

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

www.saintpaulsmodesto.org

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025



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.

Sunday Worship in Lent

The Lenten season is a time for taking things up. During this season we avoid certain things like singing the Gloria and saying Alleluia. This is to make those things even more special when we start using them again.

This Lent we are using a special liturgy. Much of it will be familiar, a few things will be new. While we don't sing the Gloria we will chant the Kyries. We will also introduce a little Spanish to our service, with the Gospel being read in both English and Spanish for the next seven weeks.

I am also replacing the prayers we have been using for birthdays, anniversaries and people we want to ask for prayer for with some newer ones that attempt to gather our prayers and celebrations. This is a trial only. I would very much value feedback about them and invite you to talk with me after services or via email or telephone. Nothing is set in stone and as you'll continue to hear me say this is just another part of me inviting us to go broader and deeper in our faith and as a Church family.

I invite you to join me as we enter into this Lent, taking up what you can and leaving aside what you must. It is a Holy Time and I invite us all to embrace it fully.

Grace and Peace

Fr Brian

Liturgy for the Lenten Season

Prelude

Chuck Sheaffer

Opening Hymn #495 Hail, thou once despised Jesus!

Blessed be the God of our salvation:

Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

During Lent in place of the Gloria we chant the ancient Kyries

Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The first lesson is from Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

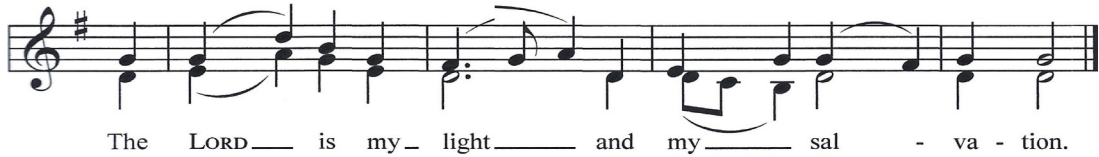
As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27



- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who
stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the LORD;
one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe
in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

- 10 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.
- 12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD will sustain me.
- 15 Show me your way, O LORD; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.
- 17 What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the LORD *
in the land of the living!
- 18 O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the LORD.

The second reading is from Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be con-

formed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn #147 Now let us all with one accord

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 13:31-35

Glory to you, Lord Christ. (Español: Gloria a ti, Cristo Señor)

Lucas 13:31-35

³¹ Llegaron algunos fariseos, y le dijeron a Jesús: —Vete de aquí, porque Herodes te quiere matar.

³² Él les contestó: —Vayan y díganle a ese zorro: “Mira, hoy y mañana expulsé a los demonios y sané a los enfermos, y pasado mañana termino.” ³³ Pero tengo que seguir mi camino hoy, mañana y el día siguiente, porque no es posible que un profeta muera fuera de Jerusalén.

³⁴ »¡Jerusalén, Jerusalén, que matas a los profetas y apedreas a los mensajeros que Dios te envía! ¡Cuántas veces quise juntar a tus hijos, como la gallina junta sus pollitos bajo las alas, pero ustedes no quisieron! ³⁵ Pues miren, el hogar de ustedes va a quedar abandonado; y les digo que no volverán a verme hasta que llegue el tiempo en que ustedes digan: “¡Bendito el que viene en el nombre del Señor!”

El evangelio del Señor.

Te alabamos, Cristo Señor.

Luke 13:31-35

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: Fr. Brian Dawson

The ringing of the prayer bell leads us into and out of a time of stillness.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. 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.**

Blessings and Celebrations

Birthday Prayer

God of joy and celebration, we thank you for the precious gift of life and for the unique journey that each day brings. As this(ese) your servant(s) celebrate(s) another year of life, we pray for your abundant blessings to be upon them. May your grace continue to guide and shape their paths, filling their days with love, purpose, and joy. Amen

Anniversary Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, for in the good and the bad times of our life you have stood lovingly by our sides.

Bless those whose anniversaries we acknowledge this day.

May they remain faithful and loving so that we may be true witnesses to the covenant you have made with us all. Amen.

Prayer for Those We Love

Gracious God,

we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you want for us all better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn #484 Praise the Lord through every nation

Doxology

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.

