

# **Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

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

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

***The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
October 19, 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.

Prelude

Chuck Sheaffer

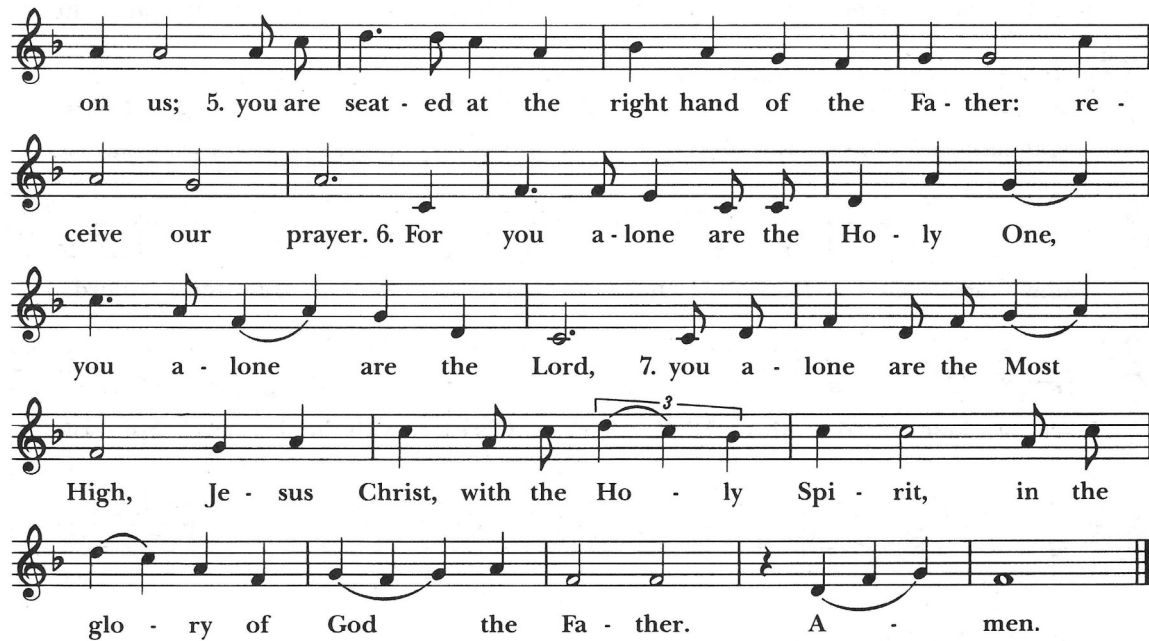
## Opening Hymn #690 "Guide me, O thou great Jehovah"

Blessed be God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit

Glory to God for ever and ever.

### 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



Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession 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 Genesis 32:22-31*

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jab-bok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise

everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121



My \_\_\_ help comes \_\_\_ from the LORD, the ma - ker of heav'n and earth.

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

The second reading is from 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn #438 “Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord”**

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 18:1-8*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon: Deacon Greg Masztal**

*Stillness - the prayer bowl rings to take us in and out of a time of stillness and reflection.*

**The Prayers of the People**

**Reconciliation**

*The Deacon calls us to confession.*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence.*

**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.**

*The Priest proclaims God's forgiveness.*

### **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 of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Offertory Hymn Levas #109 “What a friend we have in Jesus”**

**Doxology**

### **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 our thanks and praise.**



It is truly right to glorify you, Holy One, and to give you thanks;  
for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible  
from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill  
them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of  
your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and  
day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceas-  
ing praise.

Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven,  
we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, 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)

We acclaim you, holy God, glorious in power.  
Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love.  
You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death.  
In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you.

