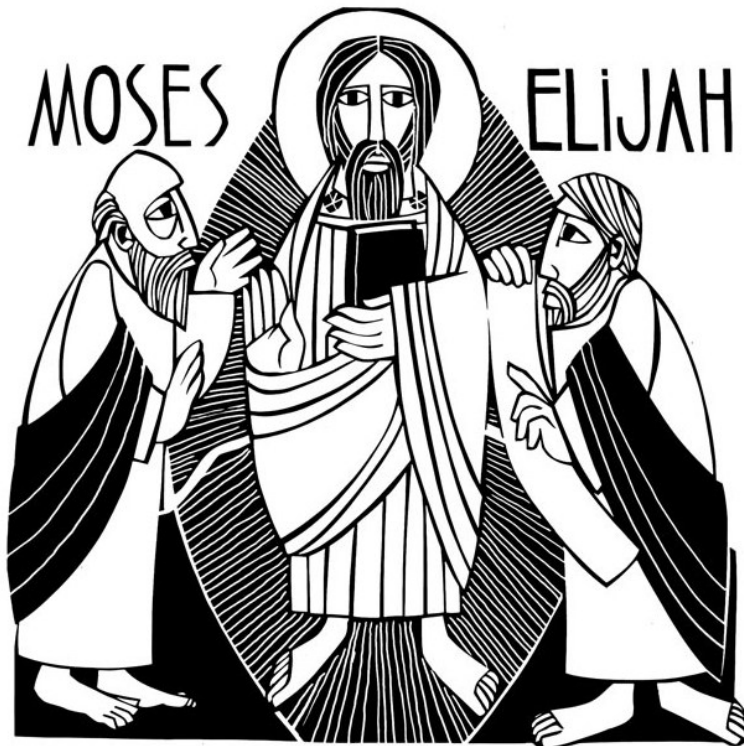


# **Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

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

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

***The Last Sunday After The Epiphany  
February 15, 2026***



## **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 #542 "Christ is the world's true light"

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

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.

O God, who before the passion of your only- begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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 Exodus 24:12-18

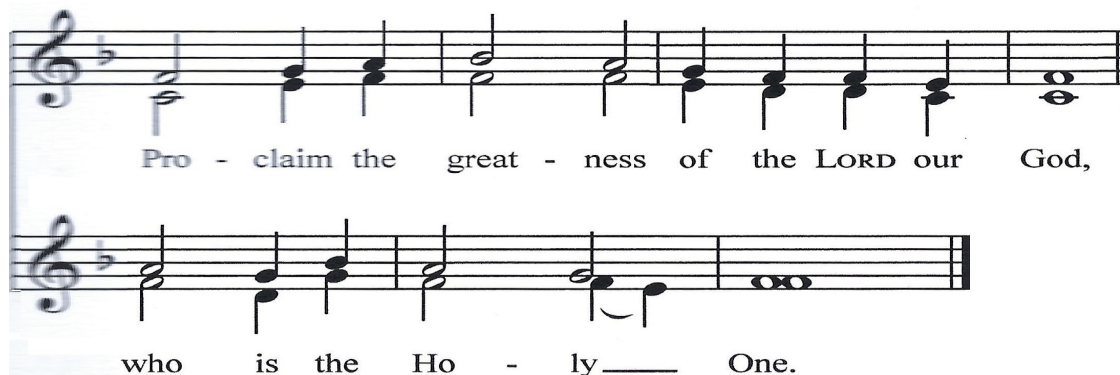
The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 99



- 1 The LORD is King;  
let the people tremble; \*  
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth shake.
- 2 The LORD is great in Zion; \*  
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,  
you have established equity; \*  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God  
and fall down before his footstool; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,  
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*  
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*  
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; \*  
you were a God who forgave them,  
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God  
and worship him upon his holy hill; \*  
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

*The second reading is from 2 Peter 1:16-21*

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic

Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual Hymn #129 “Christ upon the mountain peak”**

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 17:1-9*

#### **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying,

“Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon: Fr. Brian Dawson**

*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 grace of God has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
Who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.  
Let us confess our sins.  
*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 #64 “I love to tell the story”**

