

# Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

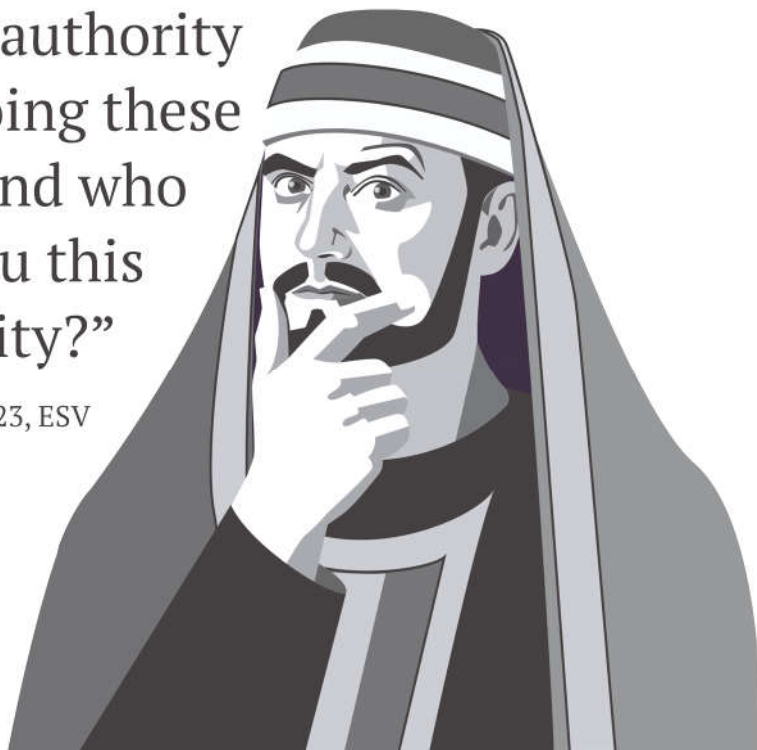
[www.saintpaulsmodesto.org](http://www.saintpaulsmodesto.org)

***Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

***October 1, 2023***

“By what authority  
are you doing these  
things, and who  
gave you this  
authority?”

Matthew 21:23, 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 #372 Praise to the living God

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.**

### Gloria (S278)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen**

## The First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there

for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?”<sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”<sup>5</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

- <sup>1</sup> Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- <sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- <sup>3</sup> That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.
- <sup>4</sup> We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.
- <sup>12</sup> He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- <sup>13</sup> He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- <sup>14</sup> He led them with a cloud by day, \*  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- <sup>15</sup> He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- <sup>16</sup> He brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

## The Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn #546 Awake my soul, stretch every nerve**

## The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

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

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

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will

also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **Homily**

Rev. 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 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.

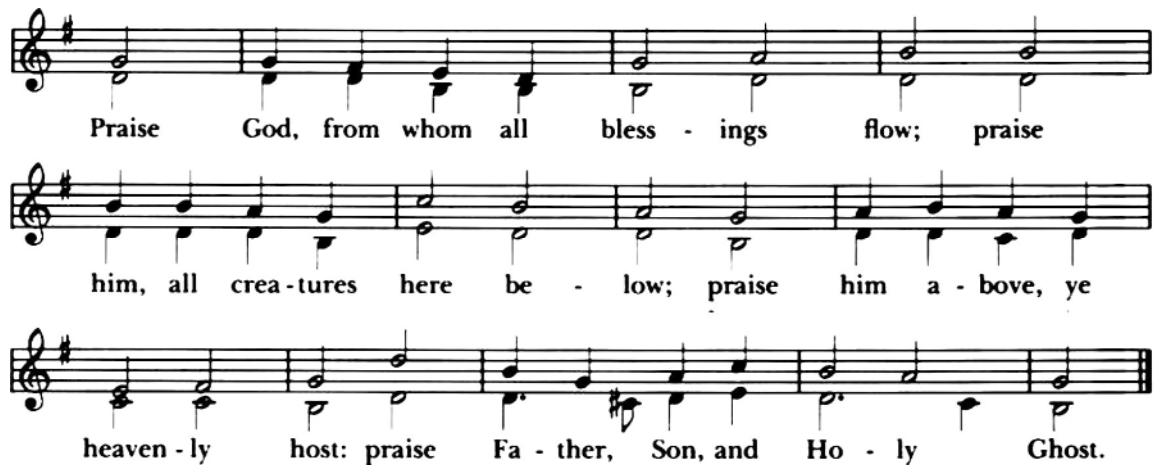
## Prayer for the Sick

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 WLP # 794 Muchos resplandores (see insert)



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise  
him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye  
heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

# The Holy Communion

## The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP page 361

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.**

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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 S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, — Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, — hea - ven and earth are

full, \_\_\_\_\_ full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
 in the high - est. Bless - ed 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: 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 us 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:

