



St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ *Tending Mind and Soul* ~

Los Osos, California

The Second Sunday of Lent

February 25, 2024 8:00 am

You are warmly welcome at St. Benedict's for who you are
and where you are on your faith journey!

About Our Service

If you'd like to request prayers for someone to have their names read out during the worship services on Sunday, please write them in the bidding book on the stand by the usher's station as you come into church.

We invite everyone to stand and sit as you are able during various parts of the service. Indicators are found within parentheses throughout the bulletin. Apologies if any are missing.

Please silence your phones.

During Communion

We have gluten-free wafers available. Please let your nearest usher know *before the service begins* if you would prefer a gluten-free wafer, and they will inform the celebrant.

We use wine per the Canons of the Episcopal Church; it is offered either from the common cup or individual cups. If you prefer to abstain from alcohol for any reason, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive the cup by sight. Taking Communion with just one element (Bread) is considered complete.

(please stand as you are able)

A Penitential Order

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures for ever.*

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31 .

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: ***God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
 in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
 the evil we have done,
 and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.***

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Canticle H

A Song of Hosea

Hosea 6:1-3

Come, let us return to our God, *
who has torn us and will heal us.

God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, *
after two days revive us,

On the third day restore us, *
that in God's presence we may live.

Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, *
whose justice dawns like morning light,
its dawning as sure as the sunrise.

God's justice will come to us like a shower, *
like spring rains that water the earth.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

All: *O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

(please be seated for the readings)

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Reader: A Reading from the book of Genesis

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 22:22-30

Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Romans 4:13-25

Reader: A Reading from Paul's letter to the church in Rome

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: Thanks be to God.

(please stand as you are able as we welcome the Gospel)

Mark 8:31-38

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ According to Mark

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world

and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Gospeller: *The Gospel of Christ.*

People: *Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

Discussion

Rev. Jen Crompton

[We pause for a few moments' reflection before affirming our faith.]

(please stand as you are able)

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All: *We trust in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We trust 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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 trust in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We trust 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

Oh God, we come to you with joy, for we are inheritors of your realm: we share with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in your promises, we rejoice in your love and your salvation. As we have received from you, may we bring light and hope to others.

We pray for the wavering in faith and for the weak in spirit. We pray for those who have never known you. We pray for the joy and mission of your church. Lord of love and light, **hear us.**

You are the hope of all the world. We pray for better relationships between nations, for a greater sense of belonging to one great family. We pray today for the United Nations, programs for peace, and for a deepening of goodwill among those at war. Lord of love and light, **hear us.**

Lord, we thank you for all who through good relationships have shown your love. We pray for all whom we love and all who love us. We remember any who are struggling in their relationships. Lord of love and light, **hear us.**

We come with all who have suffered at the hands of others; all refugees and homeless peoples, dispossessed and distraught peoples. We pray for those afraid of any relationship. We pray for all who are ill and for their loved ones in their anxiety. We pray especially for those in our bidding book.

[here prayers are added from the bidding book and
you are invited to add your own prayers silently or aloud]

We give thanks for all who have put their trust in you. We pray for those who now rejoice in your love and peace in its fullness. Lord of love and light, **hear us.**

Celebrant: *To you, O Lord, be praise and glory, for the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over death; for he has called us into eternal life. Lord, make us worthy of our calling that we may serve you in love and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.*

Adapted from *Traces of Glory* by David Adam 1999

The Peace

Celebrant: There is nothing that can separate you from the love and peace of God. The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

To maintain safe social distancing, please simply greet others verbally or with a bow or nod.

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or any special concerns, may come forward.
Prayers can be found on the white or yellow card in your pew.

Transition Prayer

*O Lord,
You are the light that illumines our path.
You are the map that gives us direction.
You are the peace that makes us strong.
You are the guide whom we faithfully follow.
May your light illuminate our entire lives.
And your guidance bring direction to our work.
May we find inspiration in your Word,
And peace in our hearts as we follow you. Amen.*

Holy Eucharist

Iona

Celebrant:

The table of bread and wine is now made ready.

It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him.

It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself.