**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.**

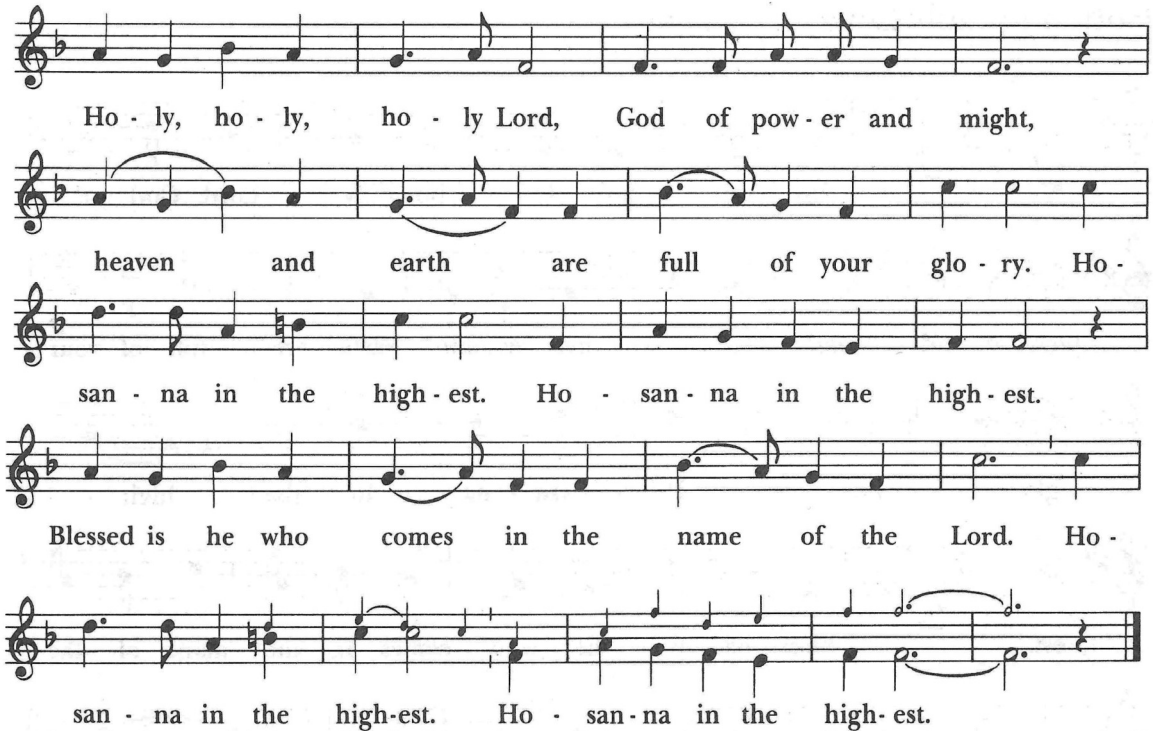
It is truly right to glorify you, Holy One, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

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 unceasing 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.**

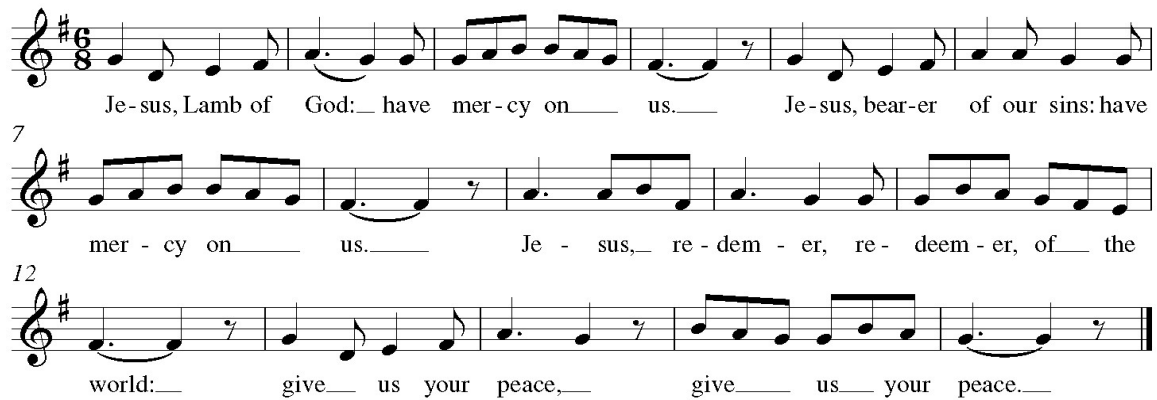
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