**All: 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.

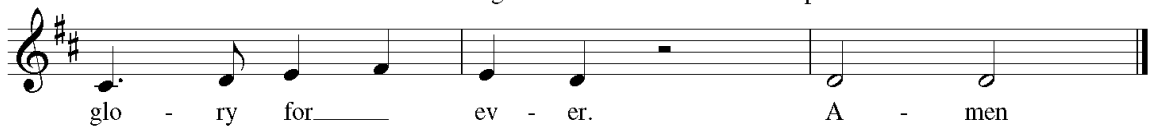
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By Him, and with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

**All: Amen**

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

## The Lord's Prayer

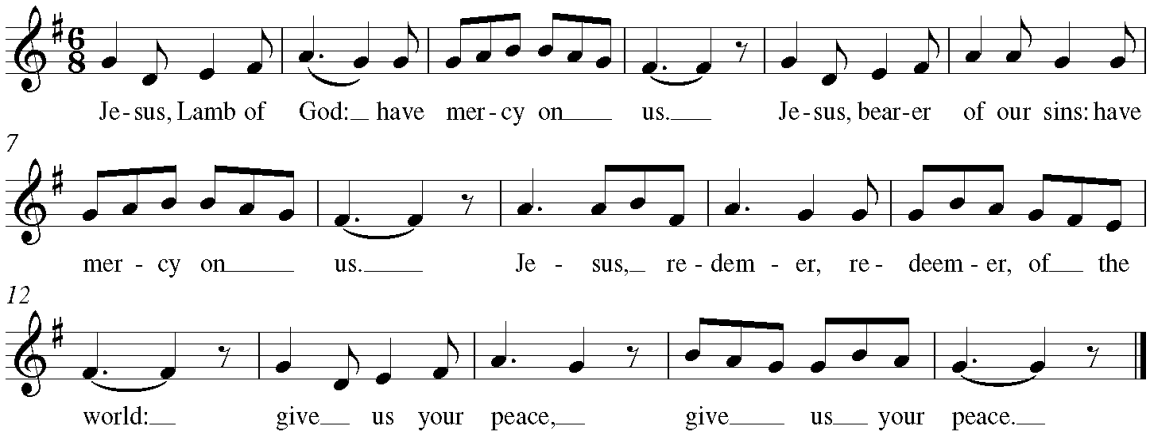
Our Fa-ther who art in hea-ven, Hal-lowed be thy Name, Thy king-dom  
come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea ven. Give us this day our  
dai-ly bread. For-give us our tres-pas-es, As we for-give those who tres-pass-a-against us,  
as we for-give. And lead us not in-to temp-ta-ion, but de-li-ver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



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

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

### Agnus Dei



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 #154 Taste and see**

### Post-Communion Prayer

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.**

## Final Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*The blessing is given.*

### Recessional Hymn #495 Hail thou once despised Jesus

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. 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 Mary Kinnaman  
in honor of her son, Jeffrey's birthday.

## ***October Ministry Schedule***

	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct 15	Oct 22	Oct 29
Clergy Homily	Fr. Dondi	Rev. Lyn	Rev. Kathie	Rev. Kathie Dcn Greg	Rev. Lyn
Acolytes	Judy T	Judy T Nancy S	Jim P Annamary	Nancy S Judy T	Nancy S Judy T
Lectors	Judy T Steph HW	Christine J Nancy S	Linda L Barbara V	Judy T Ann M	Barbara V Christine J
Intercessor	Linda L	Judy T	Sarah H	Nancy S	Carolyn L
Greeters	Claudine R Ishmael H	Phil M Christine J	Claudine R Carolyn L	Phil M Ishmael H	Christine J Carolyn L
Usher		David L			David L
Vestry Rep	Linda L	Judy T	Sarah H	Nancy S	Carolyn L

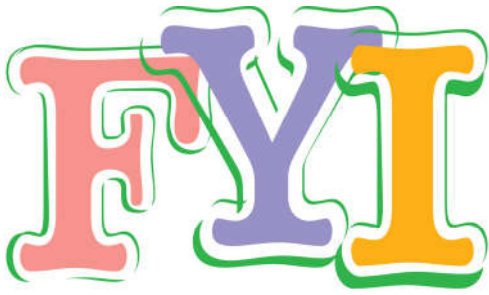


## ***Prayer and Praise*** as of 9-25-2023

- Theresa Grieshaber her operation was very successful and she is home. Please continue praying for healing, comfort, strength and peace. Please pray for comfort, strength and patience for her family.
- Louisa Bryant will be moving to Texas around October 10<sup>th</sup>, pray-ers for safe and peaceful travel. Louisa will be moving into a new apartment in a senior, gated community.
- ☞ Please pray for healing and comfort for the following people:

Craig Persons	Linda's Aunt Mudge
Pam, Mike and John Cox	Deacon George
Christine Judd	Robin Magenot
Suzy Cano	Sarah Manfredoni
Elaine Paradis	Winchester's daughter Suzanne
Carol Collier	Bob & Clare Jensen
Bonnie Palmer	Ann Mootz's sister-in-law
Susan Sell	
- Susan Sell's son Bryce for strength.
- Danny Cox to find employment.
- ☞ 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.
- ☞ Pray for the leaders of all nations for wisdom.

