

Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1528 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA 95355

(209) 522-3267 www.saintpaulsmodesto.org

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost October 11, 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: #556 Rejoice, ye pure in heart

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

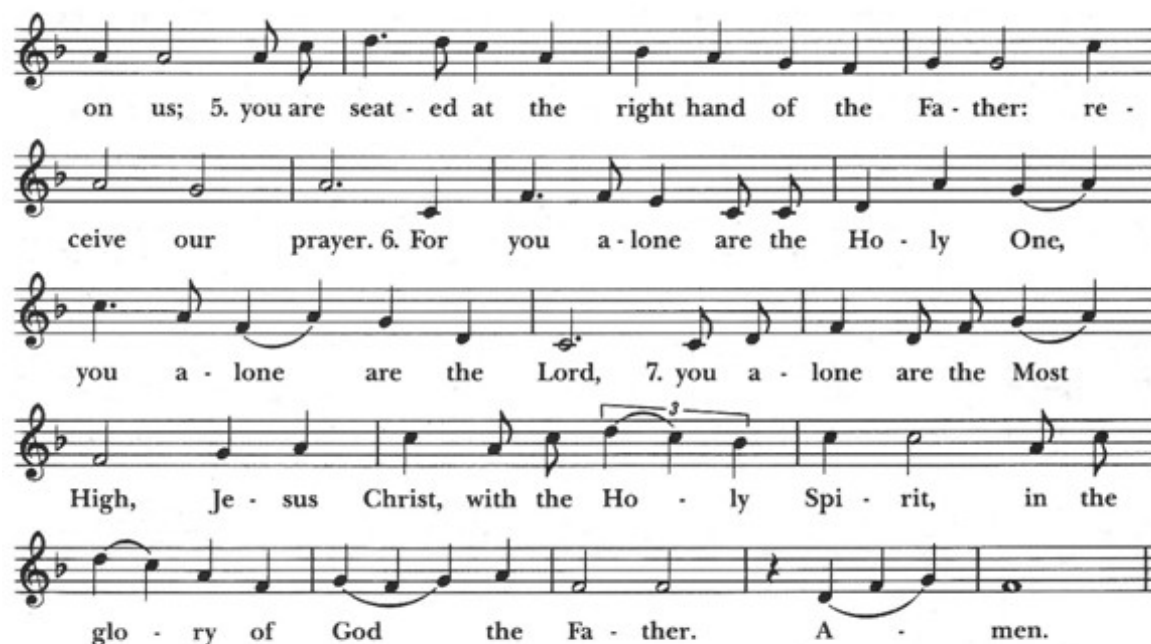
Amen.

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,
the love at our beginning and without end,
in our midst and with us.

**God is with us
here we find new life.**

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



Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The Collect

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Pause

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We sit for the first readings

The First Reading – Exodus 32:1-14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD." They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel.

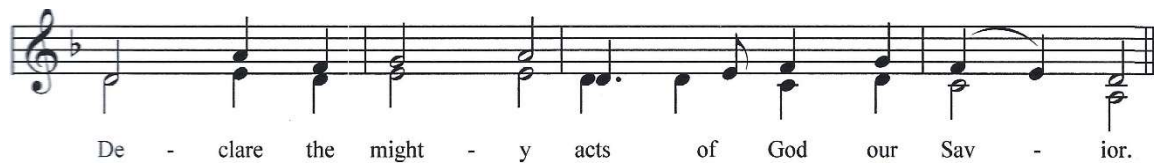
The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 106: 1-6, 9-23



Hallelujah!

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD *
or show forth all his praise?

Happy are those who act with justice *
and always do what is right!

Remember me, O LORD, with the favor you have for your people, *
and visit me with your saving help;

That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.

We have sinned as our forebears did; *
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.

Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb *

and worshiped a molten image;
And so they exchanged their Glory *
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.
They forgot God their Savior, *
who had done great things in Egypt,
Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, *
and fearful things at the Red Sea.
So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, *
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.

The Second Reading – Philippians 4:1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.
I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn – #644 The King of love my shepherd is

The Gospel Reading – Matthew 22:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you Lord Christ

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest

seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

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

We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do as members of Christ's body.

Silence

In God there is forgiveness.

Merciful, creating God,

**forgive us where we have failed to be
what you call us to be.**

Where we have tried to master creation rather than care for it,
Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Where we have abused our privilege and taken others for granted,
Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Where we have done wrong instead of good, deliberately, in ignorance or in weakness, Lord
have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

The priest declares God's forgiveness:

God the Creator brings you new life, forgives and redeems you. Be at peace.

Blessings & 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 witness-es 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 #569 God the omnipotent

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.

