Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 12, 2023



For when the **foolish** took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the **WiSE** took **flasks of oil** with their lamps.

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

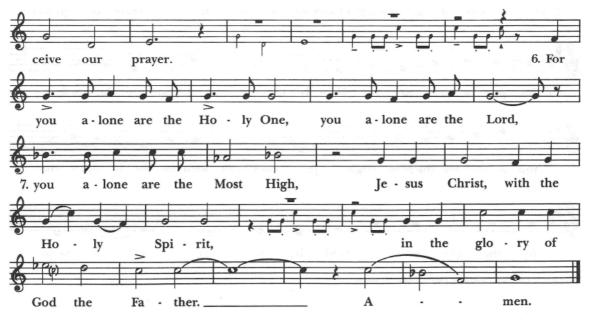
Chuck Sheaffer

Processional Hymn #690 Guide me, O great Jehova

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: William Mathias (b. 1934)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The First Reading

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ³Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. ¹⁴Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸ and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." ¹⁹But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." ²¹And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" ²²Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses."²³He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel."²⁴The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey."²⁵So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 78:1-7

¹Hear my teaching, O my people; * incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable; *

I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

³ That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, * we will not hide from their children.
⁴ We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, * and the wonderful works he has done.
⁵ He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, * which he commanded them to teach their children;
⁶ That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; * that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
⁷ So that they might put their trust in God, * and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments;

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn Keep your lamps trimmed and burning (see insert)

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

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

¹"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.⁸The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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

The response to "We are generous with our gifts " is Because we are rooted in abundance

Celebrant/Deacon: Gather us together, O God, that we might share the prayer, intentions, and thanksgivings of our community. We are generous with our gifts

Because we are Rooted in Abundance

Celebrant: Hear the prayers of your people, Creator God. May we who are blessed by so much wealth and wisdom, share our works with a world in need. **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.

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

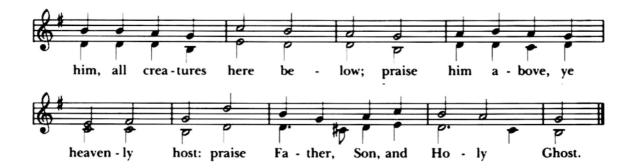
O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servant *N*., that *his* weakness may be banished and *his* strength restored; and that *his* health being renewed, *he* may bless your holy Name; 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 #717 My country tis of thee





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





Setting: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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.

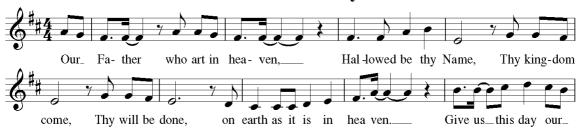
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

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.

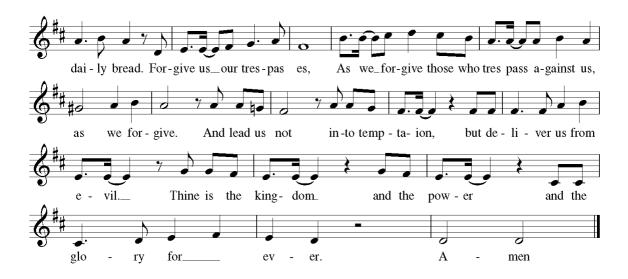
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By Him, and with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All: Amen

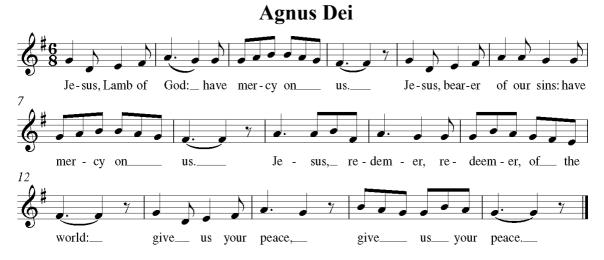
Celebrant: And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing



The Lord's Prayer



Celebrant: Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us. All: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



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 #324 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

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 #719 America the beautiful

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 Ann Mootz in memory of her parents Sam & Mary Wode.

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.

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

| | Nov 5 | Nov 12 | Nov 19 | Nov 26 | |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| Clergy | Rev. Dondi | Rev. Lyn | Rev. Kathie | Rev. Kathie | |
| Homily | Rev. Dondi | Rev. Lyn | Rev. Kathie | Dcn. Greg | |
| Acolytes | Judy T | Judy T | Nancy S | Jim P | |
| | Nancy S | Nancy S | Jim P | Annamary | |
| Lectors | Barbara V | Sarah H | Ann M | Linda L | |
| | Steph G | Judy T | Steph HW | Christine J | |
| Intercessor | Vickie W | Sarah H | Linda L | Roberta B | |
| Greeters | Ishmael H | Christine J | Phil M | Claudine R | |
| | Susan S | Claudine R | Sarah H | Christine J | |
| Ushers | Ishmael H | David L | Phil M | Claudine R | |
| | Phil M | Claudine M | Sarah H | David L | |
| Vestry Rep | Vickie W | Sarah H | Linda L | Roberta B | |

November Ministry Schedule Revised

The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin

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

Joaquin website, <u>https://www.diosanjoaquin.org</u>. 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.

