



St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Modesto, CA

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www.<https://www.saintpaulsmodesto.org/>

## Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1528 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA 95355 - (209) 522-3267

[www.saintpaulsmodesto.org](http://www.saintpaulsmodesto.org)

***The Second Sunday in Lent***

***March 5, 2023***



*For God so loved  
the world that he  
gave his one and  
only Son....*

### **Mission Statement**

We are a worshipping, inquiring and inclusive community united in Jesus' name to change the world.

### **Welcoming Statement**

We invite everyone to join in the communal life of the body of Christ, through participation and leadership in this congregation, and by fully sharing in the life and sacraments of this church. We affirm that each person is a child of God, and that those of every race, ethnicity, creed, age, gender, marital status, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation and gender identity are called to be one with us.

Prelude

Amy Maris

*Enter in silence*

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**All: His mercy endures forever.**

### **The Decalogue**

BCP page 350

Deacon or Celebrant: Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: Honor your father and your mother.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: You shall not commit murder.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: You shall not commit adultery.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: You shall not steal.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: You shall not be a false witness.

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon or Celebrant: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## ***St. Paul's Episcopal Church***

### **Pastoral Team**

Archdeacon Emeritus George Cano.....209-551-2304

Deacon Greg Masztal.....gregmasz@gmail.com

### **Parish Administrator and Facilities Coordinator**

Jeni Statzer: 209-522-3267.....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com

### **Other Important Contacts**

Music Director, Chuck Sheaffer .....cbshea@pacbell.net

Hand Bells, Judy Teter.....jlpt@sbcglobal.net

Prayer Chain, Jeni Statzer .....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com

St. Paul's Epistle & Bulletin, Cherie Sheaffer .....cbshea@pacbell.net

St. Paul's Web Page, Social Media, Deacon Greg Masztal ....gregmasz@gmail.com

Finance Committee, Judy Teter .....jltp@sbcglobal.net

Event Coordinator, Tracy Pugh.....vinofileincal@gmail.com

Stewardship Campaign, Sarah Hartmann .....shartmann1@charter.net

"Safeguarding God's Children/People" .....Jeni Statzer & Stephanie Gilmer

Children's Sunday School, Zach Statzer.....youthstpaulsmodesto@gmail.com

### **Vestry**

Senior Warden: Linda Lowe: 209-496-3937 .....lwlowe@outlook.com

Junior Warden: Carolyn List      Co-Junior Warden: Vickie Winchester

Brandi Anderson, Roberta Bearden, Sarah Hartmann, Carolyn List, Chuck Sheaffer, Nancy Silva, Judy Teter and Vickie Winchester

Treasurer: Stephanie Gilmer (non-vestry)

Vestry Clerk: Carolyn List

## ***Vestry Re-Cap February 2023***



The Vestry met via Zoom, Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Here's a brief re-cap of items discussed:

- ♦ The Minutes for the Annual Meeting and the January Vestry Meeting were approved.
- ♦ The Profit and Loss Statement for December 2022 was approved as presented. Due to generous support from the congregation and careful use of resources, all obligations have been met and the church finished the year in the black.
- ♦ Fundraisers-Information about the sale of raffle tickets will be forthcoming, with the drawing tentatively scheduled for the August picnic. Another possible fundraiser in August will be a dessert auction.
- ♦ Jr. Warden's Report-The fire sprinkler system and HVAC system each required repair. The wooden cross on the north side of the parking lot will be replaced.
- ♦ Zoe Statzer is working on re-vamping the St. Paul's website.
- ♦ The annual Parochial Report, required by the Diocese, has been submitted.

**Please continue to pray for the Vestry/Search Committee.**



Remember to set your clocks ahead 1 hour before you go to bed on Saturday March 11th

**All: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Deacon: Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

Celebrant or Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: 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**

Celebrant: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

**All: Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen**

## The Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

<sup>1</sup>Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm

Psalm 121

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*

from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup> My help comes from the Lord, \*

the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved \*

and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*

shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup> The Lord himself watches over you; \*

the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup> So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*

nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; \*

it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup> The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*

from this time forth for evermore.

