



# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



*Online Bulletin*

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

**April 28, 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!*

## **Liturgy of the Word**

**Prelude**

Triptych for Organ

*Kyle Johnson*

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

**Processional**

**We know that Christ is raised and dies no more**

**Hymnal 296**

*Cantor: Sophia Cotsis*

**Opening Salutation**

*Book of Common Prayer p. 355*

*Celebrant*  
**People**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**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.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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 8:26-40

*Please be seated.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

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

**Psalm 22:24-30**

The response appointed for this morning is a portion of Psalm 22. We will read it responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*

**I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*

**"May your heart live for ever!"**

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*

**and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.**

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*

**he rules over the nations.**

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*

**all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; \*

**they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.**

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*

**the saving deeds that he has done.**

**Second Reading**

1 John 4:7-21

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

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

**Gradual Hymn**

**O love, how deep, how broad, how high, v.1-3**

**Hymnal 448**

*All stand as able to sing.*

## Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

*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 to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Sermon

Drew Darby, Seminary Intern

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

## Nicene Creed

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

*Please stand as you are able.*

**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.**

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

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

## **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.**

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**

Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree

*Elizabeth Poston, arr. JH Rickard***Presentation Hymn****Thou art the Way, to thee alone****Hymnal 457***Please stand as you are able.***The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer D

*The people remain standing as they are able.**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

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff features a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: "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 worshippers: Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive the Eucharist. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Communion Music

Improvisation on the day's hymns

Felix Eisenhauer

### Take Me to the Water

Traditional Spiritual

Arr. Horace Clarence Boyer



1. Take me to the wa - ter, take me to the wa -
2. None\_\_ but the right - eous, none\_\_ but the right\_\_\_\_\_
3. I\_\_ love\_\_ Je - sus, I\_\_ love\_\_ Je -
4. He's\_\_ my\_\_ Sav - ior, He's\_\_ my\_\_ Sav -



- ter,\_\_ take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.  
eous,\_\_ none\_\_ but the right\_\_\_\_\_ eous\_\_ shall see God.  
sus,\_\_ I\_\_ love\_\_ Je - sus, oh yes, I do.  
ior,\_\_ He's\_\_ my\_\_ Sav - ior, oh yes, He is.

## 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

**God is love; let heaven adore him**

**Hymnal 379**

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

## Dismissal

*Celebrant  
People*

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

## Postlude

Prelude on Abbot's Leigh

David Lasky

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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>	Bridget Wareham & Ralph Armstrong
<b>Chalice:</b>	Kay Armstrong	<b>Ushers:</b>	Tegan & Steve Jones
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Pranhav Rajan	<b>Cantor:</b>	Sophia Cotsis
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Pam Klebaum & Louise Bretz	<b>Flower Guild:</b>	Lisa Cross
<b>Video Production:</b>	Patrick VanHorn	<b>Welcome Greeter:</b>	Julie Braithwaite
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	Laura & Ted Andrews	<b>Lock-up Team:</b>	Greg Jackson



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

- 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
- Sat. 6/1 Rummage Sale – 9am – 1:30pm
- Sun. 6/2 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – service at 10:15 am
- Sun. 6/9 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – service at 10:15 am
- Sun. 6/16 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost and Choir Tour Commission – service at 10:15 am



### **Rummage Sale - Sat. June 1<sup>st</sup> 9am – 1:30pm in Kahler Hall**

You can begin dropping off items as of May 1<sup>st</sup> on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 9am -3pm. Please contact the church office to let us know you're coming – 805 643-5033. Invite your friends to join us and help support the church for this important fundraiser. And if you can volunteer to assist us, please let us know. We really appreciate it!

## ***Prayer Intentions for the Week of April 28, 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 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. 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

3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, CA 93003 (805) 643-5033 e-mail: [office@saintpaulsventura.org](mailto:office@saintpaulsventura.org)  
 Website: [www.saintpaulsventura.org](http://www.saintpaulsventura.org) Twitter: @stpaulsventura Facebook: St. Paul's Ventura

# St. Paul's Announcements April 28, 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.**

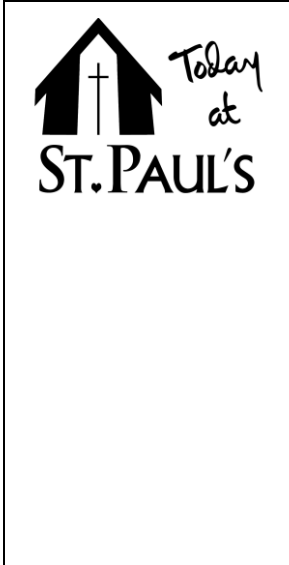


## Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

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 FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER, and the celebration continues!**  
 This week we hear Jesus teaching, "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." Join us as we learn how we, too, can produce much fruit as we continue the important work that Jesus started. 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!**  
 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.



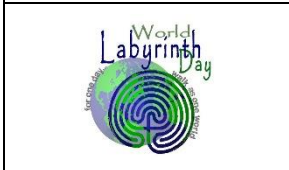
Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us?  
**A warm welcome to you!** We're so glad you came. We are a friendly and welcoming congregation. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to do anything they can to make your time with us more comfortable and meaningful. Please introduce yourself to our clergy, 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!



**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.



**World Labyrinth Day is Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**  
 Kim Reed, our local certified Labyrinth Facilitator, will be celebrating World Labyrinth Day, starting at 12:30 this Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Come and learn a little about our labyrinth and spend some quiet reflection time.

	<p><i>We're collecting socks and glasses for people who are in need...</i></p> <p><b>OUTREACH PROJECT - Reach for Basic Needs</b></p> <p>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. We will have a new Reach project starting next week!</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>Book Club – Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm on Zoom</b></p> <p>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></p> <p>We hope that you can join us for one or both of these weekly activities:</p> <p><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.</p> <p><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></p> <p>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! Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for children (6-12) and seniors, children 5 and under are free; a family ticket (2 adults and however many children) is \$60.</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></p> <p><b>Thank you for your generosity!</b></p> <p>Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at <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.</p> <p>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>