Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 17, 2023



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

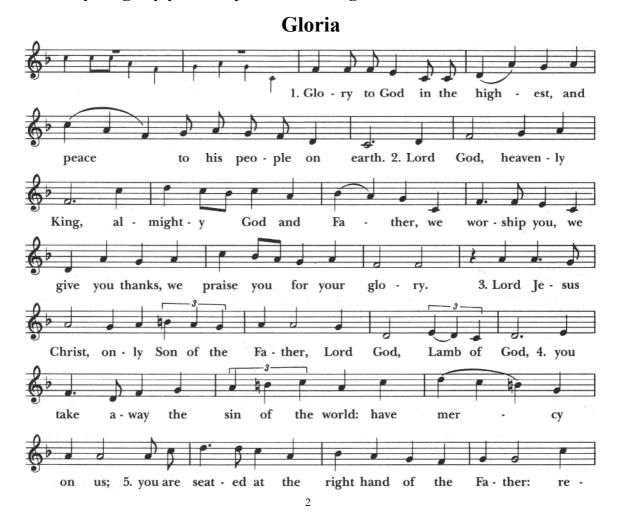
Prelude

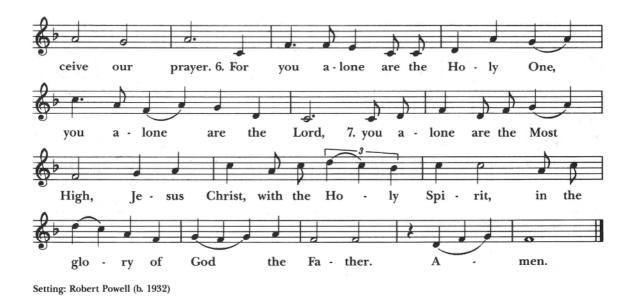
Chuck Sheaffer

Processional Hymn #414 God my King, thy might confessing

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.





Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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 14:19-31

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."²⁶Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 114

¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, * the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
² Judah became God's sanctuary * and Israel his dominion.
³ The sea beheld it and fled; * Jordan turned and went back.
⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, * and the little hills like young sheep.
⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? * O Jordan, that you turned back? ⁶You mountains, that you skipped like rams? * you little hills like young sheep?

⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, * at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸ Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water * and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

The Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn #482 Lord of all hopefulness

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew. All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²¹Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Rev. Kathie Galicia

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.

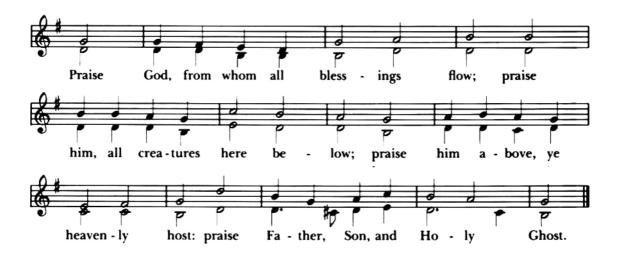
Prayer for the Sick

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 #660 O Master, let me walk with thee



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.

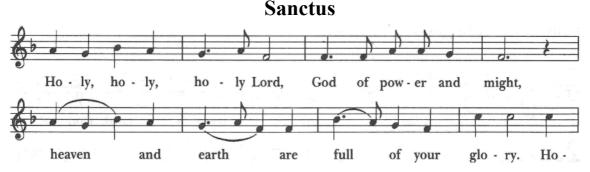
People: We lift them to the Lord.