## New Testament Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

## Meetings, News and Needs

- ◇ **Book Study** - Rex Adamson is hosting a weekly book study during Lent to examine the instruction of Christ given in the Gospel of Matthew to, “Go and make disciples of all nations...”. The discussions will center around the book, Is The Commission Still Great by Steve Richardson. The study will be at the home of Rex and Yvonne Adamson, Thursday evenings, 7-8:30, February 23, March 2, 9, 16, and 23. The book will be provided for free and registration is required. Call Rex at 209-595-4935 to register and for full details.
- ◇ There is a parish member living in the Coffee & Sunrise area who needs a ride to church on Sunday mornings. Please call Jeni if you can help.
- ◇ The Salvation Army commodities program at the church is in need of paper & plastic shopping bags. Please bring them to church on any Sunday or drop them off at the office any Monday from 9-12.
- ◇ Tai Chi meets in the Parish Hall every Tues. and Thurs. from 9 to 10.
- ◇ Food Distribution continues in the Parish Hall the 1st Wednesday of every month from 11 to 12 noon.
- ◇ BINGO - Mark your calendar on March 24th at 6:30 pm for an evening of *Bingo!* Invite your friends for an evening of fun for all ages!
- ◇ Paint and Succulents Day - Want to create something beautiful for all seasons? Need help or encouragement with painting and planting? In June come paint a flower pot guided by a local artist and fill it with lovely succulent plants while learning about them. All materials will be included to decorate the pot and finish it with a variety of plants. More details to come, including the date and time.







The chart to sign up for flowers for 2023 is in the narthex. Now is your chance to sign-up for the dates you want before they are taken.

Note: There are no flowers during Lent.

### ***Recycling at St. Paul's***

Every Sunday, collection cans for recycled aluminum cans and CA redeemable plastic will be placed in the church entrance. Please **rinse and drain** your recyclable plastic and aluminum cans before putting them in the bins. The money from recycling will go to fund "Creation Care" projects.



### ***Check Out Our Web Page***

Our web page has been redesigned!. Zoe Statzer has done an amazing job in redoing St. Paul's webpage. It is still in the same place and looks wonderful!



***Thank you Zoe!!!***

www.<https://www.saintpaulsmodesto.org/>



PLEASE consider singing in our church choir. Contact Chuck Sheaffer if you are interested. All voices are welcome!

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. <sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn: Levas #206 We walk by faith** *verses 1 and 3*

### **The Holy Gospel**

John 3:1-17

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

**All: Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God with-

out being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"<sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

<sup>11</sup>"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Homily

Father Dondi

## The Nicene Creed

BCP page 358

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became**



## ***BINGO! Night***

Ready for some early Spring family fun? Come to St. Paul's Parish Hall, Friday, March 24, 6:30 pm.

**Admission** - Free with a non-perishable food item to donate to The Food Initiative of Greater Stanislaus.

**Refreshments** - Finger Foods-Appetizers and Sweet Treats

**Help Needed** - Set-Up & Clean-Up, Bingo Caller, Number Recorder, Favorite Appetizer or Favorite Sweet Treat to Share. If any of these opportunities interest you, contact Linda Lowe, 209-496-3937 or [lwlowe@outlook.com](mailto:lwlowe@outlook.com).

***See you there!***

## ***Missing Birthdays***

I have noticed when I'm working on the Epistle, that I am missing many members birthdays. If you have been going to St. Paul's for a while and have seen your birthday listed in the Epistle, no need to worry, I have your dates. If you started attending in the last 3 or 4 years, then I probably don't have your birthday or anniversary dates. It is nice as a church family to be able to celebrate these special days, so please send me an email message

(cbshea@pacbell.net) with your dates, or catch me sometime after church, because I would love to be able to enter your names in the Epistle so we can all celebrate your special days with you!