Again and again you called us into covenant with you,  
and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.  
Holy God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior.  
Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, Jesus lived as one of us, yet without sin.  
To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation;  
to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy.  
To fulfill your purpose Jesus gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.  
And that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who died and rose for us, you sent the Holy Spirit, your own first gift for those who believe, to complete your work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for Jesus to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them Jesus 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 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 shed  
for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink  
it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*[Deacon]*

Almighty God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
Recalling Christ's death and descent among the dead, proclaiming  
Christ's resurrection  
and ascension to your right hand,  
awaiting Christ's coming in glory;  
and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us,  
this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

God our Creator, we pray that in your goodness and mercy  
your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctify-  
ing them and showing them to be holy gifts  
for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body  
and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, re-  
deemed by the blood of your Christ.

Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember our Presiding Bishop Sean,

our Diocesan Bishop David and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ,

and those whose faith is known to you alone;

bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance

with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets,

apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with

you in ages past.

We praise you in union with them

and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,

all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

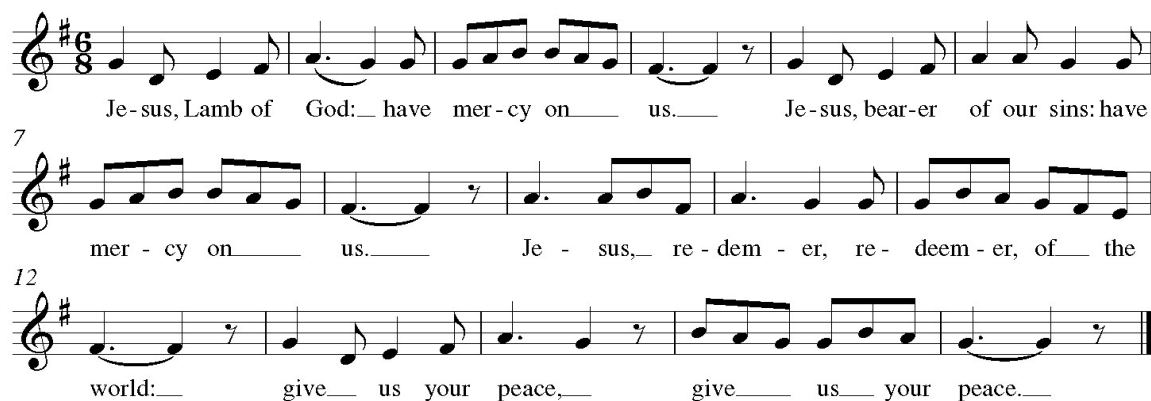
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

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-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

*The bread is broken*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



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.

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 Levas #146 “Break thou the bread of life”**

#### **Extending Our Eucharistic Gathering**

*A representative of the parish’s Eucharistic Visitors comes forward to receive the bread and wine reserved for those who are sick or otherwise unable to join us in person.*

In the name of us all at St Paul’s Episcopal Church, we send our Eucharistic Visitors forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom they go may share with us in this Holy Communion of Christ’s body and blood. May they with whom these gifts are shared remain bound to us, and we to them.

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

## **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 #530 “Spread, O spread, thou mighty word”**

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer

*All music used with permission, CCLI #1374105*



## **Prayer and Praise**

### **Remember those who have asked for our prayers**

Paige, Priscella, Loretta, Bonnie, Susan, Ishmael, Mary, Bob, Howard, Cherie, Annamary, Ginny, Keith, Bill, Mike, Jose, Rex S., Lora, Hennie, Kevin, Dorothy, Ronda, Murray, Nellie, Gina, Lela, Pam, Debra, Ralph, Jim, Wilson, Julie, Gayle, Sarah, Gary, Adrienne, Linda, Paul, Willie, Beth, Suzanne, Ralph, Roberta, James, Brandi, Darlene, Louise, Theresa, Rossana

### **Those who have passed away:**

John Mickelson

Alex Piercy

### **Those in the Military:**

CPT Sam Birch, USA

CPT Fred Campbell, USAF

CPT Jenavieve Campbell, USAF

PO1st Class Johnny Olmos, US Coast Guard

SGT Carson Repan, USAF

LTC Nathaniel P. Wallace, USAFR

### **Leaders and Ministries of St. Paul's:**

The Clergy, Vestry & Wardens, Sunday School





The flowers at the altar today  
are given to  
The Glory of God by Linda Lowe to Celebrate  
David's Birthday

### **Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors**

If you would like to know more about assisting with our Holy Communion Ministries, Fr. Brian would love to hear from you. Contact him via the church office, 209-522-3267 or email, [FrBrianDawson@gmail.com](mailto:FrBrianDawson@gmail.com).

