspiring scripture, beautiful music and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!



### You are Invited to Coffee Hour to Welcome Rev. Vicki!

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 and hear from Rev. Vicki. In the church, we call this fellowship. It's one of our favorite parts of being on this journey of faith together.



### Fair Trade Sales – Sunday, Today!

St. Paul's is an Abolitionist Congregation, committed to ending the scourge of modern-day slavery. We sell fair trade products through the Equal Exchange to support farm cooperatives around the world giving farmers a fair price and a better future. Locally our sales support ending human trafficking through the Abolitionist Committee. Please stop by our table outside near the fountain to check out delicious chocolate, coffee and tea! Cash and checks accepted. Please see Joanne Wakelee if you have questions.



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

**A warm welcome to you!** We're so glad you came. We are a friendly and welcoming congregation. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to do anything they can to make your time with us more comfortable and meaningful. Please introduce yourself to our clergy, they're looking forward to meeting you. We invite you to come back soon.



St. Paul's Choir is selling T-shirts! The shirts feature a colorful design by choir member Alexis Renteria, highlighting our choir's motto: Artistry in Ministry. There are three styles available at a cost of \$25 each. See Alexis and Rose on the labyrinth after church to learn more and order your shirt. We have size charts and information about fabrics. You can pay with cash, check, or by scanning a QR code. Orders will close soon, so reserve your t-shirt asap! For more information, please email Rose at [rosemariehaydensmith@gmail.com](mailto:rosemariehaydensmith@gmail.com). If there are any funds in excess, they will go to the choir tour! Orders need to be in by next Sunday, the 28<sup>th</sup>, so order your t-shirt today!



### UPCOMING BAPTISM OPPORTUNITIES

**5/19 Pentecost; 11/3 All Saints Day, Observed** (and other dates can be arranged)

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. Greg/Rev. Vicki or call the office to make arrangements.

	<p><i>We're collecting socks and glasses for people who are in need...</i>  <b>OUTREACH PROJECT – Reach for Basic Needs</b>  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.</p>
	<p><b>Little Free Library</b> – St. Paul's provides hundreds of books each year to visitors to the hospital and people in our neighborhood through our Little Free Library. Books of general interest are welcome (please no magazines or technical titles). If you have a few gently used books to share, you can bring them to the church office.</p>
	<p><b>Earth Day Potluck and Prayers</b> 4/22 at 6pm in Kahler Hall and the labyrinth.  Every parish, mission, school, and institution within the six county Diocese of Los Angeles is invited to join together in "Ring Out for Earth" an all-call to the urgent need for care of God's creation as the global atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) concentration has reached 425 parts per million* (ppm), a level unprecedented in all of human history. We will meet at 6pm for a potluck supper followed by a diocesan-wide time of prayer and meditation beginning at 7:08pm and lasting for 425 seconds while we ring the church bells as a call to continued prayer and action around creation care.</p>
	<p><i>Join us as we raise funds for St. Paul's and enjoy a delicious meal...</i>  <b>April Fundraiser – Topper's Pizza on Tuesday, April 23rd</b>  Eat at Toppers at 3940 E. Main Street, Ventura, starting at 4pm on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and they will donate 20% of the total bill to St. Paul's. Valid on dine in and take out. Simply show the printed flier or display it on your phone at the restaurant. See your Enewsletter or pick up a flier at the sign-in table. We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you for your support!</p>
	<p><b>Book Club – Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm on Zoom</b>  The First Monday Book Club is open to all. The April book is <i>Lady Tan's Circle of Women</i> by Lisa See. This historical novel transports us to 15th century China and is inspired by the true story 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.  Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1<sup>st</sup>monday</p>
	<p><b>Two invitations from the Men's Group.</b>  We hope that you can join us for one or both of these weekly activities:  <b>Tuesday Evening Bible Study</b> - We meet at 6 p.m. at Winchesters Grill on Main Street for dinner, fellowship and Bible study. We are starting a new study of the book of Galatians.  <b>Friday Morning Breakfast</b> - We meet at 7 a.m. at Black Bear Diner on Harbor Boulevard for breakfast, fellowship and a study of the lectionary reading appointed for the week.</p>
	<p><b>Show Mom Some Love On Mother's Day!</b>  The St. Paul's Men's Group is going to prepare a fun and delicious Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 12, 2024, immediately after church. Your mom and family will enjoy dining al fresco on the Kahler Hall patio with sparkling wine/mimosas and a buffet brunch featuring yummy egg dishes, savory sausage, hot off the griddle pancakes and waffles along with fresh fruit. But wait there's more! This event will also be a fundraiser for the St. Paul's Choir in support of their upcoming trip to Rome to perform at the Vatican! We will follow up with more details and pricing next week, but to do that we first need to get a headcount to finish the planning. Miles Sexton will be on the labyrinth after church with the sign up sheet so be sure to make your reservations for your whole family and friends!</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>  <b>Thank you for your generosity!</b>  Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at <a href="http://www.saintpaulsventura.org">www.saintpaulsventura.org</a> or use this QR code. Members give of their time through many ministries and share their talents through lots of volunteer opportunities. Please contact our clergy if you'd like to get involved in something new.  Generosity involves the giving of time, talent and treasure. Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself! We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share. <b>Thank you!</b></p>