

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

www.saintpaulsmodesto.org

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026



Today's service is a joyous celebration of our Easter faith. During it there will be songs and chants and bells and even holy smoke. If you're not familiar with Episcopal worship of this type, relax. Feel free to participate as much or as little as you feel able, and for the rest let us carry you in worship.

Prelude

Chuck Sheaffer

Our service begins with all who wish to gathering at the entrance of the church for a joyful procession, which Fr Brian introduces with the Easter acclamation:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Processional Hymn - #207 Jesus Christ is risen today

Our procession makes its way into the church, led by the thurifer and crucifer, with the remainder of the altar party coming last. At the end of the hymn Fr Brian greets us:

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.
Amen.

This is the day the Lord has made. Alleluia!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Alleluia!

The Gloria

Fr Brian leads us, with us repeating after him:

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

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Pause

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We sit for the first readings

The First Reading – Jeremiah 31: 1-6

At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

Thus says the Lord:

The people who survived the sword

found grace in the wilderness;

when Israel sought for rest,

the Lord appeared to him from far away.

I have loved you with an everlasting love;

therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

Again I will build you, and you shall be built,

O virgin Israel!

Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines

and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.

Again you shall plant vineyards

on the mountains of Samaria;

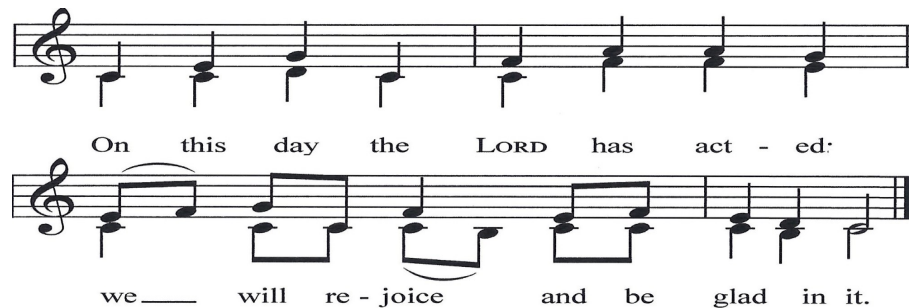
the planters shall plant

and shall enjoy the fruit.

For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim:
“Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the Lord our God.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24



- ¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- ² Let Israel now proclaim, *
“His mercy endures for ever.”
- ¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- ¹⁶ “The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!”
- ¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.
- ¹⁸ The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- ¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

- ²⁰ “This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter.”
- ²¹ I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- ²² The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This is the Lord’s doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Second Reading – Colossians 3: 1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn – LEVAS #40 He Rose

The Gospel Acclamation

Christ is Risen!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Gospel Reading – John 20: 1-18

Santo evangelio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

Gloria a ti, Cristo Señor.

El primer día de la semana, María Magdalena fue al sepulcro muy temprano, cuando todavía estaba oscuro; y vio quitada la piedra que tapaba la entrada. Entonces se fue co-

riendo a donde estaban Simón Pedro y el otro discípulo, aquel a quien Jesús quería mucho, y les dijo: —¡Se han llevado del sepulcro al Señor, y no sabemos dónde lo han puesto!

Pedro y el otro discípulo salieron y fueron al sepulcro. Los dos iban corriendo juntos; pero el otro corrió más que Pedro y llegó primero al sepulcro. Se agachó a mirar, y vio allí las vendas, pero no entró. Detrás de él llegó Simón Pedro, y entró en el sepulcro. Él también vio allí las vendas; y además vio que la tela que había servido para envolver la cabeza de Jesús no estaba junto a las vendas, sino enrollada y puesta aparte. Entonces entró también el otro discípulo, el que había llegado primero al sepulcro, y vio lo que había pasado, y creyó. Pues todavía no habían entendido lo que dice la Escritura, que él tenía que resucitar. Luego, aquellos discípulos regresaron a su casa.

María se quedó afuera, junto al sepulcro, llorando. Y llorando como estaba, se agachó para mirar dentro, y vio dos ángeles vestidos de blanco, sentados donde había estado el cuerpo de Jesús; uno a la cabecera y otro a los pies. Los ángeles le preguntaron: —Mujer, ¿por qué lloras?

