

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

www.saintpaulsmodesto.org

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 25, 2024



Mission Statement

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

Welcoming Statement

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

Prelude

Chuck Sheaffer

Opening Hymn #517 How lovely is thy dwelling place

Blessed be God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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

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: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The first lesson is from Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

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. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:

“Now 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. Now 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.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for 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; 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.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34:15-22

- 15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.
- 16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, *
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.
- 18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted *
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

- 19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.
- 20 He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.
- 21 Evil shall slay the wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
- 22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

The second reading is from Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn Levas #119 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 6:56-69

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: Dc. Greg Masztal

The Nicene Creed

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

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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 peace of the Lord be always with you.

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 thy peace which passeth 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, there-

fore, your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer for the Anniversary of Baptism

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

Prayer for the Sick

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

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Hymn Levas #394 Creating God, your fingers trace

The Holy Communion The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

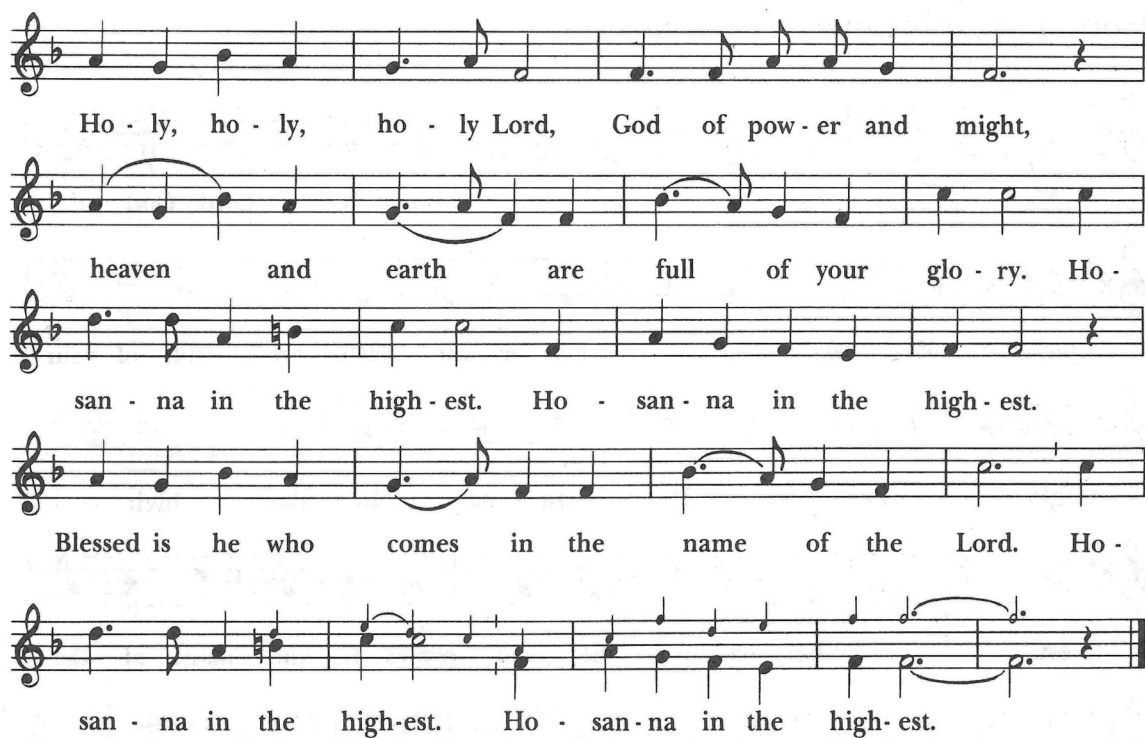
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Proper Preface

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus



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

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

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 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

Our Fa-ther who art in hea-ven, Hal-owed 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
glo - ry for ev - er. A - men

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

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

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.

Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available. All are welcome at God's table. If you want just a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your body.

Communion Hymn Levas #118 Spirit song

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn #690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia. Grace be with you.

Thanks be to God.

Go in peace.

We go in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer

Message from the Standing Committee of the Diocese

As we begin the process of **looking for our next Bishop Diocesan of the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin**, we are entering a time of discernment where we listen to God's call on our lives and our community. Part of this discernment is looking at where we are at this place in time and where we would like to put energy in the future. The 20-minutes needed to complete the "Landscape" Diocesan Survey is time well spent as your responses will help us to best determine who is a good fit to lead us on our path as our next Bishop Diocesan.

The survey will be open for all responses until Thursday, August 29. If you want to participate but prefer not to join the Friday Reflection list, contact the church office, 209-522-3267. The survey can be printed and completed with paper and pencil and submitted by anyone who accesses the link.

Questions? Contact the Church Office, 209-522-3267. Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm

New Midweek Eucharist

Thursday, Eucharist service, 10 am in the side chapel of the church.
First Thursday of the month, Rite I. All are welcome.

Contact the church office, 209-522-3267, with questions.

Knit 1, Pray 2

Knit 1, Pray 2 will meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 1 pm. If you are interested in learning how to knit, we have a great teacher and we have all the supplies you will need.

Gayle Ivy 209-505-3142

Bags Needed for Monthly Salvation Army Food Distribution

Hello St Paul's Family,

We are once again in need of paper and plastics bags for the Salvation Army food program. Please bring them to church on Sunday mornings and leave them in the narthex or take them to the church office during the week. They are greatly appreciated. Thank You.

