



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.



Online Bulletin

Third Sunday of Advent

Year A

December 15, 2019 10:15 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

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. Hymnals, Bibles and the Book of Common Prayer are in the pews and available for your use as well.

Our Sunday School program for children and youth will begins at 10:00am in the Sanctuary with a short sermon on the gospel for the day and a preview of the activity. Children move to their classrooms at 10:10 for creative programming and activities including circle time, prayer and storytelling. Ages 2-3 will be in the Nursery. Pre-K, K, and 1st grade will be in Room 7. Grades 2-5 will also be in Room 7. Youth will be in Room 8. All children and youth will return to the sanctuary at the peace to join their families for Eucharist.

Again, welcome and please let us know if there's anything we can do to make your time with us more enriching and enjoyable. We're glad you're here.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Today we light the first, second and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

The candles are lit.

Child *Isaiah 55:12 – You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.*

Celebrant Let us Pray.

People **Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen."**



Holy Eucharist

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Christ, Be Our Light v.1-3

Bernadette Farrell



1. Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2. Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3. Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for



1. truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
2. hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
3. wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,



1. your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
2. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
3. bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.

Please be seated.

Celebrant Join me in sending the children to Sunday School.

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Children Thanks be to God.

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

Processional Hymn

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Hymnal 76

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. 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

Kyrie from St. Paul's Mass

Felix Eisenhauer

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son

Chri - ste e - le - i - son

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Translation: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord Have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for 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

Isaiah 35:1-10

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15,
The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

BCP p.91
Luke 1:46-55

1. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
2. From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
3. He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
4. He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
5. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
6. He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
7. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
8. The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
9. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*



Second Reading

James 5:7-10

A Reading from the Letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal 56

Please stand as you are able and face the Gospel.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel v. 5-6

arr. Felix Eisenhauer

**O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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

Sermon

The Reverend Susan Bek

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Credo from St. Paul's Mass
All stand as able and together sing.

Felix Eisenhauer

Celebrant

Our service continues with the Nicene Creed. Please stand and join us in singing.



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 and apostolic 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.



A - men.

Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Server

Jesus said that the signs of God's dominion were to be seen in the healing of the sick, the raising of the dead to new life, and the preaching of good news to the poor. Let us pray that our lives may be the instruments of God's work in the world, saying O God, most worthy of praise, hear our prayer.

Intercessor

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation. Grant that we who bear your image may be faithful stewards of your gift and administer its bounty with wisdom for the good of all your creatures. O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you that you have called us to be your people. Give us patience as we await your coming, and grant us wisdom to discern your will in our daily lives, that each of us may serve others for the building up of our common life. O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the community of faith throughout the world. Strengthen your church as it witnesses to your love. Guide us in the fulfillment of your mission, that all may be one. O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the privilege of ministering to others. We remember before you all who are sick or in need especially (*the people may add their petitions either silently or aloud*). O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died, especially, (*the people may add their petitions either silently or aloud*), and for the promise of resurrection to be fulfilled. O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for our countless gifts. Above all, we thank you for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ, and for our unity in him through baptism. O God, most worthy of praise, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant

We offer our thanksgiving and prayers to you, the one God and the source of light and life, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

A period of silence is observed.

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.

Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Special Occasions

For other prayer requests, trained lay prayer ministers will be available in the chapel or during Eucharist to pray with you. Briefly state the particular concern, burden, thanksgiving, or transition you bring for yourself or someone else. Confidentiality is observed.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Thank you for your donation. Your generosity is appreciated. We look forward to doing great things in the name of Christ with whatever you are able to give.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory

Behold...O Thou That Tellest

G. Handel, arr. Felix Eisenhauer

Presentation Hymn

Rejoice, rejoice believers

Hymnal 68

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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.

Please 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

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.

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.

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to receive the bread in your open palm. Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer or sulfite-free juice. Sip the wine, if you wish it, from the common cup, guiding the chalice gently with your hand or the Eucharistic Minister will dip the bread for you. Otherwise, cross your arms over your chest as a sign you wish a blessing.

Trained lay prayer ministers are stationed in the chapel to pray with you. Briefly state the particular concern, burden, thanksgiving, or transition you bring for yourself or someone else. Confidentiality is observed. Rejoin the other worshipers for the post communion prayer.

Suggestion: Before or after communion, open your Book of Common Prayer (BCP) to pages 833-834. You'll find some wonderful prayers there.