Thanks, Cherie Sheaffer





## ***Prayer and Praise***

*as of 2-27-2023*

- ♦ Please pray for Ann Mootz's sister-in-law, that her surgery went well and for healing.
- ♦ Please pray for Sharon Andrews' son and daughter-in-law for healing, comfort, guidance and strength.
- ♦ Please pray for healing and comfort for Rebecca, a friend of Eric Sheaffer.
- ♦ Please pray for David West's continued healing.
- ♦ Pray for David McKinsey (friend of David West) he is having a serious heart issue and needs prayers for healing, guidance and strength.
- ♦ Vickie Diaz is asking for prayers for healing, strength and comfort.
- ♦ Please pray healing, strength, comfort and peace for Niniv Tamimi
- ♦ Continue to pray for healing and comfort for the Monroe's.
- ♦ Pray for healing for Claudine Romegialli. May the reason for her failing health be found and treatment started. Prayers for strength, healing and comfort.
- ♦ Prayers for continued healing for Jean, Sarah Hartmann's friend.
- ♦ Pray for strength, comfort and healing for Deacon Amy Larson.
- ♦ Continue prayers for healing for Rj.
- ♦ Continue prayers for Carol Collier for healing, comfort and peace.
- ♦ Update: Christine Judd is still receiving infusions of antibiotics. Prayers for healing, courage, strength and peace.
- ♦ Please pray for those who may be alone or struggling in someway.
- ♦ Please pray for our Vestry.
- ♦ Continued prayers for the search committee.

If you have any prayers, praises or updates you would like added, please contact Jeni using the church phone number 209-522-3267.

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 worshipped 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. Amen**

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **The Rite of Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### **Blessings and Celebrations**

#### **Birthday Prayer**

Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when they stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if they fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



**Wedding Anniversary Prayer**

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and His Church. Send, therefore, your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Prayer for the Anniversary of Baptism**

O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the Holy Spirit through the teaching of your Son, Jesus Christ, who was first baptized by John in the Jordan River. Bless this *child* of yours on the anniversary of Baptism, that the gifts of the Holy Spirit may ever remain with *them*, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Prayer for the Sick**

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servant *N.*, that *his* weakness may be banished and *his* strength restored; and that *his* health being renewed, *he* may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Offertory Hymn #401 The God of Abraham praise**

**The Holy Communion**  
**The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer B BCP page 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
 Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**Final Blessing and Dismissal**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**  
*The blessing is bestowed.*

**Recessional Hymn # 473 Lift high the cross**

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Amy Maris



**March Ministry Schedule**

	Mar 5	Mar 12	Mar 19	Mar 26
Clergy Homily	Rev. Dondi Rev. Dondi	Rev. Kathie Dcn. Greg	Rev. Dondi Rev. Dondi	Rev. Lyn Rev. Lyn
Acolytes	Jim P Annamary	Nancy S Judy T	Nancy S Judy T	Jim P Annamary
Lectors	Judy T Linda L	Ann M Steph G	Ann M Steph HW	Nancy S Barbara V
Intercessor	Sarah H	Judy T	Brandi A	Linda L
Greeters & Ushers	Phil M Carolyn L	Sarah H Vickie W Kevin W	Phil M Carolyn L	Sarah H Vickie W Kevin W
Vestry Rep	Sarah H	Judy T	Brandi A	Linda L



Celebrant: 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.

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

**Communion Hymn Levas# 150 Jesus the Bread of Life**

**Closing Prayers**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All: 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.**

**Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi**

**Lord make us instruments of your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

**where there is injury, pardon;**

**where there is discord, union;**

**where there is doubt, faith;**

**where there is despair, hope;**

**where there is darkness, light;**

**where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;**

**to be understood as to understand;**

**to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

**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.**

Celebrant: 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**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the

world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father:

**All: We remember his death; we proclaim his resurrection; we await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and the Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with Mary, Paul, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters, through Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

Celebrant: And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Fa-ther who art in hea-ven, Hal-lowed be thy Name, Thy king-dom  
come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven. Give us this day our  
dai-ly bread. For-give us our tres-pas-es, As we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us,  
as we for-give. And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-li-ver us from  
e-vil. Thine is the king-dom and the pow-er and the  
glo-ry for-ev-er. A-men

Celebrant: Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.

**All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

Agnus Dei

Je-sus, Lamb of God: have mer-cy on us. Je-sus, bear-er of our sins: have  
mer-cy on us. Je-sus, re-dem-er, re-deem-er, of the  
world: give us your peace, give us your peace.