### **Sunday School**

*The summer break is over and Sunday School has started! Special thanks to Chuck Sheaffer and Ann-Marie Lorenz for their leadership for several years. Ann-Marie will be continuing to teach the class as Chuck steps back, participating with music only. We need to have two adults in the classroom during the class to assist Ann-Marie. Please contact Fr. Brian if you are able to help. Let's welcome the youngest of our members together!*

### **Coming Events**

Thursday, November 6, 6:30-8 pm-Commemoration of the Council of Nicea-A meeting to discuss how the Nicene Creed is relevant today, seeking Christian unity in today's world. Fr. Brian will be one of the featured speakers. *Emanuel Lutheran Church, 324 College Ave, Modesto*

Thursday, November 13, Celebrating Gratitude in our Community, 6 pm-Mixer, 7 pm-Presentations. Bring a donation of non-perishable food for the Food Initiative of Greater Stanislaus (FIGS). *Modesto Church of the Brethren, 2301 Woodland Ave, Modesto.* Organized by the Stanislaus County Interfaith Council.

Saturday, December 6, 9 am-4 pm-Cookie Walk. Look for details soon and bake..bake..bake!

## October 2025 Ministry Schedule

Dates	Oct 5th	Oct 12th	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup>	Oct 26th
Clergy	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg
Acolytes	Gabe T. Alex S.	Nancy S. Carlos M.	Nancy S. Joyce B.	Judy T. Evelyn B.
Eucharis- tic Minis- ter	Rex A.	Alex S.	Linda L.	Linda L. Joyce B.
Lectors	Alex S. Theresa G.	Ann M. Nancy S.	Judy T. Joyce B.	Stephanie H-W. Barbara V.
Intercessor	Luis M.	Alex S.	Jose C.	Nancy S.
Ushers	Luis M. Claudine R.	Alex S. David L.	Carolyn L. Claudine R.	David L. Carolyn L.
Greeters	Luis M. Claudine R.	Alex S. Lynelle H.	Carolyn L. Claudine R.	Lynelle H. David L.
Vestry Rep.	Luis M.	Alex S.	Jose C.	Nancy S.
Coffee Hour Host	Linda L.	Bobbi B.	Sarah & Joyce	Jose C. Peter K.

## ***St. Paul's Episcopal Church***

### **Pastoral Team**

Fr. Brian Dawson.....209-897-1612.....FrBrianDawson@gmail.com  
Deacon Greg Masztal.....deacongreg66@outlook.com  
Stephanie Gilmer, Pastoral Care Coordinator.....mzgilmer@gmail.com

### **Parish Administrator**

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, Barbara Vassell .....stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com  
Social Media, Deacon Greg Masztal .....deacongreg66@outlook.com  
Finance Committee, Carolyn List .....carolynlist@sbcglobal.net  
Stewardship Campaign, Courtney Smith.....courtneyvsmith@gmail.com

### **Vestry**

Senior Warden: Joyce Bell -(215) 275-6502 .....bellj1@charter.net  
Junior Warden: Peter Krewko (707) 853-3604 .....pmkjfc@att.net

Joyce Bell, Lora Burnett, Jose Cruz, Sarah Hartmann, Peter Krewko, Luis Martinez, Ann Mootz, Alex Sarina, Chuck Sheaffer, Nancy Silva, & Courtney Smith.

Treasurer: Greg Burnett

Vestry Clerk: Carolyn List



Livestreamed Sundays @ 10am

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Pauls-Episcopal-Church-of-Modesto-CA-106952012668211/>

Then click on videos.

Please note that today's service is being livestreamed on Facebook. If you prefer not to appear on camera, we kindly ask that you sit on the side of the church behind the camera.



Visit St. Paul's website to give online

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

