## Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1528 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA 95355 - 209-522-3267 www.saintpaulsmodesto.org

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 10, 2023

"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE



# GATHERED IN MY NAME,

THERE AM I AMONG THEM."

MATTHEW 18:20, ESV

#### **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.

#### The Entrance Rite

Prelude Chuck Sheaffer

#### Processional Hymn #376 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

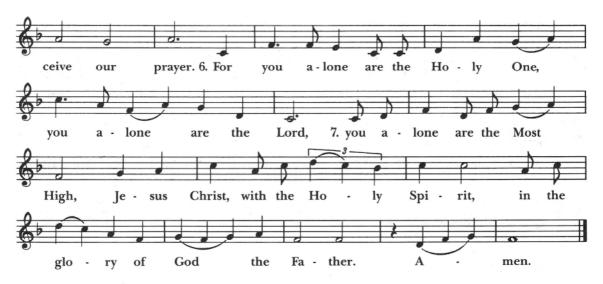
Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: 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.





Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you. Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen

#### The First Reading

Exodus 12:1-14

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup>If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Isra-

el shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. <sup>14</sup>This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### The Psalm

Psalm 149

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song; \*

sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; \*

let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

<sup>3</sup> Let them praise his Name in the dance; \*

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

<sup>4</sup> For the Lord takes pleasure in his people \*

and adorns the poor with victory.

<sup>5</sup> Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; \* let them be joyful on their beds.

<sup>6</sup> Let the praises of God be in their throat \* and a two-edged sword in their hand;

<sup>7</sup> To wreak vengeance on the nations \*

and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains \*
and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; \*
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!

#### The Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn #440 Blessed Jesus, at thy word

#### The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>15</sup>"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others

along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### **Homily**

Rev. Lyn Morlan

#### 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 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

#### The Prayers of the People

#### 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.

#### The Confession of Sin

Celebrant: 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: 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.

All: Amen.

#### 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.

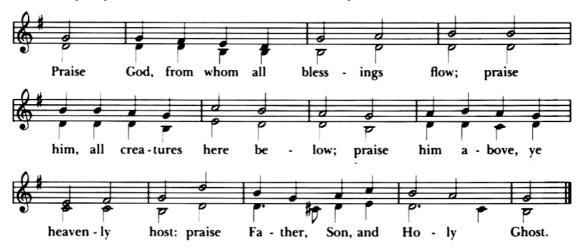
#### Prayer for the Sick

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

#### For the Election of a Minister

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for St. Paul's, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Offertory Hymn #411 Oh bless the Lord my soul



## The Holy Communion The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 1 Enriching our Worship

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

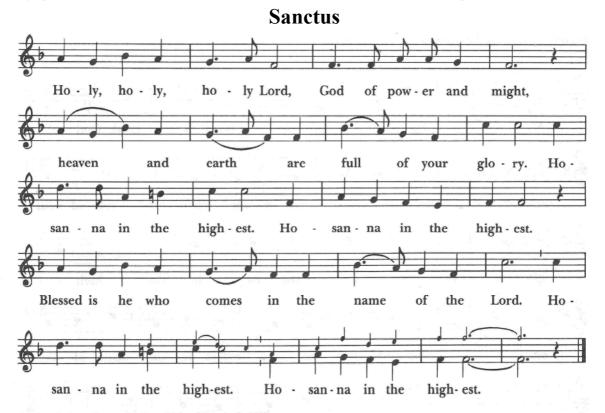
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

#### People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



Setting: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never

ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out 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:

#### All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen** 

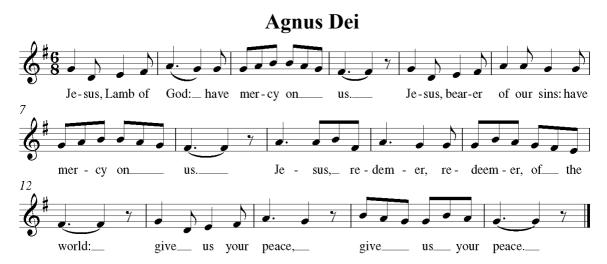
Celebrant: And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing

#### The Lord's Prayer



We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

All: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.



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 #146 Break thou the bread of life

#### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Celebrant: Let us Pray.

All: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior Amen.

#### **Final Blessing and Dismissal**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

The blessing is given.