Judy Teter

Fr. Brian Schedule

Fr. Brian is in the office usually on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. He can be contacted by phone, text or email (see contact page). Monday is his day off so please only call if it is important. Fr. Brian is happy to catch up with people for a conversation over breakfast, coffee or whatever suits.



For Health, Peace and Comfort:

Cherie Sheaffer; Claudine Romegialli; Pam & Mike Cox; Suzy Cano; Elaine Paradise; Deacon George; Ann Mootz's sister-in-law; Mary Kinnaman; Michael Thorington; Ismael Huggins; Kristina & Rozy Frias; Ken & Trish Hart; Mary Griffin; Joshua Trautmann; Christine Judd; Craig Persons, Marti Persons; Danielle Verges; Christine Jayne; Howard Grieshaber; Brett Wychoff; Lisa; Rosanna; Jim and Annamary; Anthony

Praise God:

New beginnings at St. Paul's as Fr. Brian begins his ministry.

New home for Bonnie and Charlie Palmer.

Please Pray For:

Peace and comfort for Deacon Terrance's family as he transitioned to Heaven
Remkiewicz family for the loss of their daughter, comfort and peace.

Gabe Trautmann for success in his job search.

Ally Young for success in her job search.

Please pray for those in war torn areas everywhere: Ukraine, Holy Land,
Gaza, Palestine and Afghanistan.

Pray for the leaders of all nations for wisdom.

Please pray for the American people to listen to God's will in their hearts and
do unto others as they would want done to them and their families.

Please pray for all travelers as they journey to and from their destinations.

Please see the weekly email for the entire list.

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

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



The flowers at the altar today
are given to
The Glory of God by David and Linda Lowe

****Join Us for Noonday Prayer ****

We extend a warm invitation to join us for the weekly Noonday Prayer service, held every Tuesday at noon in the Guadalupe Chapel in the parish hall.

Our Noonday Prayer service offers a brief yet meaningful opportunity for worship, reflection, and communal prayer. Lasting just a short while, it's a perfect chance to step away from the rush of our schedules and center ourselves in the presence of God.

In addition to our time of prayer, we will also take a moment to read the readings for the upcoming Sunday. This allows us to prepare our hearts and minds for the messages and lessons that will be shared during our Sunday service. It's a chance to delve deeper into the Word, to ponder its significance, and to consider how it speaks to our lives today.

Contact Sarah Hartmann, 215-917-8477, with any questions.

August Ministry Schedule

Dates	August 4th	August 11th	August 18 th	August 25th
Clergy	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian Dc Greg
Acolytes	Judy T. Nancy S.	Judy T. Nancy S.	Jim P. Nancy S.	Judy T.
Eucharistic Minister	Judy T.	Rex A.	Nancy S.	Rex A.
Lectors	Stephanie H-W Nancy S.	Judy T. Joyce B.	Alex S. Christine J.	Ann M. Barbara V.
Intercessor	Sarah	Ann	Linda	Lora
Ushers	Greg B. Claudine R.	Phil M. David L.	Carolyn L. Susan S.	Phil M. David L.
Greeters	Greg B. Claudine R.	Christine J. Phil M.	Carolyn L. Susan S.	Phil M. Christine J.
Vestry Rep.	Sarah	Ann	Linda	Lora

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Pastoral Team

Fr. Brian Dawson 209-897-1612 FrBrianDawson@gmail.com
Archdeacon Emeritus George Cano
Deacon Greg Masztal.....deacongreg66@outlook.com

Senior Warden

Linda Lowe: 209-522-3267stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com

Other Important Contacts

Music Director, Chuck Sheaffercbshea@pacbell.net
Hand Bells, Judy Teterjlpt@sbcglobal.net
Prayer Chainstpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com
St. Paul's Epistle & Bulletin, Cherie Sheaffer.....cbshea@pacbell.net
Social Media, Deacon Greg Masztaldeacongreg66@outlook.com
Finance Committee, Carolyn Listcarolynlist@sbcglobal.net
Stewardship Campaign, Sarah Hartmannshartmann1@charter.net
Praesidium AcademyStephanie Gilmer

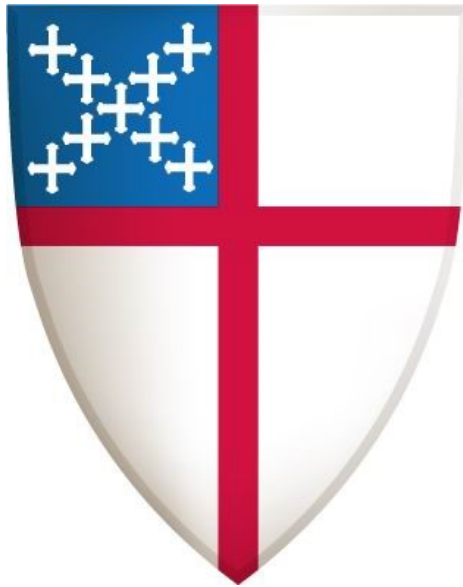
Vestry

Senior Warden: Linda Lowe: 209-496-3937lwlowe@outlook.com
Junior Warden: Judy Teterjlpt@sbcglobal.net

Lora Burnett, Sarah Hartmann, Linda Lowe, Luis Martinez-Iller, Ann Mootz,
Chuck Sheaffer, Nancy Silva, and Judy Teter.

Treasurer: Stephanie Gilmer

Vestry Clerk: Carolyn List



St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Modesto, CA

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Then click on videos.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Modesto CA

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