

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

www.saintpaulsmodesto.org

***The Seventh Sunday of Easter
The Sunday After the Ascension
May 17, 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

Processional Hymn: #214 Hail the day that sees him rise

In the name of God; Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The 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 Collect

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Pause

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

We sit for the first readings

The First Reading – Acts 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68: 1-10, 33-36

Sing to God, O king - doms of the earth;
sing ——— prais - es to ——— the Lord.

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence
of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom;
*
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

35 Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.

36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

The Second Reading – 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn – #495 Hail thou once despised Jesus

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

He has the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

The Gospel Reading – John 17:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you Lord Christ

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

”I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon – Fr. Brian Dawson

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.

Nicene Creed

During the Easter Season the creed is led from the font while the priest sprinkles the congregation with water.

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

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 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 - Levas #96 He is King of Kings

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you
for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us,
and has taken away the sin of the world.
By Christ's death he has destroyed death,
and by Christ's rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with Angels and Archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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 give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love
 which you have made known to us in creation;
 in the calling of Israel to be your people;
 in your Word spoken through the prophets;
 and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

For in these last days you sent Jesus
 to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In Christ, you have delivered us from evil,
 and made us worthy to stand before you.
 In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth,
 out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us,
our Savior Jesus Christ 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] Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember Christ’s death,

We proclaim Christ’s resurrection,

We await Christ’s coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you,
O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ
and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ,
through whom we are acceptable to you,
being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ,
and bring us to that heavenly country where,
with [_____and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of
your children;

through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours,
Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

As our Risen Savior Christ has taught us, so we are bold to sing:

Our Fa-ther who art in hea-ven, Hal-owed 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 Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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 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 - #314 Humbly I adore 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 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

Recessional Hymn - #460 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

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

Sanctuary Hosts - Fr Brian is seeking volunteers who would be willing to spend a couple of hours weekly, fortnightly or monthly to keep our church doors open. The vision is to have St Paul's front doors open at least two hours each day during the week, with signage inviting anyone looking for a place of peace and calm to come in and spend some time simply being. If this is something you could help with please talk to Fr Brian and/or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



The flowers at the altar today
are given to
The Glory of God by Rev. Kathie Galicia in
Honor of her mother Norma

COMING UP AT ST PAUL'S (& BEYOND)

May 19	Senior Lunch-Golden Corral
May 24	Feast of Pentecost
May 31	Family Food & Forum
June 21	Bishop Greg Kimura Visit
July 18	Summer Retreat

Golden Corral Senior Luncheon Group

Come one, come all....spouses, partners, friends...all are welcome-
the more the merrier!

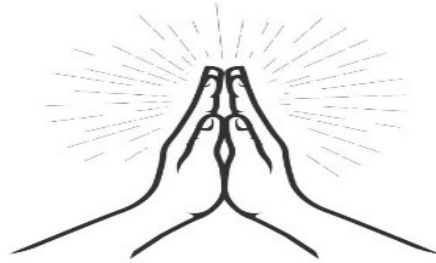
Phil and Anita Machado will be hosting lunch at Golden Corral, 3737 McHenry Ave, Modesto, Tuesday, May 19th at 2:30 pm.

The price for seniors is \$15, including drinks. Find Phil and Anita around the corner from the dessert station, ready to enjoy good company and good food.

For more information, contact Phil, 209-527-2727.

FAMILY FOOD AND FORUM

Following the service on Sunday May 31 we will gather in the hall for a pot-luck lunch and parish forum. For our lunch the theme is **Tastes of Home** and you're encouraged to bring something from either your homeland or your family's traditional recipes. We will also be encouraged to sit with folk we don't know so well to help us get closer together as a parish family. So start thinking about your food options and make sure May 31 is on your calendar.



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, Gayle, Karen, Ellen, Jim, James, Ivy, Lindsay, Susie, Anita, Roy, Sarah, Fog, Marlene, Kimmie, Phil, Whitney, Nancy, Mudge, Sharon, Lela, Reva, Kaylee, Ron, Pedro, Sierra, Sharon, Dean, Dan, Michael

Those who have passed away:

Keith Munroe

Molouk “Ashy” Obergfoll

Those in the Military:

CPT Sam Birch, USA

CPT Fred Campbell, USAF

MAJ Jenavieve Johnston, 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, Acolytes

May 2026 Ministry Schedule

Dates	May 3rd	May 10th	May 17th	May 24th	May 31st
Clergy	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Rev. Kathie Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg
Acolytes	Nancy S. Evelyn B.	Jim P. Alex S.	Joyce B. Judy T.	Nancy S. Alex S.	Judy T. Gabe T.
Eucharis- tic Minis-	Ann M.	Linda L.	Bobbi B.	Linda L.	Ann M.
Lectors	Stephanie H- W. Judy T.	Alex S. Ann M.	Judy T. Nancy S.	Theresa G. Claudine R.	Nancy S. Linda L.
Interces- sor	Rosanne M.	Luis M.	Carolyn L.	Joyce B.	Courtney S.
Ushers	Rosanne M. Carolyn L.	Luis M. David L.	Carolyn L. David L.	Claudine R. David L.	Carolyn L. Courtney S.
Greeters	Rosanne M. Carolyn L.	Luis M. Lynelle H.	Carolyn L. Lynelle H.	Claudine R. David L.	Carolyn L. Courtney S.
Vestry Rep.	Rosanne M.	Luis M.	Carolyn L.	Joyce B.	Courtney S.
Coffee Hour Host	Linda L.	Bolig Family			Family Food and Forum
Sunday School	Linda L.	Evelyn B.	Ann M.	Linda L.	Evelyn B.

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

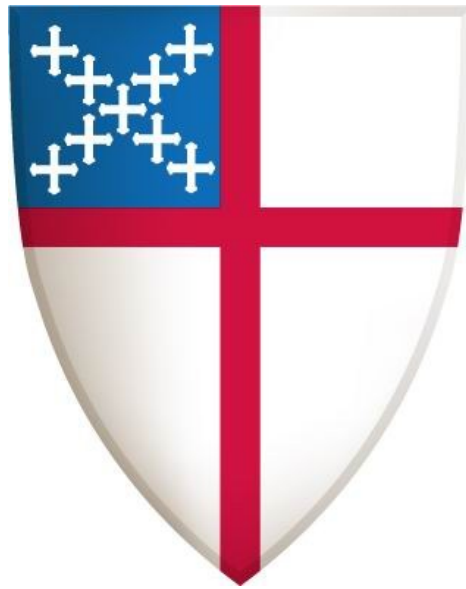
Vestry

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

<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/)