Communion Music

Quia respexit

Johannes Sebastian Bach

Tara Eisenhauer, soloist, Allison McKay, Oboist

Translation:

*Quia respexit humilitatem
ancillae suae:
ecce enim ex hoc beatam me
dicent.*

*For he has regarded the low estate
of his handmaiden:
behold, for from this time,
may I be called blessed.*

Gabriel's Oboe

Ennio Morricone

An Advent Round of Anticipation

Felix Eisenhauer

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a repeat sign at the beginning and end of each line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

I O come, ye, come. O

II The Prince of Peace, The

III A Mi - ra - cle! A

Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. 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

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent receive unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Hymnal 437

Please stand.

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Venite Exultemus Domino

Françoise Couperin

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Prayers of the People: *Intercessions for the Christian People*, Pueblo Publishing Company, 1988

Blessings: *The Book of Occasional Services 2003*, Church Pension Fund 2004

Female Composers Initiative

St. Paul's Music Ministry is addressing continuing gender inequality by featuring female composers as part of its regular repertoire. This week, our initiative includes *Christ Be Our Light* by Bernadette Farrell

Thank you to our guest musician, Allison McKay, on Oboe.

Welcome! We're so glad you're here.

- Our ushers welcome your inquiries. They can provide assisted listening devices, information about our ministries, as well as directions to the restrooms, nursery, and classrooms.
- Please take the brochure from the pew and learn more about St. Paul's and our traditional worship, dynamic preaching and a call to serve.
- You are invited to join us for coffee and refreshments following the service and we hope you will stay for Fellowship and Formation from 11:30-noon.
- Infants and children are welcome here. Children under five years old may receive care in the nursery (room 2) from 10-noon. Parents are also welcome to bring their children to worship with them, and may have access to the nursery for their convenience. The service can be heard from the narthex (lobby) and activity bags for children can be found there. Our side chapel can be used as a quiet play space during services. You will find lots of stuffed animals and books there.

Serving This Week

Team Three – 3rd Sunday of the Month

Acolytes	Ti Nahabedian, Gina Trevisan, Allen Bryant
Chalice	RoseAnn Hill – Server, Woody Bretz
Psalm	Woody Bretz
Lay Readers	Ted Andrews, Judy Wareham
Prayers of the People	Lori Redding
Ushers	Steve Jones, Julie Braithwaite, David Hill
Eucharistic Prayer Ministry	Rose Hayden Smith
Pastoral Care Team	Kathleen Crookston, Pam Owens
Altar Guild	Louise Bretz, Roger Crow, Peter Anderson, Duffy Anderson
Flower Guild	Sarah & Gabriel Lamola, Rev. Susan & Teddy Bek, Carmela Carreno
Counters	Marilyn Angelo, Susan Talmadge
Welcome Ministry	Marcia Semple
Vestry Greeter	Sarah Lamola
Facility Lock Up	Greg McCombs
Cantor	Diego Magaña
Hospitality	Bruce & Judy Kelly, Nate & Anne Alday, Greg & Karyn Jackson

Highlights of This Week at St. Paul's
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	8:00 am	Rite I Sunday Service
	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10:00 am	Advent Wreath Lighting (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Rite II Sunday Service
	11:30 am	Parish Christmas Party & Sing Along (Kahler Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)
Monday	9:30 am	Family to Family (303 N. Ventura Ave.)
12/16	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)
Tues.	10:00 am	Sack Lunch Distribution (Office)
12/17	6:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop #179 (Community Room, Kahler Hall)
Wed.	9:00 am	Healing Service (Chapel)
12/18	10:30 am	Bible Study (Library)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Community Room)
Thurs.	10:00 am	Sack Lunch Distribution (Office)
12/19	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Fri.	6:30 am	Men's Bible Study (Location to be determined)
12/20		
Sat	6:45 pm	AA Meeting (Community Room)
12/21		
Sun.	8:00 am	Rite I Sunday Service
12/22	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10:00 am	Advent Wreath Lighting (Sanctuary)
	10:15 am	Rite II Sunday Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Formation (Kahler Hall)
	11:45 am	Newcomer Coffee with Our Clergy (Community Room)
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting (Kahler Hall)

Prayer Intentions for the Week of December 15, 2019

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan
Diane Jardine Bruce, Bishop Suffragan

Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Liz Williams, Dick Swanson
President Donald Trump, Congress, Federal Courts
Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Onofre, Christopher, Paulette, Adele, Babs, Brenda, James, Jacob, Carolyn, Teresa, Duncan, Steven, Frank, Julie, Bruce, Briana, Charly, Paul, Diane, Kathie, Tom, William

THOSE ENDURING A LONG TERM ILLNESS:

Virginia, Wayne, Margery, Sheila, Carrie, Brian, Linda, Judy, Liz, Michelle, Kevin, Mary, Kathy, Amelia, Doug, Carol, Stacie, Rachel, Mary, Kim

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The ministry of Family to Family; all who volunteer and/or give financially to feed Ventura's hungry
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home

GIVE THANKS FOR:

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

IN MEMORIAM

Thomas Honeyman, Kathleen Craven, Doris Darby

Parish prayers for healing are listed for one calendar month. Contact the office with your request which may be added at any time. They may be requested and/or renewed by using the prayer cards in the pews.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector
The Rev. Liz Williams, Associate Rector
The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister
Tara Eisenhauer, Assistant Music Minister
Sara Edwards, Organist
Nadia Talley, ASL Interpreter
Bonnie Rubrecht, Parish Administrator
Kathleen Jensen, Administrative Assistant
Wendy Olivier, Nursery Caregiver

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Announcements December 15, 2019

*Thank you for joining us today! We'll continue to hold you in our prayers.
Please contact the church office for more information. God bless you!*

We invite you to join us again next Sunday!



Please help us thank the following people for our refreshments this morning:

8:00 am-Richard Goodman

**10:15 am-Bruce & Judy Kelly, Nate & Anne Alday,
Greg & Karyn Jackson**

*(Next week for hospitality: 8:00-Peter & Sharon Bowers
10:15-Bill & Kathleen Crookston, Woody & Louise Bretz,
Paul & Marilyn Angelo)*

If you would like to serve on our hospitality team, please let us know.

The Vestry Greeter today is Sarah Lamola come by and say hello



We are faithful people waiting for the coming of light, the coming of Christ...
PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD – Sunday, 12/15 Services at 8 & 10:15am
Be with us as we light the first, second, and third candles on our Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.



Come and join in the fun!

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY – Sunday, 12/15 at 11:45am

Bring your friends and neighbors and join us in Kahler Hall for our annual Christmas Carol Sing Along and Cookie Decorating Party.

All are welcome!



We are faithful people waiting for the coming of light, the coming of Christ...

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD – Sunday, 12/22 Services at 8 & 10:15am
Be with us as we light the first, second, third and fourth candles on our Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, the third candle is JOY, and the fourth candle is LOVE. Let's come together as we worship and wait, holding on to the hope that Christ has instilled in us, enjoying the peace that is beyond understanding, delighting in the joy that comes as we lift our thanks and praise, and celebrating the incredible gift of love offered to us through Jesus. Join us as we prepare the way of the Lord, lift our prayers and receive the bread and wine made holy. Come get inspired! Invite a friend and join us. We look forward to seeing you there!



Grab a cup of coffee and come join us!

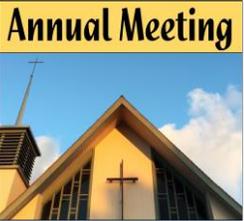
NEWCOMER COFFEE WITH OUR CLERGY – Sunday, 12/22 at 11:45am

Join us in the Community Room (the meeting room behind the kitchen in Kahler Hall). Our topic this month is: *Getting to know each other and the Episcopal Church*. Come meet people, ask questions and explore the faith.
All are welcome!



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

A warm welcome to you! We are 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.