Ella les dijo: —Porque se han llevado a mi Señor, y no sé dónde lo han puesto.

Apenas dijo esto, volvió la cara y vio allí a Jesús, pero no sabía que era él. Jesús le preguntó: —Mujer, ¿por qué lloras? ¿A quién buscas?

Ella, pensando que era el que cuidaba el huerto, le dijo: —Señor, si usted se lo ha llevado, dígame dónde lo ha puesto, para que yo vaya a buscarlo.

Jesús entonces le dijo: —¡María!

Ella se volvió y le dijo en hebreo: —¡Rabuni! (que quiere decir: «Maestro»).

Jesús le dijo: —No me retengas, porque todavía no he ido a reunirme con mi Padre. Pero ve y di a mis hermanos que voy a reunirme con el que es mi Padre y Padre de ustedes, mi Dios y Dios de ustedes.

Entonces María Magdalena fue y contó a los discípulos que había visto al Señor, y también les contó lo que él le había dicho.

El evangelio del Señor.

Te alabamos, Cristo Señor.

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Christ

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary

Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon – Fr Brian Dawson

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

May Almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, and called us to ministry in Jesus Christ, keep us in eternal life by his grace; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life for the needs of the church and the world. The response to "let us pray to the risen Lord" is "Hear us, Lord of Glory"

That our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the risen Lord.

Hear us, Lord of Glory

That all people of faith facing isolation, persecution and oppression may find fresh strength in the Easter Gospel, let us pray to the risen Lord.

Hear us, Lord of Glory

That God may grant us humility to serve and be served in love, let us pray to the risen Lord.

Hear us, Lord of Glory

That God may grant our and every church the urgency and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may bear faithful witness to signs of resurrection. Let us pray to the risen Lord.

Hear us, Lord of Glory

That God and we may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter. Let us pray to the risen Lord.

Hear us, Lord of Glory

That God may reveal the light of the resurrection to the sick, the weak, and the dying, that they may be comforted and strengthened. We especially pray for those in our hearts and on our minds, and all on our Prayer and Praise list Let us pray to the risen Lord.

Hear us, Lord of Glory

We remember all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially those we name silently or aloud ... Let us pray to the risen Lord.

Hear us, Lord of Glory

Fr Brian concludes

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We take a moment to acknowledge birthdays and significant anniversaries.

The Peace

The peace of Christ, crucified and risen, be with you. Alleluia!
And also with you. Alleluia!

We are encouraged to share signs of Christ's peace with those around us

Offertory Hymn - #205 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing

The offerings are collected and prayed over, after which Fr Brian prays over the gifts of bread and wine:

Blessed are you, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
They will become for us the bread of life and the cup of blessing.
Blessed be God for ever.

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.

Ever-living and loving God, always and everywhere we should give you thanks,
yet we do so with even greater joy on this Easter day when Jesus, the Christ, be-
came our risen Lord.
By dying he destroyed our death; by rising he restored our life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels we proclaim your glory and joyfully we give
you thanks and sing:

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)

You are holy indeed O God, the fountain of all holiness.

On that night before he died, your Son took bread and gave you thanks.

He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper, he took the cup and gave you thanks.

Giving it to his disciples, he said:

Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you, shed for all,
 to forgive sins; do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Therefore, O God, we recall the gift of your Son,
 we celebrate the wonder of your grace
 and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come in glory.

Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness,
we were far off until you brought us near and our hands are empty until you fill them.

As we eat this bread and drink this wine,
through the power of the Holy Spirit
feed us with your heavenly food, renew us in your service, unite us in Christ,
and bring us to your everlasting kingdom.

For you, the heavenly one, make all things new;
you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Risen Savior Christ has taught us, so 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

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross.

Christ is the bread of life. Alleluia!

The cup is lifted

His blood was shed for our forgiveness.

Christ is risen from the dead. 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 Invitation

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

All are welcome at God's table. Please indicate if you would prefer a gluten free wafer and/ or grape juice.

If you would prefer a blessing please place your hands behind your back.

Communion Hymn - #325 Let us break bread together

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.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together.

Loving God,

we have seen with our eyes

and touched with our hands

the bread of life.

