

# Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

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

***Palm Sunday***  
***March 29, 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

## LITURGY FOR PALM SUNDAY

*We gather outside the church with symbols of Palm Sunday.*

*The Presider welcomes us:*

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Gospel of the Palms is read in Spanish and English*

### **Mateo 21:1-11**

Cuando ya estaban cerca de Jerusalén y habían llegado a Betfagé, al Monte de los Olivos, Jesús envió a dos de sus discípulos, diciéndoles: —Vayan a la aldea que está enfrente. Allí encontrarán una burra atada, y un burrito con ella. Desátenla y tráiganmelos. Y si alguien les dice algo, díganle que el Señor los necesita y que en seguida los devolverá.

Esto sucedió para que se cumpliera lo que dijo el profeta, cuando escribió:

«Digan a la ciudad de Sión:

“Mira, tu Rey viene a ti,

humilde, montado en un burro,

en un burrito, cría de una bestia de carga.”»

Los discípulos fueron e hicieron lo que Jesús les había mandado. Llevaron la burra y su cría, echaron sus capas encima de ellos, y Jesús montó. Había mucha gente. Unos tendían sus capas por el camino, y otros tendían ramas que cortaban de los árboles. Y tanto los que iban delante como los que iban detrás, gritaban: —¡Hosana al Hijo del rey David! ¡Bendito el que viene en el nombre del Señor! ¡Hosana en las alturas!

Cuando Jesús entró en Jerusalén, toda la ciudad se alborotó, y muchos preguntaban: —¿Quién es éste?

Y la gente contestaba: —Es el profeta Jesús, el de Nazaret de Galilea.

El evangelio del Señor.

**Te alabamos, Cristo Señor.**

### **Matthew 21:1-11**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Christ**

*The Presider continues:*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The Procession

*The Deacon says:*

Let us go forth in peace.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*We process around the outside of the church as we sing 'All Glory, Laud and Honor' (see insert)*

*Pausing at the back doors the Presider prays:*

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*We continue our procession, once we enter the church we remain standing as the Presider prays:*

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*We sit for the lessons.*



<sup>11</sup> I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup> I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.

<sup>13</sup> For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; \*  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup> But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. \*  
I have said, "You are my God.

<sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

<sup>16</sup> Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

*The second reading is from Philippians 2:5-11*

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual Hymn #439 What Wondrous Love Is This**

*The Gospel of the Passion is read*

**Matthew 26:14-27**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon: Deacon Greg Maszta**

*Following the sermon we spend some time in stillness. The beginning and end of this time is marked by the ringing of the prayer bowl.*

### **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.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*The Intercessor leads us in prayer, ending with:*

That we, with those who have died in faith,  
may find mercy in the day of Christ,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.  
Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Offertory Hymn #458 My Song Is Love Unknown**

**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, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

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."

*The Deacon says*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The Priest continues*

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 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**

As our Savior Christ taught, we 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-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*

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 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*

## **Communion Hymn LEVAS #89 My Jesus I Love Thee**

### **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:

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of sal-  
vation;  
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.**

## **The Blessing**

**Final Hymn #168 O Sacred Head Sore Wounded**

## **The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer

*All music used with permission, CCLI #1374105*



## **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, 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

Noelle Strain

#### **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, Sunday School

## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES & EVENTS**

### **Tuesday March 31<sup>st</sup>**

11.00am Diocesan Chrism Mass, St James' Cathedral, Fresno

### **Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

10.00am Eucharist

6.00pm Maundy Thursday Potluck Meal, Eucharist & Foot Washing

### **Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday**

Noon – The Way of the Cross

Church open until 3pm for prayer and reflection

### **Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup>**

7.00pm Easter Vigil

### **Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Day**

10.00am Easter Eucharist

# Chrism Mass & Renewal of Vows

March 31, 2026

11am

## St James Cathedral, Fresno

*During this liturgy, the priests, deacons and representatives of both the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin and the Sierra Pacific Synod gather around the Bishop, who bless the Holy Oils for use in the coming year.*

*This liturgy is also a key moment in which the unity of the bishop with their priests and deacons is manifested and renewed. During the liturgy, the priests and deacons of the diocese and synod renew their vow of obedience to the Bishop and their commitment to serve all Gods' people.*

*At the end of the Chrism Mass, the Holy Oils are brought back to congregations of the diocese for use in the coming year.*

*Presider: The Rt. Rev. Jeff Johnson, Bishop, Sierra Pacific Synod, ELCA*

*Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Gregory W. Kimura, Bishop-elect, Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin*

*RSVP to: [canonanna@diosanjoaquin.org](mailto:canonanna@diosanjoaquin.org)*

*All laity are welcomed and encouraged to attend!*

*You are invited to bring a sack lunch for fellowship following the service.*

*Clergy: alb & red stoles*

## March 2026 Ministry Schedule

Dates	Mar 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mar 8 <sup>th</sup>	Mar 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mar 29 <sup>th</sup>
Clergy	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg
Acolytes	Nancy S. Joyce B.	Joyce B. Evelyn B.	Judy T. Jim P.	Nancy S. Alex S.	Judy T. Gabe T.
Eucharistic Minister		Linda L.		Linda L.	Joyce B.
Lectors	Stephanie H-W. Ann M.	Alex S. Nancy S.	Alex S. Theresa G.	Judy T. Linda L.	Stephanie H-W. Theresa G.
Intercessor	Peter K.	Joyce B.	Rosanne M.	Courtney S.	Alex S.
Ushers	Carolyn L. Claudine R.	Carolyn L. David L.	Rosanne M. Carolyn L.	Courtney S. David L.	Alex S. Claudine R.
Greeters	Carolyn L. Claudine R.	Lynelle H. David L.	Rosanne M. Carolyn L.	Courtney S. David L.	Alex S. Claudine R.
Vestry Rep.	Peter K.	Joyce B.	Rosanne M.	Courtney S.	Alex S.
Coffee Hour Host	Joyce/Sarah	Linda L.	Ann M.		Stephanie G.
Sunday School	Evelyn B.	Ann M.	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: 209-522-3267 .....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

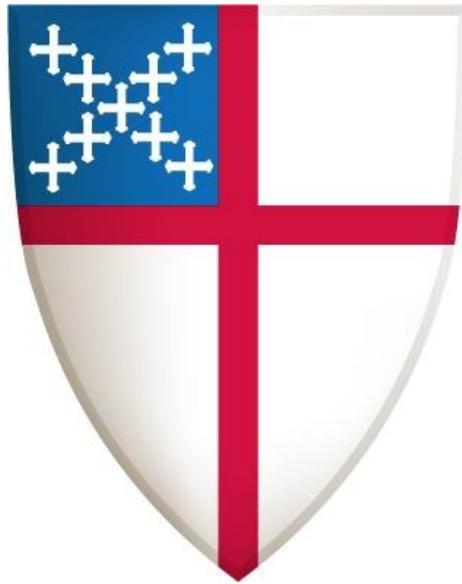
## **Vestry**

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/)