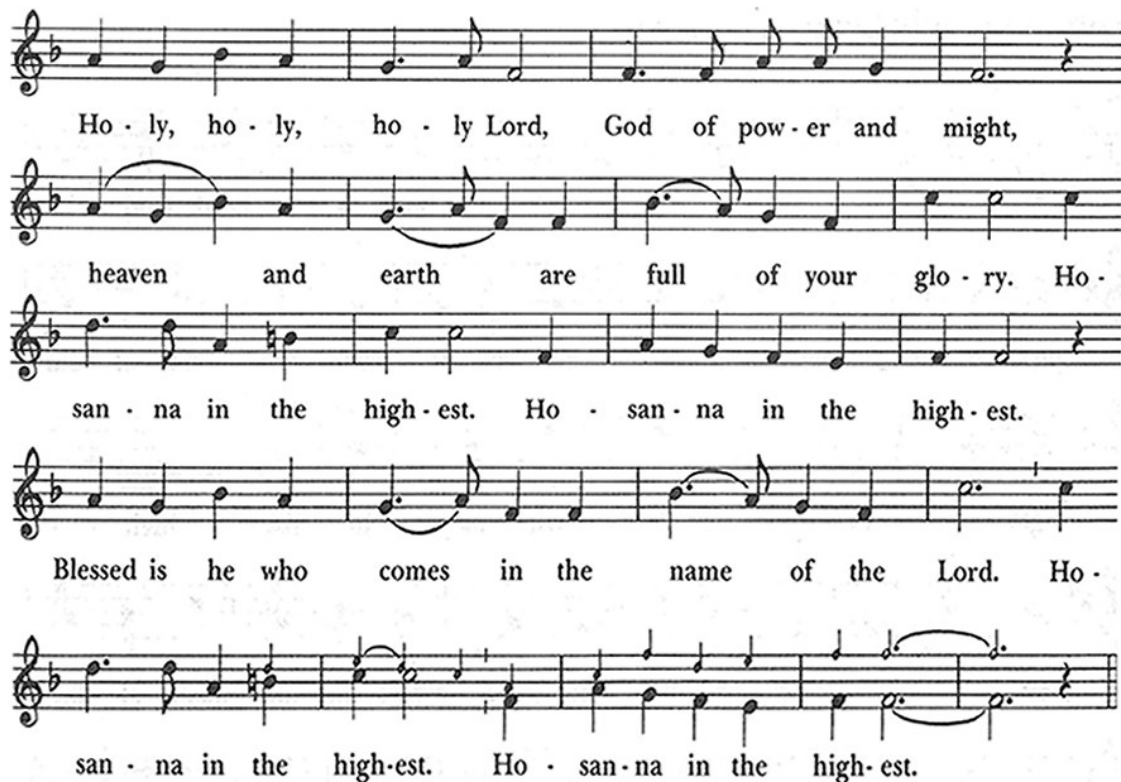
God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be:
shining light and enfolding dark;
the vast expanse of interstellar space,
galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses,
and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,
and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill.
You made us the stewards of your creation.
But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust;
and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return.
Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law.
And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word,
born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law,
opening for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus,
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
and with all those in every generation
who have looked to you in hope,
to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ,
who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my
Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption,
and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection
as we await the day of his coming.**

Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ,
and made a new people by water and the Spirit,
now bring before you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit
to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.
Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion
make us one body, one spirit in Christ,
that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel;
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:
Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us.
Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table
for solace only and not for strength;
for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God,
through Jesus Christ our great High Priest,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
your Church gives honor, glory, and worship,
from generation to generation.

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- 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

[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.
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 #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.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together:

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace
and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;**

we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen. *The Blessing*

Recessional Hymn: WLP #787 Marching in the Light of God

Dismissal

Go in strong and growing faith.
Trust in the tenderness of Christ to heal a bruised and broken world.
Thanks be to God.

Go in eager and refreshing hope.
Work with Christ risen from the dead, to fulfil the promise of a new creation.
Thanks be to God.

Go in costly and courageous love.
Proclaim the power of Christ to cleanse a defiled and disfigured world.
Thanks be to God.

Go in peace, to treasure and to tend the world God made and loves.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude - Chuck Sheaffer

All music used with permission, CCLI #1374105



**The flowers at the altar today are given
to The Glory of God
by Bonnie Kellogg
In Honor of Her Grandchildren's Birthdays**

COMING UP AT ST PAUL'S

Stockton Ordination- On Saturday October 17 Bishop Greg will be ordaining Nonhlanha Shezi (Noni) to the Holy Order of Priests at St John the Evangelist, Stockton. Noni will be the new priest there and we want to welcome her to the northern deanery of our diocese. The ordination service starts at 10am and all are welcome.