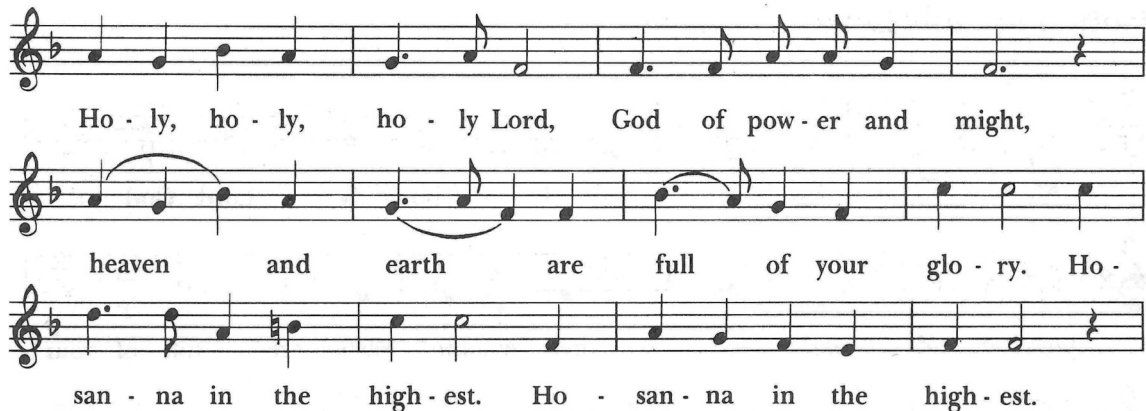
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

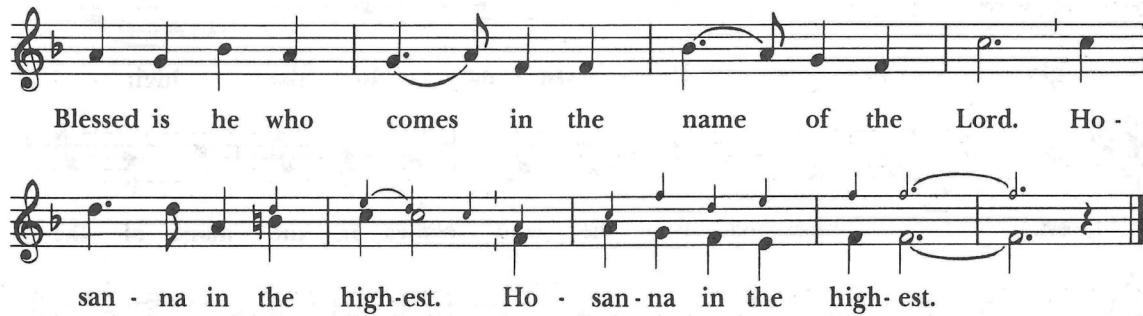
You call your faithful people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

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)

Blessed are you, gracious God,
 creator of the universe and giver of life.
 You formed us in your own image
 and called us to dwell in your infinite love.
 You gave the world into our care
 that we might be your faithful stewards
 and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
 we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
 and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.
 Yet you never ceased to care for us,
 and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
 You delivered us from slavery,
 sustained us in the wilderness,
 and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
 Then, in the fullness of time,
 you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.

Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying:
“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this to remember me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus
Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ’s Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons,
that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

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

AMEN

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

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-gainst us,
as we for-give. And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-li-ver us from
e-vil. This is the king-dom and the pow-er and the
glo-ry for ev-er. A-men

The bread is broken.

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

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 Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
 Come, for all things are now ready.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Gluten free wafers are available. If you want just a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your body.

Communion Hymn #328 Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

**God of abundance,
 you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
 you have united us with Christ and one another;
 and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
 Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
 that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
 and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen**

Blessing

Closing Hymn Levas #559 Lead us heavenly Father

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer

This liturgy is adapted from 'Enriching Our Worship 1', Church House Publishing

All music used with permission, CCLI #1374105

Maundy Thursday Agape Meal

We will once again be having a Maundy Thursday evening Agape Meal, and it will be helpful to have an idea of numbers. If you THINK you will be there, please add your name to the sheet in the narthex of the church. If you can please also indicate what "finger food" you might bring, and whether you can assist with setting up and cleaning up.

Many thanks.

Fr. Brian



Prayer and Praise

Remember those who have asked for our prayers

Alexa, Pam, Deacon George, Suzan, Robin, Denise, Priscella, Laurence, Louisa, Marlene, Mark, Toni, Mauro, Loretta, Kelly, Gabriel, Joy, Ken, Bonnie, Alfred, Clare, Michael, Susan, Dennis, Michael, Ishmael, Lisa, Mary, Bob, Mary, Howard, Marti, Daniel, Tony, Joanne, JoAnne, Linda, Janet, JoHanna, Sasha, David J., Cherie, Doug, Alice

Those who have passed away:

Elaine Paradis

Carol DeMaria Donati Hertle

Collene Arfman

Joyce Hosegood Ray Campbell

Jaden Justman

Those in the Military:

1 LT Sam Birch, USA

LTC Nathaniel P. Wallace, USAFR

CPT Jenavieve Campbell, USAF

CPT Fred Campbell, USAF

PO1st Class Johnny Olmos, US Coast Guard

Leaders and Ministries of St. Paul's:

The Clergy, Vestry & Wardens & Altar Guild of St. Paul's.