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

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 be

CREATION CARE

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 vegetable garden.



Prayer and Praise as of 11-4-2023

Praise that Deacon George is feeling stronger.
Please pray for healing and comfort for the following people:

Theresa Grieshaber Craig Persons Pam, Mike and John Cox Christine Judd Suzy Cano Elaine Paradis Carol Collier David West Susan Sell Linda's Aunt Mudge Deacon George (he is doing better) Robin Magenot Sarah Manfredoni Winchester's daughter Suzanne Ann Mootz's sister-in-law The Munroes Bonnie Palmer Michael Thorington Barbara Weeden Leslie Littlefield Al Spina, Hospice Sheri, the Bearden's daughter Claudia Miller's daughter, Hospice Darla Davisson Sharon Andrew's daughter-in-law

Susan Sell's son Bryce for strength.

- Please pray for those in war torn areas everywhere; Ukraine, Holy Land, Gaza, Palestine and Afghanistan.
- 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 Pray for the leaders of all nations for wisdom.

Please see Jeni's weekly email for the entire list.

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



Sunday School has started and is held in the room at the back of the church during the Readings and the Homily.

So **Tuesday Noon Day Prayer** in the Guadalupe Chapel at 12 noon, every Tuesday. To be followed by **Jump Start** Bible study.

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

- So Tai Chi meets in the Parish Hall every Tues. and Thurs. from 9-10.
- Section Choir is still on a break.
- See If you are interested in playing **hand bells**, contact Judy Teter.
- Food Distribution continues in the Parish Hall the 1st Wednesday of every month from 10 to 11. If you are interested in helping, please contact Judy Teter. If you have grocery bags to donate, please bring on Sunday.
- 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).
- Shere 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.
- Show 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. This years charity is the Seaman's Institute. They are making scarfs, hats, socks etc.
- So 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 <u>jthork2404@aol.com</u>
- 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.



Cookie Walk 2023

It's time to think about the **Cookie Walk** for this year. Dates for this year are Saturday and Sunday December 9 and 10.

The **Cookie Walk** has been St. Paul's consistent fund-raising activity over the last decade.

Ticket purchasers "walk" along the cookie tables and choose their cookies. We will continue our basic walk for cookies but will offer other baked and prepared items, like cinnamon rolls, pies, and fruit jams. We will advertise on our sign so we should expect walk-ins.

We need **Cookie Bakers**, **Cookie Walkers**, **Backstage Arrangers**, and **Ticket takers**. But also, volunteers for set up, take down, and decorating. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

Cookie Bakers are key. Our goal is 6,000 cookies. This is 200 batches of about 30 cookies each. We have actually exceeded this goal every year. If you can bake but are unable to sign up on the volunteer sheet, please call/text Carolyn List 209 604 2398 or Claudine Romegialli at 209 489 8722.

The price per baker's dozen of cookies will again be \$10 per box and prices for other items will be a multiple of \$5.00 so cookie tickets may be used to purchase other items. Please consider selling or buying at least 5 Cookie Walk tickets. Think about giving a paid ticket to family members or neighbors. When they come to pick up their cookies, they often purchase additional boxes. Boxed cookies also make great gifts.

Nov 5 Salvation Army Dinner Nov 18 Ukraine Christmas card day Nov 19 Knit 1 Pray 2 during Coffee Hour Dec 9-10 Cookie Walk



Knit 1 Pray 2

Winter is coming and now is the time to learn how to Knit or Crochet.

Come join us during the Coffee Hour after the Sunday Service, on Nov 19th to learn how to make a book-



mark. We have yarn, needles and an excellent teacher. Come and have fun and join our group at Coffee Hour Nov 19th Gayle Ivy

Christmas Cards for Ukraine

On Saturday morning, November 18, from 10 AM-12 noon we will have an activity in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's to prepare Ukrainian made Christmas Cards to send to members of the US Congress. These beautiful cards will have a hand written message thanking each member for their support of Ukraine with humanitarian aid in 2023 and asking for continued aid in 2024, as well as a Christmas blessing for each congressional member. It is easy to forget those in need who are so far away, but the aid from the US has been pivotal in maintaining the Ukrainian economy and providing critical emergency services during the war.

The activity is free to participate and cards will be provided. People can also bring their own Christmas cards to prepare and send should they choose. Children are welcome to come and draw their own cards to send as well. We will have some light treats to eat and coffee.

There will be a basket available for a free-will donation to be collected to cover the cost of postage for the cards in Ukraine, for those that are interested.

The activity is planned by Rex Adamson, 209-595-4935. All are welcome.

Munchies are needed for this event. If you can help, please contact Linda Lowe 209-496-3937 or lwlowe@outlook.com to sign up.

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 |
|----------------------------|---|
| | Joint Contraction of |

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 | asztal 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" | leni Statzer & Stephanie Gilmer |

Vestry

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

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

Treasurer: Stephanie Gilmer (non-vestry) Vestry Clerk: Carolyn List



St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Modesto, CA

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