

# Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

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

***Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost***

***October 6, 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.

## Liturgy for St Francis / Blessing of the Animals

*Resources adapted from The Episcopal Church Book of Common Prayer, Season of Creation Celebration Guide and Website, and A Great Thanksgiving Prayer for St Francis of Assisi by Paul Fromberg (adapted from Thomas Richstatter)*

Prelude

Chuck Sheaffer

### **Opening Hymn #400 All creatures of our God and King**

#### **The Greeting**

Priest: In the name of God, who creates all life,  
In the name of the Christ, who redeems all life,  
In the name of the Spirit, who renews all life

**All:** *Amen.*

Priest: This is the day the Lord has made

**People:** *Let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

#### **The Gloria**

*Each line is sung by the Priest then repeated by all.*

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the highest

*Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the highest (x2)*

To God be glory forever.

*To God be glory forever.*

Alleluia Amen!

*Alleluia Amen!*

Alleluia Amen!!

*Alleluia Amen!!*

Alleluia Amen!!!

*Alleluia Amen!!!*

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to Christ Jesus ...

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory Holy Spirit ...

### **The Collect**

<sup>3</sup>  
The Lord be with you.

### **And also with you**

Let us pray.

Creating, Loving, Nurturing God,  
may your people joyfully follow in the way of St Francis,  
delighting in your creation and marvelling at its beauty  
with simplicity, faith and joy;  
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 Job 39:1-18*

39'Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?

Do you observe the calving of the deer?

<sup>2</sup> Can you number the months that they fulfil,  
and do you know the time when they give birth,

<sup>3</sup> when they crouch to give birth to their offspring,  
and are delivered of their young?

<sup>4</sup> Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open;  
they go forth, and do not return to them.

- <sup>5</sup> ‘Who has let the wild ass go free?  
Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass,  
<sup>6</sup> to which I have given the steppe for its home,  
the salt land for its dwelling-place?  
<sup>7</sup> It scorns the tumult of the city;  
it does not hear the shouts of the driver.  
<sup>8</sup> It ranges the mountains as its pasture,  
and it searches after every green thing.
- <sup>9</sup> ‘Is the wild ox willing to serve you?  
Will it spend the night at your crib?  
<sup>10</sup> Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes,  
or will it harrow the valleys after you?  
<sup>11</sup> Will you depend on it because its strength is great,  
and will you hand over your labour to it?  
<sup>12</sup> Do you have faith in it that it will return,  
and bring your grain to your threshing-floor?\*-
- <sup>13</sup> ‘The ostrich’s wings flap wildly,  
though its pinions lack plumage.\*-  
<sup>14</sup> For it leaves its eggs to the earth,  
and lets them be warmed on the ground,  
<sup>15</sup> forgetting that a foot may crush them,  
and that a wild animal may trample them.  
<sup>16</sup> It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own;  
though its labour should be in vain, yet it has no fear;  
<sup>17</sup> because God has made it forget wisdom,  
and given it no share in understanding.  
<sup>18</sup> When it spreads its plumes aloft,\*-  
it laughs at the horse and its rider.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 121

I lift up my ' eyes · to the ' hills:  
but ' where · shall I ' look for ' help?  
My help ' comes · from the ' Lord:  
who has ' made ' heaven · and ' earth.

My help ' comes · from the ' Lord:  
who has ' made ' heaven · and ' earth.  
The one who keeps watch ' over · this ' people:  
shall ' neither ' doze nor ' sleep.

The Lord is the one ' who will ' guard you:  
the Lord at your right ' hand will ' be · your de'fence,  
so that the sun shall not ' strike you · by ' day:  
nor ' yet the ' moon by ' night.

The Lord shall preserve you from ' all ' evil:  
yes it is the ' Lord · who will ' keep you ' safe.  
The Lord shall take care of your  
going out, and your ' coming ' in:  
from this time ' forth ' and for ' ever.



My help comes from the Lord, who has made heav'n and earth

*The second reading is from Acts 4:32-35*

32 Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands

or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn Levas #213 Children of the heavenly Father**

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 11:25-30*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

25 At that time Jesus said, 'I thank\* you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.\* <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

28 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon: Fr. Brian Dawson**

**The Blessing of the Animals**

*All animals are invited to bring their owners forward for a blessing*

**The Prayers of the People**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God our Creator  
for all the gifts so freely shared with us

and for the beauty and wonder of creation,  
in earth and sky and sea;

*All: We thank you, Creator God.*

Leader: For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

*All: We thank you, Creator God.*

Leader: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women;

*All: We thank you, Creator God.*

Leader: For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

*All: We thank you, Creator God.*

Leader: For the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers and trees;

*All: We thank you, Creator God.*

Leader: For the trust you have shown in giving into our care these, our  
pets;

*All: We thank you, Creator God.*

Leader: That each pet here may be treasured with care;

*All: We pray to you, Creator God.*

Leader: That we may love and honor all your works, O God;

*All: We pray to you, Creator God.*

Leader: That we may continue to grow  
in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation;

*All: To the honor and glory of your name, now and forever,  
we pray to you, Creator God. Amen*

### **Prayers of Reconciliation**

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God,  
against each other and against all Creation.

*Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you.*

*We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your crea-  
tion: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.*

*We confess that we have misused your earth: help us to think again.*

*We confess that we have been greedy and self-centered: strengthen us in  
self-control.*

*We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted:  
give us a sense of urgency now for its protection.*

*Forgive and renew us through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God,  
now and for ever. Amen.*

*The Priest offers words of Absolution.*



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, 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

**Offertory Sentence**

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

**Offertory Hymn #405 All things bright and beautiful**

**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 offer thanks and praise.**

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, to you be all praise and glory.

We give you thanks with all your creatures:

With Brother Sun who gives us your light,

with Sister Moon and the stars of night,

with Brother Wind, and Sister Water

and Mother Earth who feeds and keeps us.

With them, O God, with the whole heavenly chorus,  
and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, we  
sing this unending hymn of joy.

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)

### Sanctus

We thank you God of heaven and earth  
 for revealing your way to the lowly and least.  
 For your coming in the crown of all creation, Jesus, your Son;  
 who shares with us his easy yoke, and teaches us his gentle humility.  
 We thank you, Most High, because in him the poor hear good news  
 and the captive are set free.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at supper with his friends.  
 He took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,

and gave it to them and said:

“Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this to remember me.”

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave thanks and gave it to them, saying: “Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink together, do this to remember me.”

So let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come in glory.**

All-powerful, most holy, most high God  
as we remember the suffering and death of your Son;  
his resurrection and ascension to your right hand  
we praise you and we bless you.

We pray that you would send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine.  
Let them be for us the Body and Blood of your Son  
so that we may become One Body, and give you perfect praise.

God of life and love, make us your Church an instrument of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, may we sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

May we dwell with you forever together  
with Mother Mary and all your holy people.

May we join our voices with Saint Francis  
 and with all your little ones throughout the ages;  
 giving you all praise and glory and honor, forever and 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-gainst 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  
 7 mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re - dem - er, re - deem - er, of the  
 12 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 #321 My God, thy table now is spread**

**Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

**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.**

### **Blessing**

**Closing Hymn #559 Lead us heavenly Father**

### **Dismissal**

Deacon: On two feet, four or none at all we go now to love and serve the Lord.

***Amen. We go in the name of Christ.***

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer



**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; Isla Galicia; Dennis Haglan; Keith & Ginny Munroe; Polly; Ellen Bell; Colleen

**Praise God:**

The many ways God answers our prayers.

Rex's safe return and the success of the trip to Ukraine

**Please Pray For:**

Murray & Gayle Ivy as Michelle Ivy transitioned to Heaven.

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.

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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 by Ann Mootz to the Glory of God and  
in memory of her husband, Allan.



The Gospel invites us to Walk in Love with our neighbor in their footsteps, with the outcast and the marginalized, with those who need us. As we spread the Good News in our world, we carry the love and support of our congregation and our prayers into our communities. When you share your many gifts with your neighbors, every step is walking in love. St. Paul's Stewardship Campaign starts today.

## Ministry Schedule, October 2024

Dates	Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>
Clergy	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian
Acolytes	Judy T.	Judy T. Nancy S.	Judy T. Nancy S.	Jim P. Nancy S.
Eucharistic Minister	Rex	Nancy S.	Stephanie G.	Judy T.
Lectors	Ann M. Judy T.	Joyce B. Stephanie H-W.	Christine J. Theresa G.	Barbara V. Alex S.
Intercessor	Lora	Linda	Judy	Nancy
Ushers	Greg B. Claudine R.	Phil M. Carolyn L.	Greg B. David L.	Phil M. Carolyn L.
Greeters	Greg B. Claudine R.	Phil M. Carolyn L.	Greg B. Christine J.	Phil M. Carolyn L.
Vestry Rep.	Lora	Linda	Judy	Nancy

# ***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: 209-522-3267 .....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com

## **Other Important Contacts**

Music Director, Chuck Sheaffer .....cbshea@pacbell.net  
Hand Bells, Judy Teter .....jlpt@sbcglobal.net  
Prayer Chain .....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com  
St. Paul's Epistle & Bulletin, Cherie Sheaffer.....cbshea@pacbell.net  
Social Media, Deacon Greg Masztal .....deacongreg66@outlook.com  
Finance Committee, Carolyn List .....carolynlist@sbcglobal.net  
Stewardship Campaign, Sarah Hartmann .....shartmann1@charter.net  
Praesidium Academy .....Stephanie Gilmer

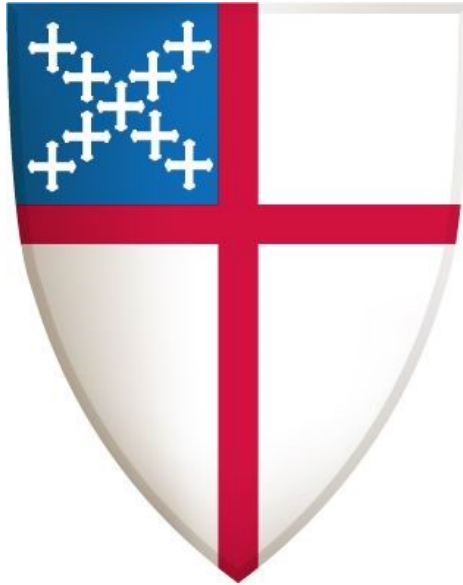
## **Vestry**

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

Lora Burnett, Sarah Hartmann, Linda Lowe, Luis Martinez, 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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