March Ministry Schedule

Dates	Mar 2 nd	Mar 9 th	Mar 16 th	Mar 23 rd	Mar 30 th
Clergy	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian Dc Greg
Acolytes	Judy T. Nancy S.	Nancy S. Judy T.	Nancy S. Jim P.	Nancy S. Judy T.	Nancy S. Judy T.
Eucha- ristic	Stephanie G.	Nancy S.	Judy	Rex	Nancy S.
Lectors	Ann M. Theresa G.	Nancy S. Stephanie H-W.	Barbara V. Alex S.	Judy T. Rex	Joyce B. Ann M.
Interces- sor	Sarah H.	Courtney S.	Lora B.	Luis	Nancy S.
Ushers	Phil M. Linda L.	Claudine R.	Greg B. Carolyn L.	Phil M. Carolyn L.	David L. Claudine R.
Greeters	Phil M. Lynelle H.	David L. Claudine	Greg B. Carolyn L.	Phil M. Carolyn L.	David L. Claudine R.
Vestry Rep.	Sarah H.	Courtney S.	Lora B.	Luis	Nancy S.

Coming Up In Lent & Holy Week

Sunday – *Starts March 9th* 5.30 pm Zoom Lenten Book Study (*Turning Over Tables*) & Night Prayer

Brian Dawson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83350737801?pwd=x6pNgYEAckdB5zm3vQrcv38VURD8AI.1>

Meeting ID: 833 5073 7801

Passcode: 210399

Tuesday *Starts Midday March 11th* Noon Day Prayer & Lenten Book Study (*Turning Over Tables*) in Guadalupe Chapel

Wednesday—7:15 am Eucharist in the Church

Thursday – 10 am Eucharist in the Church

Starts March 13th 10.45 am Lenten Book Study (*Can You Drink This Cup* by Henri Nouwen) in Guadalupe Chapel

Sunday March 30th – Parish Forum following 10 am Eucharist

Sunday April 6th-8 am Rite 1 Eucharist-No music or sermon

Holy Week April 13th – 20th

Palm Sunday

10 am Palm Sunday Eucharist with Confirmations & Yellow Bag

Collection *Bishop David visiting*

5.30 pm Zoom Lenten Book Study & Night Prayer

Holy Tuesday 1 pm Diocesan Chrism Mass at St James' Cathedral Fresno

All invited

Holy Wednesday

7.15 am Eucharist

Noon Final Lenten Book Study

5.30 pm Final Zoom Lenten Book Study

Maundy Thursday 5 pm Potluck Meal in the Church followed by Eucharist, foot washing & vigil

Good Friday 10 am Way of the Cross

Holy Saturday 7 pm Easter Eve Vigil (*with St Francis Turlock at St Paul's*)

Easter Day 10 am Easter Eucharist

Special Thanks

From Judy Teter:

I would like to thank all those who helped with Elaine Paradis's service and reception. Thanks for the food, flowers, help setting up and cleaning up the hall. Many hands make less work. I heard compliments about the selection of salads and was asked if we made them. The family was very appreciative of everything. Thank you again.

From Fr. Brian:

I also want to add my thanks to everyone who helped make Elaine's celebration of life so special. A huge thanks to Judy for her coordination of the reception especially! I am aware of just how much work goes into the catering events we take on and I would really like to see a broader pool of people take on these roles. If you might be available at times to assist with setting up and organizing events, please pass on your name to Linda in the office, or Senior Warden Joyce, or myself.

Thanks and Blessings!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Pastoral Team

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Archdeacon Emeritus George Cano

Deacon Greg Masztal.....deacongreg66@outlook.com

Parish Administrator

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

Other Important Contacts

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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, Courtney Smith.....courtneyvsmith@gmail.com

Praesidium AcademyStephanie Gilmer

Vestry

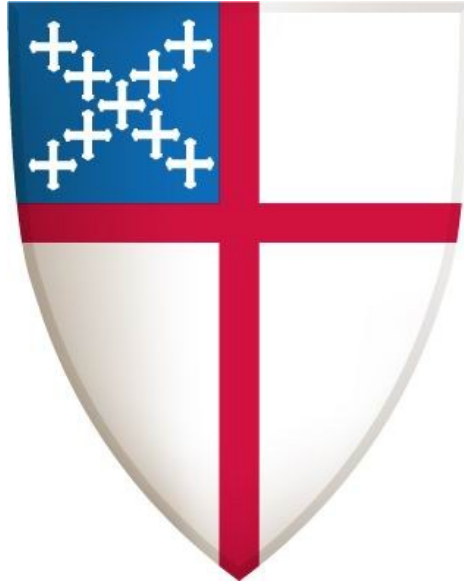
Senior Warden: Joyce Bell -(215) 275-6502bellj1@charter.net

Junior Warden: Peter Krewko (707) 853-3604pmkjfc@att.net

Joyce Bell, Lora Burnett, Sarah Hartmann, Ishmael Huggins, Peter Krewko,
Luis Martinez, Ann Mootz, Chuck Sheaffer, Nancy Silva, and Courtney Smith.

Treasurer: Greg Burnett

Vestry Clerk: Carolyn List



St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Modesto, CA

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