#### Recessional Hymn #399 Praise to the Lord

Celebrant: Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord and others. Alleluia, Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude Chuck Sheaffer



The flowers at the altar today are given to the Glory of God by Chuck & Cherie Sheaffer in celebration of their 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary.

Sept 10 Acolyte Training

Sept 10 National Grandparent's Day

Sept 11 Patriot Day

Sept 15 - Oct 15 Hispanic Heritage Month

Sept 17 - Garden planting

Sept 18 Knit 1 Pray 2

Sept 23 First day of Autumn

Sept 24 Salvation Army Dinner

Oct 1 Sunday School starts



### We Have Gluten-free Wafers

Gluten-free communion wafers are available on request. Please let one of the ushers know if you'd like to receive gluten-free bread.



## Knit one Pray too

## Knit One, Pray Too

Fall is around the corner so time to get Knit1 Pray 2 back together. We meet the third Monday of the month at 1pm in the youth room in the Parish hall.

This year our charity is the Seaman's Institute. We are making scarfs, hats, socks etc.

If you would like to learn to knit or crochet we have an excellent teacher or if you prefer to work from home that is great. We have plenty of yarn and patterns. Call Gayle Ivy at 209 505 3142, we would love to have you join us.

### Ooops!

There were 2 birthday's left out of the September Epistle

Sept 1 - Greg Masztal

Sept 5 - Jeanette Comegys

My apologies and Happy Birthday!

## September Ministry Schedule

	Sept 3	Sept 10	Sept 17	Sept 24
Clergy	Rev. Dondi	Rev. Lyn	Rev. Kathie	Rev. Lyn
Homily	Rev. Dondi	Rev. Lyn	Rev. Kathie	Rev. Lyn
Acolytes	Jim P	Nancy S	Nancy S	Nancy S
	Annamary	Judy T	Judy T	Judy T
Lectors	Nancy S	Judy T	Joyce B	Barbara V
	Christine J	Steph HW	Sarah H	Ann M
Intercessor	Linda L	Carolyn L	Vickie W	Roberta B
Greeters	Christine J	Sarah H	Ishmael H	Sarah H
	Ishmael H	Carolyn L	Phil M	Christine J
Ushers	Phil M		Phil M	David L
Vestry Rep	Linda L	Carolyn L	Vickie W	Roberta B

## Sunday School Starts October 1 (revised date)

The starting date for in person Sunday School for our youth, elementary through high School has been changed to Oct. 1 to provide time for potential Sunday School teachers and parents to begin and hopefully complete the online "Safe Guarding Children" course. The youth are invited to gather in the Sunday School room, inside the main sanctuary after the processional hymn. They will return to the regular service during the offertory hymn.

We will need two adult volunteers to lead the Sunday School each week. Please let Chuck Sheaffer know if you are willing to help. You can call at 209-765-1214 or email cbshea@pacbell.net. All volunteers will be required to take the safeguarding training provided online through the diocese. Please contact Chuck if you have any questions cbshea@pacbell.net



## **Prayer and Praise** as of 9-4-2023

Please pray for healing and comfort for the following people:

**Alexander Galicia** (Kathie's grandson has pneumonia), **Canon Anna** (healing), **Celina Bridges** (friend of Sarah Hartman, Joyce & El-

len Bell, recovering from surgery), Al Spina (Nell Gerber's son-inlaw, for several severe health issues), James Himes (Christine Jayne's son), Ulli (friend of Doug & Allison Cox, recovering from surgery), Theresa Norling-Doede (George & Paige's g-grandson's mother), Neil (Rev. Lyn's brother), Roxie Bavaria (Anita Machado's brother), Bonnie Palmer, Linda Lowe's Aunt Mudge, Carol Collier, Darla (for permanent housing), Theresa Grieshaber (upcoming surgery), Christine Judd, Robin Magenot (George & Paige Cano's daughter), Sarah Manfredoni (George & Paige Cano's great-grandson's mother), Suzy Cano, Joan Miller, Susan Sell, Ann Mootz's sister-in-law, Elaine Paradis and Bishop Michael Curry.

- Please pray for the country of Ukraine and all the residents for peace and healing.
- Please pray for the people of Hawaii, especially the victims of the wildfires on Maui. See info under Meetings, News and Needs for how you can help.
- Pray for the leaders of all nations for wisdom.