Strengthen our faith

that we may grow in love for you and for each other;

through Jesus, the Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God; Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
be with you and all whom you love and care for,
this day and always.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn - #178 "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord"

The Dismissal

Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins.
Go now to love and serve the Risen Lord.
Go in Peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer

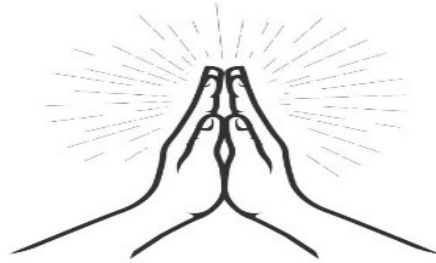
All music used with permission, CCLI #1374105

Easter Flowers

The flowers are given today to the glory of God by:

Stephanie Gilmer in memory of her beloved family whom she loved but
sees no longer.

Darlene Simmons in memory of Jim Simmons



Prayer and Praise

Remember those who have asked for our prayers

Bonnie, Ishmael, Mary, Bob, Howard, Cherie, Annamary, Ginny, Judy, Mike, Jose, Hennie, Kevin, Murray, Karen, Claudine, Ellen, Darlene, Jim, James, Ivy, Lindsay, Susie, Ann-Marie, Anita, Rosalie, Cynthia, Roy, Linda, Sarah, Fog, Jean, Ashy, Marlene, Faith, Ralph, Sebastian, Kimmie, Doug, Phil, Michael, Whitney, Rosanne, Suzie, Jackie, Nancy, Alan

Those who have passed away:

Christine Judd

Keith Munroe

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 Reban, USAF

LTC Nathaniel P. Wallace, USAFR

Leaders and Ministries of St. Paul's:

The Clergy, Vestry & Wardens, Eucharistic Ministers

April 2026 Ministry Schedule

Dates	Apr 5th Easter	Apr 12th	Apr 19th	Apr 26th
Clergy	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian
Acolytes	Joyce B. Evelyn B.	Nancy S. Gabe T.	Judy T. Jim P.	Nancy S. Alex S.
Eucharistic Minister	Linda L.	Alex S.	Joyce B.	Bobbi B.
Lectors	Stephanie H-W. Judy T.	Alex S. Nancy S.	Theresa G. Ann M.	Judy T. Linda L.
Intercessor	Carolyn L.	Ann M.	Peter K.	Alex S.
Ushers	Carolyn L. David L.	Ann M. Claudine R.	Claudine R. Carolyn L.	David L. Linda L.
Greeters	Carolyn L. David L.	Ann M. Claudine R.	Claudine R. Lynelle H.	David L. Linda L.
Vestry Rep.	Carolyn L.	Ann M.	Peter K.	Alex S.
Coffee Hour Host			Joyce/Sarah	Stephanie G.
Sunday School	No Sunday School	Linda L.	Evelyn B.	Ann M.

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: 209-522-3267stpaulsmodestoca@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, Barbara Vassellstpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com
Social Media, Deacon Greg Masztaldeacongreg66@outlook.com
Finance Committee, Carolyn Listcarolynlist@sbcglobal.net
Stewardship Campaign, Courtney Smith.....courtneyvsmith@gmail.com

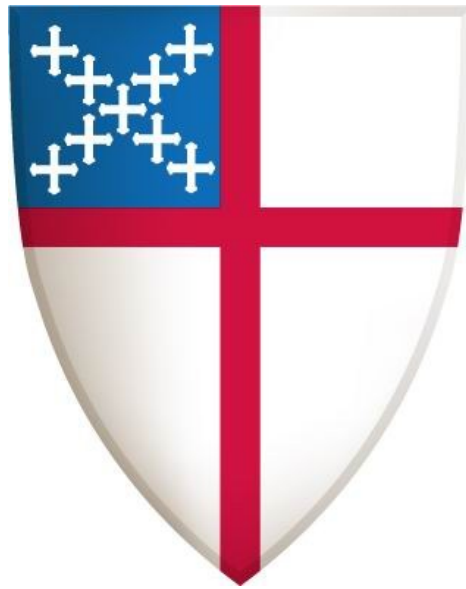
Vestry

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

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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/)