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, October 20th at 2:30 pm. No reservation required.

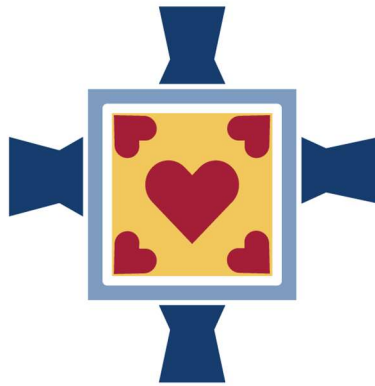
The price for seniors is \$16, including drinks. Find Phil and Anita around the corner from the dessert station, ready to enjoy good company and good food.

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

All Saints / All Souls / Dia de los Muertos - On Sunday November 1st we will celebrate All Saints Day at 10am. Later that day (time to be confirmed) we will be gathering with our friends from Church of the Brethren and College Avenue Uniting Church of Christ for a special service to remember those whom we love but see no longer. This service will have a particular focus on those who have succumbed to overdose and / or addiction and those living in recovery. It will be a special time indeed. More details to come very soon.

Cookie Walk – Saturday, December 5th- Watch for information and sign-up sheets for the many ways that everyone can be involved with our annual fundraiser.

STEWARDSHIP 2026



Plenty **Good Room**

October brings our annual Stewardship Campaign, this year with the theme
(taken from an old spiritual) Plenty Good Room.

Over the next few days you should receive some information. If you don't have it by the end of the week please let us know. While money is, as always, important for the running of our parish, this year we are also taking a broad look at stewardship beyond just our finances. You will hear more on Sundays but please, as always, if you have comments, questions or concerns don't hesitate to get in touch. And please, do get your pledge form back to us over the next four weeks.

October Ministry Schedule

Dates	Oct 4 th	Oct 11 th	Oct 18 th	Oct 25 th
Clergy	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian Dn. Greg	Fr. Brian	Fr. Brian
Acolytes	A-Judy C-Alex	A-Joyce C- Carlos	A- Judy C-Evelyn	A- Nancy C-Gabe
Eucharistic Minister	Ann Stephanie G.	Linda Joyce	Bobbi Alex	Ann Linda
Lectors	Claudine Judy	Nancy Ann	Stephanie H-W. Theresa	Peter Linda
Intercessor	Ann	Luis	Carolyn	Alex
Ushers	Ann David	Luis Linda	Claudine David	Carolyn Claudine
Greeters	Ann Lynelle	Luis Linda	Claudine Lynelle	Carolyn Claudine
Vestry Rep.	Ann	Luis	Carolyn	Alex
Coffee Hour Host	Stephanie G.	Joyce & Sarah	Bolig Family	
Sunday School	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	Evelyn		Ann



PRAYER & 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, Sharon, Al, Clara, Michael, Kelly, MaryAnne, Pat, Karen M., Laurence, Suzanne, Charlie, Debora, Ginny, Marcus, Frank, Trudy, Alison, Darlene, George, Betty, Gabe, Janet, Rick, Bill, Seema, Brooke, Brandon, Sue, Wayne

Those who have passed away:

Jaime Cruz
Nedra Voorhees
Donna Stephenson

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, Food Distribution

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Pastoral Team

Fr. Brian Dawson.....(209)-897-1612 FrBrianDawson@gmail.com
Deacon Greg Masztaldeacongreg66@outlook.com
Stephanie Gilmer, Pastoral Care Coordinator mzgilmer@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

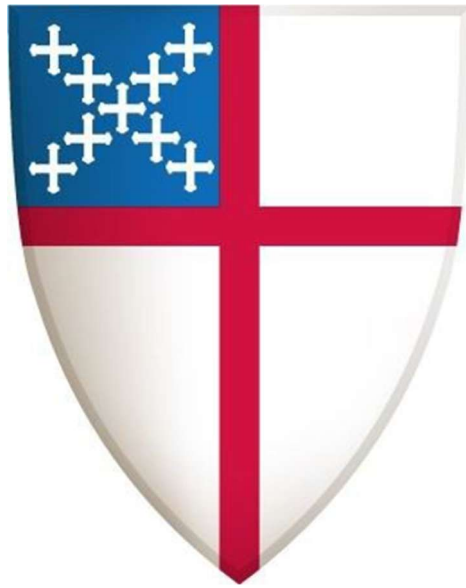
Linda Lowe: (209)-522-3267 stpaulsmodestoca@gmail.com

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: Courtney Smith (323) 652-1443 courtneyvsmith@gmail.com
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/)