If you are not receiving email messages from St. Paul's, please contact Jeni in the church office so we can add you to our list.  
Jeni Statzer: 209-522-3267 [jstatzer@saintpaulsmodesto.org](mailto:jstatzer@saintpaulsmodesto.org)



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

☞ If you are interested in joining the **Altar Guild** please contact Elaine Paradis or Toni Clark.

☞ **Tai Chi** meets in the Parish Hall every Tues. and Thurs. from 9-10.

☞ **Choir** is on vacation for the summer. We will restart in fall.

☞ If you are interested in playing

**hand bells**, contact Judy Teter.

☞ **Food 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.

☞ 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. **The next one is Sept 24.**

☞ If you are interested in joining **Knit One, Pray Two**, please contact Gayle Ivy. They will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 1 pm in the youth room of the Parish Hall. This years charity is the Seaman's Institute. They are making scarfs, hats, socks etc.

☞ 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** ser-



vice or our Book Club contact Judy Thorkelson  
[jthork2404@aol.com](mailto:jthork2404@aol.com)

- ☞ 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.



## ***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.

## ***Vegetable Garden!***

We are trying to get a vegetable garden ready to plant but need some help with pulling out the plants that are there and setting up the planting box. If you can help with this project, please contact Chuck. The goal is to have a project for the kids of St. Paul's. If you have questions or would like to help, please call Chuck Sheaffer at 209-765-1214.



- Oct 1 Sunday School starts
- Oct 7 St. John's Lodi fund raiser at Pondl winery
- Oct 13 Healthy Aging & Fall Prevention Summit  
(see next page)
- Oct 21 Donation Drive for local refugees



**Friday, October 13, 2023**

**8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Modesto Centre Plaza**

**A FREE EVENT FOR OLDER ADULTS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS**



### **Health Screenings & Services**

Diabetes & Cholesterol Screenings (need to fast prior) | Blood Pressure Checks  
Bone Density | Depression Screening | Oral Cancer Screening  
Foot Care Screening | Skin Health Assessments | Vision Screenings  
Senior Fitness Tests | Drop the Drugs | Medicare Card Lamination  
Flu Shots | Home Modification Display | and more!

**First 500 Attendees\* Can Receive a Bag of Fruits and Vegetables**  
**\*One bag per household, must fill out evaluation form**



Healthy Aging Association (209)525-4670

healthy.aging2000@gmail.com www.healthyagingassociation.org



The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin

News about Diocesan events and weekly spiritual encouragement are available at the Diocese of San Joaquin website, <https://www.diosanjoaquin.org>. 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.

# ***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 ..... jstatzer@saintpaulsmodesto.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 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

## **Vestry**

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

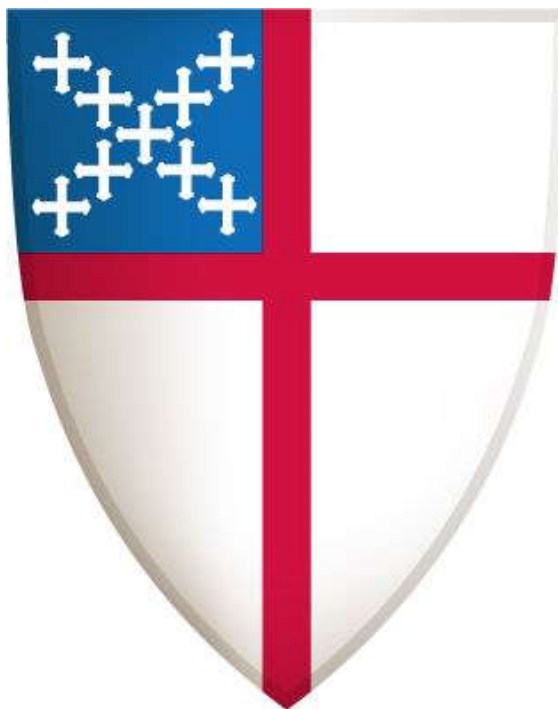
Roberta Bearden, Sarah Hartmann, Carolyn List, Linda Lowe, Chuck Sheaffer,  
Nancy Silva, Judy Teter and Vickie Winchester

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.



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