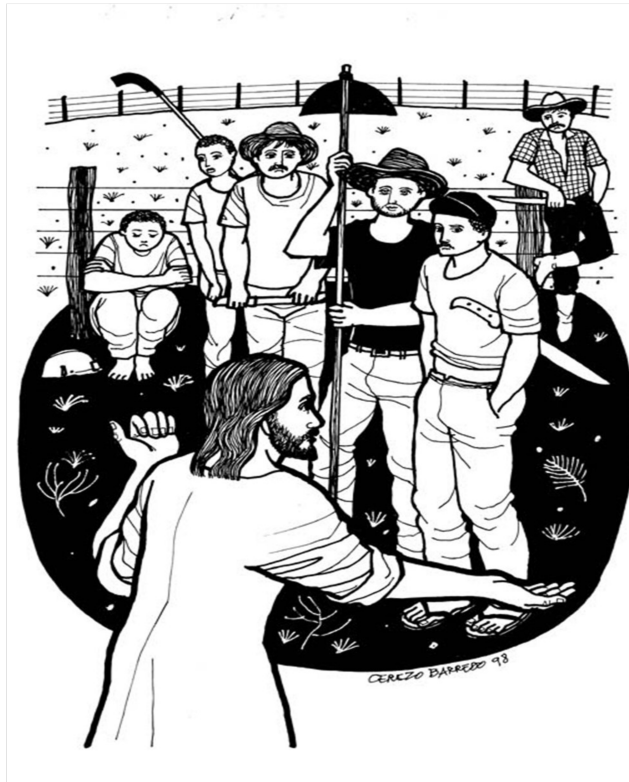


Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

www.saintpaulsmodesto.org

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 20, 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: #414 God, my King, thy might confessing

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

Amen.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

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

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Pause

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 first readings

The First Reading – Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh-pots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine

as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45



- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.

- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season.
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, *
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
- 41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.
- 42 For God remembered his holy word *
and Abraham his servant.
- 43 So he led forth his people with gladness, *
his chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 That they might keep his statutes *
and observe his laws.
Hallelujah!

The Second Reading – Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by

your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn – #482 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

The Gospel Reading – Matthew 20:1-16

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you Lord Christ

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them,

‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon – Deacon Greg Masztal

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.

Prayers of the People

Confession & Absolution

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven,
whose wrongs are pardoned.
I will confess my sins to the Lord,
I will not conceal my wrongdoings.

Silence

God forgives and heals us.

We need your healing, merciful God:

give us true repentance.

Some sins are plain to us;

some escape us,

some we cannot face.

Forgive us;

set us free to hear your word to us;

set us free to serve you.

The priest says

God forgives you.
Forgive others;
Forgive yourself.

Silence

Through Christ, God has put away your sin:
approach your God in peace.

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 be always with you.

And also with you.

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

Offertory Hymn - #660 O Master, let me walk with thee

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

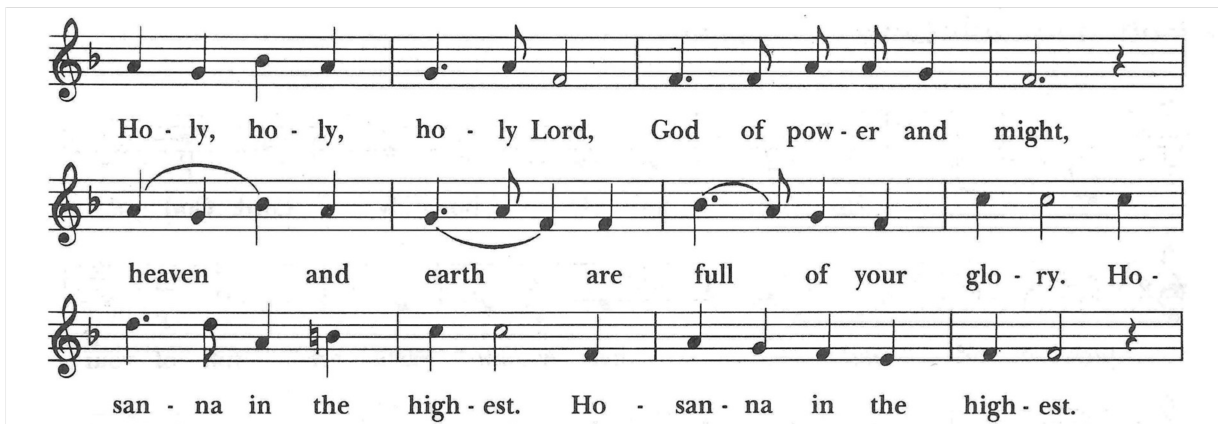
The Lord be with you
And also with you.

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.

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

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



The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,'. The second staff contains 'heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff contains 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'.

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."

