



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Year B

October 13, 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 Ana, Miss Cassidy and Miss Nairi to hear a Bible story and enjoy fun and engaging activities related to that story. Children return to the church to join their families for Eucharist.

Once again, welcome! We're glad that you're worshiping with us. Let us know if you have any questions, prayer requests or need the services of a priest. We are always glad to hear from you. Meanwhile, know that you are in our prayers. We wish you all a very safe and blessed week.

	<p><i>The angels are dancing again...</i></p> <p>Listen carefully, you just might hear the angels dancing on the roof!</p> <p>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!"</p>
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Today's flowers are given by the Wied and Schmitt Families in loving memory and thanksgiving for the life of Christine Wied

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 Prelude I, III (Instrumental) *Charles Villiers Stanford*
Please stand as you are able at the sound of the bell.

Proclamation **O God, Our Help in Ages Past** **Hymn 680**
Cantor: Sophia Cotsis

Opening Salutation *Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355*

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

O Bless the Lord, My Soul v.1-2

Hymnal 411

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of scripture.

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

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

A Reading from Amos.

Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

Therefore, because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,

you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;

you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—

you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.

Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

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

Psalm 90:12-17

The response appointed for this morning is Psalm 90:12-17. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses and the congregation is asked to read the even-numbered verses.

Domine, refugium

- 1 So teach us to number our days *
- 2 that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**
- 3 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
- 4 be gracious to your servants.**
- 5 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
- 6 so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**
- 7 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
- 8 and the years in which we suffered adversity.**
- 9 Show your servants your works *
- 10 and your splendor to their children.**
- 11 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
- 12 prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

*Please stand as you are able to sing.***Holy Gospel****Mark 10:17-31***Please remain standing as you are able and face the Gospel.*

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

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

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

The Sermon

Father Greg Larkin

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.***Nicene Creed***BCP p. 358**All stand as able and together say*

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in

accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy 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, sit or kneel as is your custom.

The Leader and People pray responsively

Celebrant: As we prepare to bring our gifts to the altar, let us raise our voices in prayer and praise, thanking God for the opportunity to walk in love together.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the Church, God's greatest gift to us. For all who worship and serve this day. For the wisdom and teaching of our bishops, priests, deacons, and laypeople... As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I bid your prayers for our Nation and for all nations; for all refugees, for an end to hostilities, for a spirit of Goodwill. We pray for our citizens as we elect leaders, and for leaders who serve with love... As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I ask prayers for our neighbors, for the mission of our church and the ways we change the world with our gifts... As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I invite your prayers for those who are sick, who are isolated, who are in despair. We pray for caregivers and healers who care for those we love. Please pray for those on our parish prayer list, and who we name now either silently or aloud... As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the dead and the dying, and for those who mourn. We pray for those we name now with our lips or in our hearts... As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I invite your celebrations, remembrances, and the naming of our many blessings, innumerable and filled with Grace.... May we be inspired to share our wealth, works, and wisdom with our neighbors and our Church as Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Celebrant: Hear the prayers of your people, O God, and inspire us with gratitude and abundance as we share our many gifts with You and the world You made. **Amen.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. *(Silence)*

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

¹ universal; all embracing

² Relating to the Apostles, following their teachings

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept.)*

Leader and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand as they are able.

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

Announcements

Please be seated.

Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Special Occasions

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

Offertory Sentence

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.



*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

O for a Closer Walk with God

C.V. Stanford

Presentation Hymn

Father All Loving, Who Rulest in Majesty

Hymn 568

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S128

The service music can be found in the front of the hymnal

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

You are invited to stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

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

For in-person 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.***

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

Communion Music

Instrumental
Come and Fill

Felix Eisenhauer
Words: Taize' Community
Music: Jacques Berthier

Come and Fill

English: Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Latin: Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo-nus.

Em C Em A D
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - ia!
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - ia!

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

The Priest blesses the people

Recessional Hymn

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Hymnal 460

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

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Song 22 (Instrumental)
Number 2 (Instrumental)

*Charles Villers Stanford
theme by Orlando Gibbons*

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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 & Roger Crow	Lectors:	Laura Andrews, Ginny Dilworth
Chalice:	Ted Andrews	Ushers:	Rob & Susan Talmadge
Acolytes:	Pranhav & Raghav Rajan & Axel Andrews	Cantor:	Daniel Smithson
Announcements:	Wendy VanHorn		
Altar Guild:	Roger Crow, Susan Talmadge	Flower Guild:	Roger Crow & Bridget Wareham
Video Production:	John Loest	Welcome Greeter:	Aidan Colbert
Coffee Hour:	Julie Braithwaite & Allen Bryant	Lock-up Team:	Woody Bretz

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

- Sun. 10/13 21st Sunday after Pentecost – service at 10:15 am
- Thurs. 10/17 Bible Study 11:15 AM
- Mon. 10/21 Family to Family 9 am (helping cook), 11:15 am (helping serve)
330 North Ventura Ave (next to Catholic Charities)
- Wed. 10/23 Vestry Meeting – 6:30 pm in the Library
- Thurs. 10/24 Bible Study 11:15 am

Prayer Intentions for the Week of October 13, 2024

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury	Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Dick Swanson, Greg Larkin, Vicki Mouradian
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop-Elect	President Joseph Biden, Congress, Federal Courts
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan	Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Bert, Rev. Susan, Barbara, Mary, Kay, Ralph, Kathy, Sam, Ernie, all refugees, first responders, 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, Carol, Rachel, Dave, Kim, Linda, Virginia, Michelle, Jeanice, Kevin, Susan, Debbie, Carol, Vivian, Ulrich, Christian, Ron, Pam, Bruce and Janet.

