



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 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 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

Now the Green Blade Riseth

setting by Michael McCabe

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

Processional

We plow the fields, and scatter

Hymnal 291

Cantor: Daniel Smithson

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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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 8:44-48

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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 verse by verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses and the congregation is invited to read the even number verses.

1 Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

**2 With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.**

3 The Lord has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

**4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

**6 Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.**

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

**8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

9 Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

**10 In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.**

Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

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

Gradual Hymn

Lord, make us servants of your peace

Hymnal 593

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel

John 15:9-17

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, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

The Sermon

Father Dick Swanson

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 catholic¹ and apostolic² Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please stand 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.**

¹ universal; all embracing

² 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

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

Presentation Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

All creatures of our God and King, v.1-3

Hymnal 400

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.

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

Intermezzo in E-flat Major, Op. 117, No. 1

Johannes Brahms

One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.*

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more.
One Lord.

Refrain

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
Gathered to one for all.
One Lord.

Refrain

2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all.
One Lord.

Refrain

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

Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets

Hymnal 412

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

Toccata on All Creatures of Our God and King

arr. Gilbert Martin

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

Please join us in thanking those serving this week:

Server:	Drew Darby	Lector:	Kathy & Tim Helms
Chalice:	Miles Sexton	Ushers:	Dan Wakelee & Sally Weimer
Acolytes:	Rosie Dunlevy & Pippa Darby	Cantor:	Daniel Smithson
Altar Guild:	Pam Klebaum & Louise Bretz	Flower Guild:	Sarah Lamola & Tegan Jones
Video Production:	Patrick VanHorn	Welcome Greeter:	Joanne Wakelee
Coffee Hour:	Grace Dunlevy	Lock-up Team:	Miles Sexton



Please add these dates to your calendar and plan to join us.

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| 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 |
| Wed. 5/22 | Vestry Meeting – 6:30 pm in the Library |
| 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 nd Sunday after Pentecost – service at 10:15 am |
| Sun. 6/9 | 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost – service at 10:15 am |
| Sun. 6/16 | 4 th Sunday after Pentecost and Choir Tour Commission – service at 10:15 am |

Save the date!

Rummage Sale - Sat. June 1st 9am – 1:30pm in Kahler Hall



You can begin dropping off items as of May 1st on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 9am -3pm. Please contact the church office to let us know you're coming – 805 643-5033. Items can also be dropped off after church. Add to our gold and silver collection! 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 your support!

Prayer Intentions for the Week of May 5, 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, Barbara, Barb, Mary, Alan, 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:

- + Twelve step programs of recovery and healing; especially Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at St. Paul's
- + Our local public and private hospitals, and the health care professionals who serve us
- + 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.: *Temple Beth Torah, the Islamic Center of Oxnard, Ventura Seventh Day Adventist 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

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

St. Paul's Announcements May 5, 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.

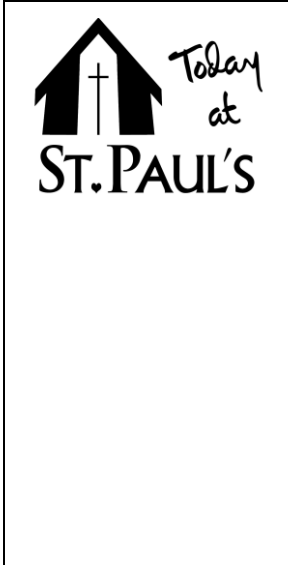


Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

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



Today is the SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER, and the celebration continues!

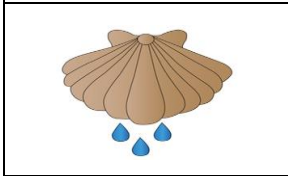
We invite you to join us this week as we will learn about a love so deep, so strong and so amazing that it surpasses all our expectations and exceeds all we can desire. Who is this love for? It's for you, and it's for everyone. Come learn about the love God has for us. Come enjoy inspiring scripture, beautiful prayers, wonderful music and an uplifting message. Come 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.



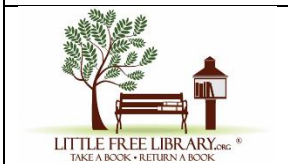
Are you new to St. Paul's or visiting us?
A warm welcome to you! We're so glad you came. We are a friendly and welcoming congregation. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to do anything they can to make your time with us more comfortable and meaningful. Please introduce yourself to our clergy, they're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



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.



We're collecting new books for young children ages 0-3...
OUTREACH PROJECT - Reach for Early Childhood Literacy
This month, St. Paul's is doing to do an early childhood book drive in support of Reach Out and Read, a national literacy program currently being run through the county medical system. In this model, children receive a book when they see their doctor for a well-baby visit. Take a REACH bag and bring it back with books to donate.



Little Free Library - 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>Book Club – Monday, May 6th at 5:30pm on Zoom 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: 1stmonday</p>
	<p>Two invitations from the Men's Group. We hope that you can join us for one or both of these weekly activities: Tuesday Evening Bible Study - 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. Friday Morning Breakfast - 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>Show Mom Some Love On Mother's Day! 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>MULTI LINGUAL SPEAKERS NEEDED – Pentecost Sunday – May 19th Spanish, Italian, Latin, French, Tagalog, Russian, Greek and more (please let us know if you would like to read a language not listed here) are needed for Pentecost Sunday. See Rev. Greg or call the office for your copy of John 20:19-23 in the language of your choice. All will read together on Pentecost Sunday during the 10:15 service. And if you can, you are invited to wear red on this special day when we'll celebrate the birthday of the church.</p>
	<p>Choir and Musician Recognition, Sunday, May 26th Please join us as we show our appreciation for the amazingly talented members of our Choir and Music Department. We are so grateful for the inspiration they share with us! Your cards and comments are welcome. This is a great time to say, "Thank You!"</p>
	<p>Looking for a volunteer opportunity? We are looking for ushers and greeters to help with Sunday services. Free training provided! Speak with Rev. Greg, Rev. Vicki, Drew Darby or call the office and leave a message. We need you!!</p>
 <p>This QR Code takes you straight to our Giving Page</p>	<p><i>"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7</i> Thank you for your generosity! Donations may be made by cash, check, PayPal, or Text StPaulsVentura to 73256. You can also arrange online payments, click the "Give" button at www.saintpaulsventura.org or use this QR code. Members give of their time through many ministries and share their talents through lots of volunteer opportunities. Please contact our clergy if you'd like to get involved in something new. Generosity involves the giving of time, talent and treasure. Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself! We look forward to doing great things with whatever you are able to share. Thank you!</p>