## St. John's Episcopal Church in Lodi Events

Sep 10 - Native Plant Presentation Noon - 1

Sep 21 - Fall Study - Discovery Means Never Having to Say You're Sorry - Tom Hampson

Sep 28 - Indigenous Peoples of San Joaquin County and the Impacts of Colonialism -David Stuart

Oct 5 - Episcopal Church and Indigenous Peoples in the Present Tense - Deacon Tina Campbell

## Meetings, News and Needs

- Solution If you feel called to give to the crisis in Maui, we have put the Episcopal Relief Fund information on our website, saintpaulsmodesto.org. Please pray for the survivors, families that have lost loved ones, for the rescue workers and all involved in this tragedy!
- If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild please contact Elaine Paradis or Toni Clark.
- There will be a basket in the narthex for **the Shower Shuttle**, they always need underwear and socks! We will also be putting together hygiene kits and need two-blade razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, travel Kleenex, combs and q-tips. Clothes soap and dryer sheets are also a big need.
- Solution Series Ser
- Sood Distribution continues in the Parish Hall the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month from 10 to 11 (NOTE THE NEW TIME). If you are interested in helping, please contact Judy Teter. If you have grocery bags to donate, please bring on Sunday.
- So Choir is on vacation for the summer. We will restart in fall.
- The first Sunday of the month there is a donation box on the altar rail for Interfaith Ministries (Now called The Stanislaus Food Initiative).
- There will be a clothing donation box for MoPride in the narthex. We will be collecting clothing year around. They are also in need of feminine hygiene products.
- If you are interested in helping with Salvation Army dinners, please contact Linda Lowe.
- If you are interested in helping Knit One, Pray Two, please contact Gayle Ivy. They will be meeting the 3rd Monday of the month at 1 pm in the youth room of the Parish Hall.
- There are still free Covid 19 tests available in the Narthex or in the church office.
- If you are interested in joining a Wednesday Morning Prayer service or our Book Club contact Judy Thorkelson <a href="mailto:jthork2404@aol.com">jthork2404@aol.com</a>

## Linda's Mixed Berry Jam 2023

Back by popular demand! Jam made from some of the best berries our valley produces! While supplies last, get a 16 oz. jar of jam for the bargain price of

\$10. Sorry....no Venmo or American Express ..... cash or a check made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church with "jam" in the memo section. Contact Linda Lowe, 209-496-3937 or <a href="mailto:lwlowe@outlook.com">lwlowe@outlook.com</a> today!

Linda will GLADLY accept any jars that need recycling.

## Recycling at St. Paul's

Every Sunday, collection cans for recycled aluminum cans and CA redeemable plastic are 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 like our visual cases fund "Creation Care" projects like our visual cases.



will go to fund "Creation Care" projects like our vegetable garden.



News about Diocesan events and weekly spiritual encouragement are available at the Diocese of

San Joaquin website, <a href="https://www.diosanjoaquin.org">https://www.diosanjoaquin.org</a>. The "Friday Reflection" is available through the "News and Resources" link. To receive the Friday Reflection directly to your in-box, sign up via the link at the top of the Home page.

## Vegetable Garden!

On Sunday September the 17th right after the service, we will be planting vegetables in our newly created vegetable garden on the south side of the church. We would like to invite our youth to help with the planting. If you have questions or would like to help, please call Chuck Sheaffer at 209-765-1214.



## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

#### **Pastoral Team**

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

Jeni Statzer: 209-522-3267...... jstatzer@saintpaulsmodesto.org

#### **Other Important Contacts**

#### **Vestry**

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

Junior Wardens: Carolyn List & Vickie Winchester

Roberta Bearden, Sarah Hartmann, Carolyn List, Linda Lowe, Chuck Sheaffer,

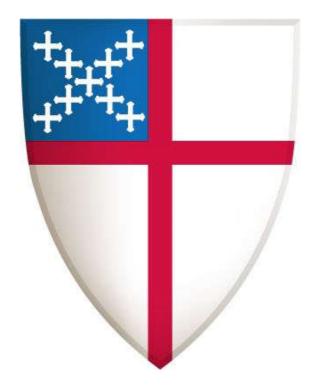
Nancy Silva, Judy Teter and Vickie Winchester

Treasurer: Stephanie Gilmer (non-vestry)

Vestry Clerk: Carolyn List

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

If you have any pastoral needs, please contact the church office.





## St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Modesto, CA

https://www.facebook.com/St-Pauls-Episcopal-Church-of-Modesto-CA-106952012668211/
Then click on videos.



www.https://www.saintpaulsmodesto.org/