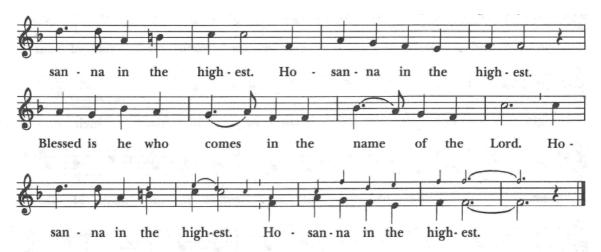
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

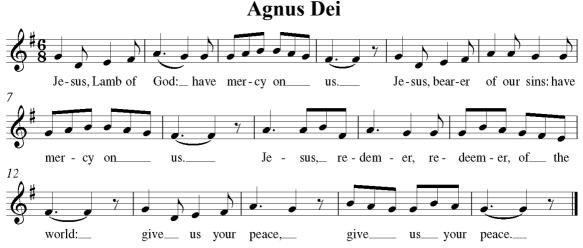
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen**

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 #149 In remembrance of Me

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 #541 Come labor on

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 Barbara Vassell in celebration of her 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



September 23 Work Day

It is time to "spruce up" the St. Paul's campus as we get ready for all the fall activities. Join the group helping trim, dust, wipe, sweep, etc., Saturday, September 23, 9 am-noon. More details to

- Sept 15 Oct 15 Hispanic Heritage Month
- Sept 17 Garden planting
- Sept 18 Knit 1 Pray 2
- Sept 23 St. Paul's Work Day
- Sept 23 First day of Autumn
- Sept 24 Salvation Army Dinner
- Oct 1 Sunday School starts



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 <u>cbshea@pacbell.net</u>

Prayer and Praise as of 9-9-2023



Show Please pray for healing and comfort for the following people:

Pam Cox (recovering from surgery), **Corrine**, **Canon Anna** (healing), **Celina Bridges** (friend of Sarah Hartman, Joyce & Ellen Bell, recovering

from surgery), **Al Spina** (Nell Gerber's son-in-law, for several severe health issues), **Ulli** (friend of Doug & Allison Cox, recovering from surgery), **Theresa Norling-Doede** (George & Paige's g-grandson's mother), **Neil** (Rev. Lyn's brother), 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, Susan Sell, Ann Mootz's sister-in-law, Elaine Paradis** and **Bishop Michael Curry** (surgery on Sept 20).

Praise that **Alexander Galicia** (Kathie's grandson) is recovering from his case of pneumonia.

- 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.
- See Pray for the leaders of all nations for wisdom.

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.



Meetings, News and Needs

- 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!
- Show If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild please contact Elaine Paradis or Toni Clark.
- Shere 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.
- See Tai Chi meets in the Parish Hall every Tues. and Thurs. from 9-10.
- So Food Distribution continues in the Parish Hall the 1st 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.
- Shoir is on vacation for the summer. We will restart in fall.
- See If you are interested in playing hand bells, contact Judy Teter.
- So The first Sunday of the month there is a donation box on the altar rail for Interfaith Ministries (Now called The Stanislaus Food Initiative).
- So 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.
- So If you are interested in helping with Salvation Army dinners, please contact Linda Lowe. The next one is Sept 24.
- So If you are interested in joining 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.
- So If you are interested in joining a Wednesday Morning Prayer service or our Book Club contact Judy Thorkelson <u>jthork2404@aol.com</u>

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.

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 <u>Iwlowe@outlook.com</u> 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 CREATION CARE

and aluminum cans before putting them in the bins. The money from recycling will go to fund "Creation Care" projects like our vege-table garden.

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

Archdeacon Emeritus George Cano	209-551-2304
Deacon Greg Masztal	.gregmasz@gmail.com

Parish Administrator and Facilities Coordinator

Joni Ctatzary		istatzar@saint	noulemedeste era
Jeni Statzer:	209-522-5267.	 JSLatzer@Saint	paulsmouesto.org

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 M	1asztal gregmasz@gmail.com
Finance Committee, Judy Teter	jltpt@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

Vestry

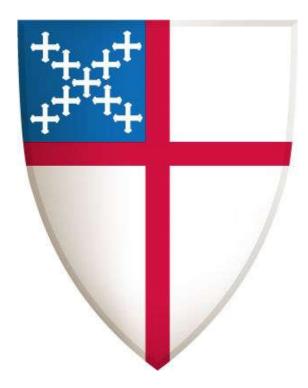
Senior Warden: Linda Lowe: 209-496-3937 lwlowe@outlook.com Junior Wardens: Carolyn List & Vickie Winchester

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.







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