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 2024 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 Wiauso, 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.

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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
TBA, Parish Administrator
Drew Darby, Seminary Intern
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Choir Director/Communications Manager
Sara Edwards, Organist
Joseph Wareham, Sexton
Ana Barnaby Lima, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

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St. Paul's Announcements October 13, 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. 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 Twenty first Sunday after Pentecost

This week, we'll remember that all we have, and all that we can do, are gifts from God. Why should we offer our first fruits and be generous with our neighbors? Because we are grateful. We'll also enjoy inspiring scripture, beautiful music, and uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!

and after church today...



Join us for Coffee Hour

In-person worshippers are invited to join us in Kahler Hall (just down the stairs) for a cup of coffee, or tea and some refreshments. This gives us 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 joined us today. 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 again soon.



Join us in serving the world in the name of Christ. Your generosity is appreciated.

OUTREACH PROJECT - REACHING to Help the Homeless

This month we will collect items to help the homeless. These items will be donated through Family to Family. You can help by donating any of the following items: razors and shaving cream, dental floss, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner and shower gel, mouthwash, sunscreen lotion, bath towels and washcloths, heavy socks, canned food, small & large dog food and cat food, notepads, pencils and journals, books, PPE - masks and gloves, and heavy blankets. Red REACH bags are available in the Narthex for your convenience. Thank you for helping us put our faith into action.



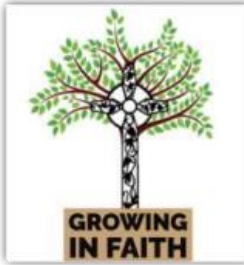






The First Monday Book Club is open to all!

Our next meeting is on November 4th at 5:30pm on Zoom

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

Our next book will be:

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Gramus

	<p>Friday Morning Women's Bible Study: We are a small group of women from St. Paul's and the Ventura community that meet weekly on Zoom to study scripture and share fellowship. If you've been wanting to add bible study to your spiritual life, we'd love to have you join us. We plan to study <u>Luke in the Land</u> as our next book, which will begin in late July/early August. https://www.lifeway.com/en/product/luke-in-the-land-bible-study-book-with-video-access-P005843027The author, Kristi McClelland, is a speaker, teacher and college professor. Her focus is on bible study through a Middle Eastern lens. We have completed several of her other studies and thoroughly enjoyed them. She will be speaking at a conference in Yorba Linda on August 16-17; if you are interested in attending along with members, contact Suzanne. If you are interested in checking out the current study and or the group, please contact Suzanne McCombs (805-390-3909) for Zoom details and/or more information.</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>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 office 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>
	<p>Come one, come all - children ages 4-13! St. Paul's Children's Choir rehearsals are on Sundays after church/snack. There is no charge for children to participate (Thanks to St. Paul's!). The children will be participating in weekly rehearsals, as well as singing in church every 4-8 weeks (minus breaks and summers). The Children's Choir will perform on Sunday, October 20th. Invite your friends! All are welcome! See Tara Eisenhauer if you have questions.</p>
<p>Pumpkin Carving</p>  <p>October 20, 2024</p>	<p>Family Fellowship – Join us for a fun afternoon of Pumpkin Carving after church service!</p>
	<p>St. Paul's Choir presents A Cappella Compline @ The Mission Basilica San Buenaventura 211 E. Main Street Ventura, CA Sunday, October 20th, 7 pm. Free-will offering</p>
	<p>We had such a great time celebrating Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 12th. Thank you for your fellowship and your generous donations! For those that still need it, here is the QR Code to send Oktoberfest Donations.</p> 



Walk in Love Accompaniment



I came to the US from Sri Lanka to study engineering. I didn't have any family or friends here, so it was a very lonely time for me. But I made friends with some Palestinian students, and they invited me to be their roommate. They treated me like family.

And they were very good cooks: they made delicious Middle Eastern food, and I did the dishes. That's one of many ways in which loving people have walked with me.

As an aerospace engineer in Silicon Valley, I had the opportunity to share that same kind of accompaniment. I worked on engineering standards with international colleagues, and we had to find ways to compromise. We spoke different languages and didn't always agree on issues, but we achieved compromise on technical issues. So, I learned to listen for the purposes of understanding. That's what life is all about: living together and learning to understand each other. Of course, this also means recognizing my own limitations, and those of others.

Sometimes it's hard to walk with vulnerable people. Part of my diaconal ministry happens in jail. At first, I didn't want to be there. I was frightened by the heavy doors closing behind me as I visited. But there was so much need! Some inmates are entirely abandoned by their family, so part of my walk with them is to love without judgment. It is a mutual walking in love – we listen to each other, and they learn from me and I from them.

As a Christian, I am motivated by the Great Commandment and the Baptismal Covenant, which tells me to respect the dignity of every human being. Everyone needs some help at some point in their lives, just as I did as a student and an immigrant. God walks in love with me in my struggles just as God does with the marginalized people with whom I minister. | tens.org

Questions for Reflection:

What are your experiences of being supported that have led you to walk in love with others?



The Rev. Bertram Nagarajah serves as Deacon at Trinity Cathedral, San Jose, California and ministers widely to the Silicon Valley community.