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.**

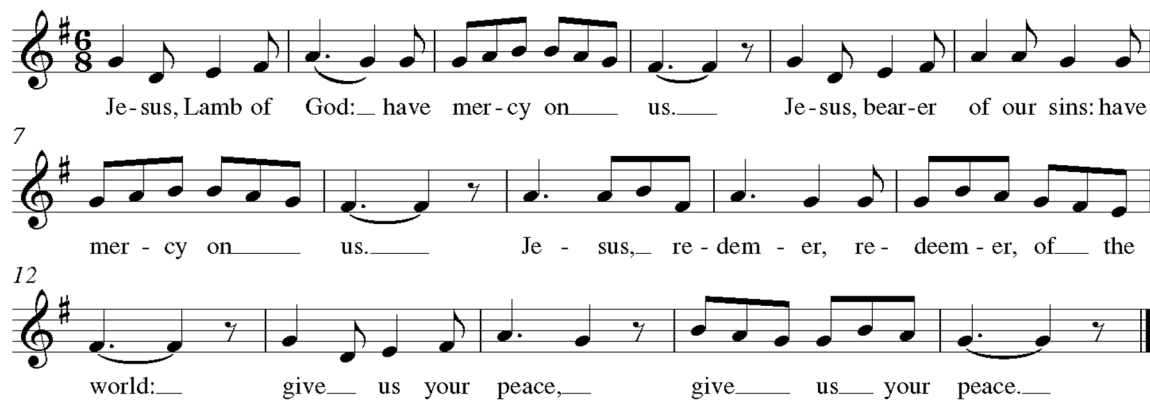
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

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-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.



The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in you hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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: Levas #149 In remembrance of me

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:

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: #541 Come, labor on.

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Chuck Sheaffer

All music used with permission, CCLI #1374105

September Ministry Schedule

Dates	Sept 6th	Sept 13th	Sept 20th	Sept 27th
Clergy	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian
Acolytes	A-Nancy C-Gabe	A-Judy C- Evelyn	A-Joyce C-Nancy	A-Nancy C-Evelyn
Eucharis- tic Minis-	Judy Joyce	Linda Ann	Bobbi	Stephanie G. Linda
Lectors	Stephanie H- W Claudine	Peter Linda	Theresa Ann	Judy Nancy
Interces- sor	Joyce	Courtney	Peter	Rosanne
Ushers	Claudine David	Courtney David	Linda Carolyn	Rosanne Carolyn
Greeters	Claudine David	Courtney Lynelle	Linda Carolyn	Rosanne Lynelle
Vestry Rep.	Joyce	Courtney	Peter	Rosanne
Coffee Hour Host	Bolig Family	Ann	Debra B.	Matt & Jamie
Sunday School	Evelyn	Sarah	Evelyn	Ann



The flowers at the altar today
are given to
The Glory of God by Nancy Silva in
Memory of Her Brother, George Neufeld

COMING UP AT ST PAUL'S

Season of Creation Celebration, September 1-October 4, 2026

The theme this year is “Living Water”, inspired by Ezekial 47:1-12, which describes water flowing from God’s sanctuary, bringing life and restoration to ecosystems and communities. The theme emphasizes ecological healing, hope, and the interdependence of humanity and nature. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

Paws in the Pews-October 4, St. Francis Day

Blessing of the Pets service-start primping and preening those prized furry (and non-furry) friends.

MoPride in the Park-Saturday, October 10

We will be sharing an information table with our brothers and sisters from St. Francis, Turlock. Be looking for details about times and how we may be part of this great annual event.

HELP NEEDED

Junior Warden Peter Krewko is looking for someone with a weed wacker and about half an hour of time to handle some weeds in a critical area of the grounds. If you can help please call Peter, 707-853-3604, or Linda in the church office, 209-522-3267.



Prayer and Praise

Remember those who have asked for our prayers

Bonnie, Ishmael, Mary, Bob, Howard, Annamary, Judy, Mike, Jose, Hennie, Kevin, Murray, Karen, Ellen, Jim, James, Ivy, Lindsay, Susie, Marlene, Phil, Nancy, Sharon, Peter, Maureen, Alfred, Clara, Michael, Kelly, MaryAnne, Pat, Karen M., Laurence, Suzanne, Charlie, Debora, Ginny, Marcus, Frank, Trudy, Susan, Ann-Marie, Alison, Darlene, George, Roy, Betty

Those who have passed away:

Jaime Cruz

Nedra Voorhees

All in Our Prayers

Those in the Military:

CPT Sam Birch, USA

PO1st Class Johnny Olmos, US Coast Guard

LTC Nathaniel P. Wallace, USAFR

SSG Brandon Wegener, USAF

Leaders and Ministries of St. Paul's:

The Clergy, Vestry & Wardens, Sunday School

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

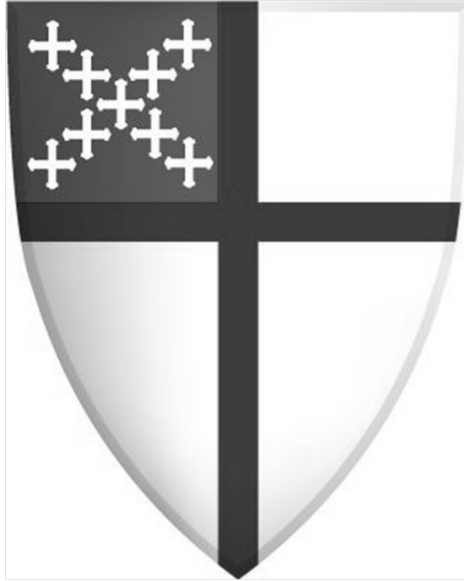
Vestry

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/)