	<p><i>Want to help feed the hungry?</i> IT'S OUR TURN TO SERVE LUNCH – Monday, December 16 Come help us serve lunch tomorrow at 303 N. Ventura Avenue. Preparation and set up begins at 9:30 am; servers are needed between 11:30 and 12:30 pm. Clean-up 12:30 – 1:00pm.</p>
	<p><i>Join in the fun, perform in our Epiphany Pageant. Who knows, you could be the STAR!</i> REHEARSALS FOR THE EPIPHANY PAGEANT – Sun. 12/29 & Sun. 1/5 The Epiphany pageant is an annual favorite for our Sunday School children, and they could use your help. We need a team of adults and teens to come act, sing, help with costumes, cue lines, help with staging, and be sure the camel gets his cue. Please let us know if you can help. Thanks!</p>
	<p>BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY – January 19 The next baptism opportunity will be on the Sunday we remember the Baptism of our Lord. <i>We become members of the body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism. If you have not been baptized, and would like to be, or would like to arrange baptism for a child, please speak with Rev. Susan or Rev. Liz to make arrangements. We look forward to it!</i></p>
	<p><i>Want to help our warm the hearts and bodies of our neighbors in need?</i> COATS FOR ALL - We are collecting new or gently used coats and jackets of all sizes now through the end of the year! The drive is sponsored by the Downtown Chapter of the Rotary Club. The donation box is located in the church lobby. SOCK DRIVE - Socks are also in high demand at this time of year for the men and women served by the Sack Lunch Program and Family to Family ministries. Drop of your sock donations in the basket on the REACH table. (Please no dress socks or children’s sizes.)</p>
	<p><i>Come learn how you can help make a difference</i> WOULD YOU CONSIDER GOING ON A MEDICAL MISSION TRIP TO JAMAICA? LEARN ALL ABOUT IT – Tuesday, December 17 at 7pm Dr. Steve Jones is going on another medical mission trip – this time to Jamaica. Would you be interested in going too? You don’t have to be a medical professional to go; most are not. We need lots of support staff too! If you’re interested, join us at 7pm on 12/17 at 10660 Candytuft St., Ventura to learn all about it.</p>
	<p><i>The Daughters of the King invite you to join us...</i> FIRST MONDAY BOOK CLUB – Monday, January 6, 5:30-7pm at Panera Bread. All are welcome! This month's selection is <i>Life Undercover: Coming of Age in the CIA</i> by Amaryllis Fox.</p>
	<p><i>Once a year we gather to do the business of the church. Please mark your calendar and join us.</i> ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL MEETING – January 26 at 11:30am All members of the church are encouraged to attend. We need enough members in attendance so that we will have a quorum. At this important meeting we will elect new Vestry members and Diocesan Convention. We receive reports from the groups and committees of the church and review our finances and the budget for the coming year. Please mark it on your calendar and arrange to be with us. Thank 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.</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.</p> <p>Thank you so much! It is great to be with you on this journey of faith.</p>

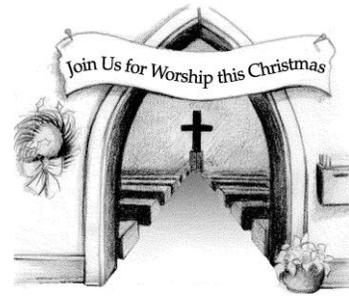


CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & MUSIC

We'd love to have especially beautiful flowers and music this Christmas. If you'd like to contribute, please mark your donation "Flowers & Music" and place in offering plate, send in offering envelope, or donate via the website, PayPal, or Text. Be sure to note whether the donation is in memory or honor of a loved one and whether you would like it included in the service bulletins. Donations accepted any time.

Deadline is to be listed in the bulletin is 12/15.

Thank You!



GREENING OF THE CHURCH Monday, December 23 at 9am

Help us transform the church in preparation for Christmas. Bring your friends and join us. Many hands make light work. Childcare available.



THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS EVE December 23 at 7pm

Come and enjoy the peace and beauty of the church on the night before Christmas Eve. Quiet music, bedtime stories and prayers. Children are invited to come in their jammies. Come get centered and connect with the spirit of Christmas before the festivities begin.



Christmas Eve at St. Paul's

4:00 p.m. Family Service

This is a friendly service that is especially appropriate for families and children of all ages.

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Carols begin at 10 p.m.

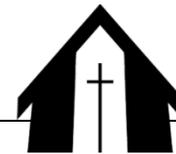
Service begins at 10:30 p.m.

This service includes: traditional Christmas lessons, candlelight, choir and Eucharist.

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Join us for a beautiful service on this holy day.



St Paul's, Ventura Your Church Home for the Holidays

We invite you to bring your family, friends and neighbors and join us this Christmas for inspiring worship, beautiful music, friendly fellowship, and the opportunity to be filled with the true message of Christmas.

3290 Loma Vista Road, Ventura

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(805) 643-5033

www.saintpaulsventura.org

Sunday Services at 8am & 10:15am

Wednesday Healing Service at 9am



EPIPHANY PAGEANT

Sunday, Jan. 12 at 10:15am

All are welcome! Come enjoy the service or participate in it. Rehearsals on Sun. 12/28 and Sun. 1/5. Contact the church office for details.