Our Fa-ther who art in hea-ven, Hal-low-ed 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. 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 baptized persons 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 #135 “Songs of thankfulness and praise”**

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

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

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer

*All music used with permission, CCLI #1374105*

## **Schedule Changes**

Monday, February 16-Office closed in honor of President's Day.



## **Prayer and Praise**

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

Bonnie, Ishmael, Mary, Bob, Howard, Cherie, Annamary, Ginny, Keith, Judy, Mike, Jose, Hennie, Kevin, Murray, Karen, Claudine, Ellen, Darlene, Jim, James, Christine, Ivy, Lindsay, Stephen, Tyler, Susie, Fr. Nick, Ann-Marie, Christy, Gail, Matt, Anita, Rosalie, Mary-Beth, Cynthia, Jerry, David, Harry, Roy, Linda, Sarah

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

Brian Carmody

### **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, Altar Guild





The flowers at the altar today  
are given to  
The Glory of God by Stephanie Gilmer in  
Memory of her Beloved Mother

## **COMING UP AT ST PAUL'S**

### **Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup> – Shrove Tuesday**

Pancakes! Pancakes! Pancakes! We will prepare for Lent with delicious pancakes and a friendly team competition. The Scouts will be providing pancakes and we'll thank them with a free-will donation. Fr. Brian will be conducting a Lenten Quiz.

**Dinner starts at 5:30 pm. Come and be part of the fun!**

### **Wednesday February 18<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday**

There will be Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes services at 10 am and 5 pm, as well as 'Ashes to Go' at the entrance to the church between noon and 1.00 pm.

### **Sundays During Lent**

8 am Rite 1 Eucharist-No music or sermon in the Chapel

10 am Eucharist with music and sermon

### **Lenten Studies 2026**

Our main Lenten Studies series will focus on Liturgy and Worship in the Episcopal Tradition. The series will be Sundays, noon-1:30 pm after Coffee Hour, March 1-29.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex or through the church office.

### **Sunday, February 22nd**

Eagle Scout Court of Honor: Jayden Robinson will receive his Eagle Badge for renovating the yard at Sierra Vista Child and Family Services. The St. Paul's Family is invited to attend. Details to follow.

## February 2026 Ministry Schedule

Dates	Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	Feb 15 <sup>th</sup>	Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Clergy	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg
Acolytes	Joyce B. Alex S.	Judy T. Jim P.	Nancy S. Evelyn B.	Joyce B. Gabe T.
Eucharistic Minister	Stephanie G.	Alex S.	Sarah H.	Linda L.
Lectors	Stephanie H-W. Judy T.	Ann M. Alex S.	Stephanie G. Nancy S.	Linda L. Theresa G.
Intercessor	Alex S.	Carolyn L.	Luis M.	Rosanne M.
Ushers	Claudine R. David L.	David L. Carolyn L.	Carolyn L. Luis M.	Claudine R. Rosanne M.
Greeters	Claudine R. Lynelle H.	David L. Carolyn L.	Carolyn L. Luis M.	Claudine R. Rosanne M.
Vestry Rep.	Alex S.	Carolyn L.	Luis M.	Rosanne M.
Coffee Hour Host	Linda L.	Stephanie G.	Stephanie G.	Lisa B.
Sunday School	Sarah H.	Evelyn B.	Ann M.	Sarah H.

## ***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, Jose Cruz, Peter Krewko, Carolyn List, Luis Martinez, Ann Mootz,  
Rosanne Mountain, Alex Sarina, & Courtney Smith.

Treasurer: Brandi Anderson

Vestry Clerk: Linda Lowe



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/)