It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more;

you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;

you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; Come.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Celebrant: May Christ be with you,

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts,

All: We lift them up to God.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God,

All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

Celebrant: We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high, for in the communion of your love Christ comes close to us and we come close to Christ. Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us, with earth, sea and sky, we sing to you. With the angels of light who envelop us, with Michael and the host of heaven, with all the saints before and beside us, with Columba and Brigid, Patrick and Margaret, Blessed Mary and Blessed Benedict, with siblings east and west, we sing to you. And with our loved ones, separate from us now, who yet in this mystery are close to us, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

*All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Blessed is our brother Jesus, who walks with us the road of our world's suffering, and who is known to us in the breaking of bread. On the night of his arrest Jesus took bread and having blessed it he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying, This is my body, given to you. In the same way he took wine and having given

thanks for it he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take this and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming Kingdom of God.

**All: *Loving God,
through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread,
So that we may know your touch in all bread, all matter.
We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his
community through the centuries, and shares with us now.
Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.***

Celebrant: Hear us, O Christ, and breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine. May they become for us your body, vibrant with your life, healing, renewing and making us whole. And as the bread and wine which we now eat and drink are changed into us, may we be changed again into you, bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh, loving and caring in the world.

**All: *Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
all honor and glory are yours, All-Compassionate God,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. AMEN***

The Lord's Prayer

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

***Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on
earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.***

*In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.*

from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Holy Communion

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

If God is calling you, you are welcome to receive communion when the celebrant invites your section forward. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. As your group is called forward, please spread out to widen the circle and increase safe social distancing.

Silence
(please stand as you are able)

Prayer

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; 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

Blessing

Celebrant: God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. Amen.

Announcements

(please stand as you are able)

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

Eucharist Liturgy Adapted from Enriching Our Worship
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Ministers of the Service

Celebrant:	Rev. Jen Crompton
Preacher:	Rev. Jen Crompton
Flowers:	Pamela Bleisch
Altar Guild:	JW Wright
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews

This Week at St Ben's

Monday	Feb 26
3:30p	Liturgy Committee Meeting (Zoom)
Tuesday	Feb 27
9:45a	Prayers of the Morning (Zoom)
10:30a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	Feb 28
11:00a	Laundry Love
4:00p	Laundry Love
Sunday	Mar 3
10:30a	Eucharist Service
	NO Potluck—moved to March 10th

Announcements

Personal Prayer: If you'd like prayer support during the week, contact Sandy Fisher (661 805-2882). If no answer, please leave a message and your call will be returned. Prayer requests may also be emailed at any time to prayers@stbenslosos.org and requests for pastoral care may be sent to pastoralcare@stbenslosos.org.

March Potluck - Potluck for March will be held on March 10th to coincide with the Bishops visit.

In Anticipation of Bishop Lucinda's Official Visit March 10th - Please contact Rev Jen Crompton or Lisa Gonzalez as soon as possible if you would like to be Confirmed or Received in the Episcopal Church or wish to Reaffirm your vows in the Episcopal Church. All three require a period of guided preparation and self-examination, which St. Benedict's offers, in anticipation of Bishop Lucinda's official visit on Sunday March 10th.

Tuesday Morning Prayers & Spiritual Conversation: The [Tuesday](#) Spiritual Discussion group will be using an Lenten program sponsored by a group called Living Compass. The six-week program includes Sunday and weekday meditations for the Lenten season. The program booklets are available as pdf electronic copies for free. Order booklets at <https://www.livingcompass.org/advent-lent>. You do not have to read the book to participate. Tuesdays at 10:30 on [Zoom](#).

An all-gender restroom is located through the white door at the left of the sanctuary. All other restrooms are located by exiting out the doors and going down the outdoor wooden walkway towards the red door and then down the hallway to the left. Please ask an usher for assistance if needed.

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge with gratitude the yak tityu tityu yak tilhini (ytt) / the Northern Chumash People, and the Salinan Tribe / the T'epot'aha'l, "People of the Oaks," on whose ancestral homelands we gather, and whose vibrant culture continues today. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. Help us to be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world.

Our Mission Statement

St. Benedict's is an inclusive Christian community that celebrates the divine in all beings, and inspires spiritual growth through joyful sacramental worship, loving service, creative expression, thoughtful inquiry, and commitment to social justice.

Our Inclusivity Statement

The people of St Benedict's are called to share God's love as we minister with and to all persons in Los Osos and beyond, providing worship, nurture, fellowship, and service.

Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, or physical or mental ability.

We embrace and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation. We cooperate in ministry with other local churches and groups of God's people as we participate in the worldwide mission of Christ.



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