



# St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~

Los Osos, California

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Juneteenth Observed

June 23, 2024 10:30 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 share in the chat.

## During Communion

If God is calling you, you are welcome and invited to receive communion. Please contact the church office to arrange to receive communion in your home. We use wine per the Canons of the Episcopal Church. We have gluten-free wafers available. Please let the office know if you would prefer a gluten-free wafer and if you will receive the cup by sight, and they will inform the celebrant. Taking Communion with just one element (Bread) is considered complete.

## ~ Prelude ~

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: *You come to your people and set them free.*

All: *Almighty God, you rescued your people from slavery in Egypt, and throughout the ages you have never failed to hear the cries of the captives; We remember before you our sisters and brothers in Galveston, Texas who on this day received the glad tidings of their emancipation; Forgive us for the many grave sins that delayed that liberating word; Anoint us with your Spirit to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

♪ Hymn verses 1-2 & 4

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

LEVAS 18

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, — Com - ing for to car - ry me home.

Fine

Swing— low, sweet char - i - ot, Com-ing for to car - ry me home.

1. I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see
2. If you get there be - fore I do,
3. The bright - est day that ev - er I saw
4. I'm some - times up and some - times down,

1. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. A band of an - gels
2. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. Tell all my friends I'm
3. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. When Je - sus wash'd my
4. Com-ing for to car - ry me home. But still my soul feels

D.C.

1. com-ing af - ter me, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
2. com - ing too, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
3. sins a - way, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
4. heaven - ly bound, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943). Arr. Copyright © Paul A. Schmitt Music Company. Copyright assigned to Belwin Mills. Made in U.S.A. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission of CPP/Belwin, Inc., P.O. Box 4340, Miami, FL 33014.

## Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Almighty and most loving God, through your Son Jesus, who came among us as a slave choosing rather to serve his disciples than to be served by them; help us in our weakness not to seek to oppress others, nor to make peace with any form of exploitation, but in all things earnestly and of our own free will to seek to serve each other following Christ's good example, this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## Amos 5:18-24

*Reader: A Reading from the book of Amos*

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

*Reader: The word of the Lord.*

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 137

By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, \*  
when we remembered you, O Zion.

As for our harps, we hung them up \*  
on the trees in the midst of that land.

For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,  
and our oppressors called for mirth: \*  
"Sing us one of the songs of Zion."

How shall we sing the Lord's song \*  
upon an alien soil?

If I forget you, O Jerusalem,\*  
let my right hand forget its skill.

Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, \*  
if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

Remember the day of Jerusalem, O Lord, against the people of Edom, \*  
who said, "Down with it! down with it! even to the ground!"

O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, \*  
happy the one who pays you back for what you have done to us!

Happy shall he be who takes your little ones, \*  
and dashes them against the rock!

## Galatians 3:23-29

Reader: *A Reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## ♩ Hymn #529

“In Christ There is No East or West”

Blue Hymnal



1. In Christ there is no east or west, In  
2. In him shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where Their  
3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples in the faith, What -  
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In



1. him no south or north; But one great fam - 'ly  
2. high com - mu - nion find; His ser - vice is the  
3. e'er your race may be! Who serve each oth - er  
4. him meet south and north; All Christ - ly souls are



1. bound by love Through - out the whole wide earth.  
2. gold - en cord Close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
3. in Christ's love Are sure - ly kin to me.  
4. one in him, Through - out the whole wide earth.

Text: CM; Galatians 3:28; John Oxenham, 1852–1941. Music: Spiritual; adapted by Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949.

## Luke 4:14-21

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

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news

to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

*Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.*

*People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Canon Martha Korienek

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

## **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

As we enter this Juneteenth holiday celebration, we offer prayers for ourselves and the world. That those entrusted with authority in our nation may support the changes needed in order to exercise leadership and promote healing in an authentic, responsible, and peaceful manner, we pray, *May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.*

That the fullness of justice and compassion may be extended to the victims and families who have been subjected to violence, abuse, discrimination, murder, or the threat thereof, we pray *May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.*

That our communities and our schools may find ways to actively participate in efforts to eliminate violence, especially violence against black and brown people, so that this country may take the lead in fostering conditions for healing racial division, we pray *May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.*

That all who gather this week to remember Juneteenth be able to freely, peaceably, and in celebration with us, remember together, we pray *May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.*

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

That we be courageous in living out the Gospel, we pray *May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.*

Celebrant: We pray, O Lord, for change. Jesus you revealed God through your wise words and loving deeds, and we encounter you still today in the faces of those whom society has pushed to the margins. Guide us, through the love you revealed, to establish the justice you proclaimed, that all peoples might dwell in harmony and peace, united by that one love that binds us to each other, and to you. And most of all, Lord, change our routine worship and work into genuine encounter with you and our better selves so that our lives will be changed for the good of all. *Amen.*

## Confession and Absolution

*Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.*

All: *Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Celebrant: *May the All-Compassionate God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.*

## The Peace

Celebrant: We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and build up our common life.  
The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Please greet others in the chat.

## Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or any special concerns, please share in the chat.

### 51. For a Birthday p 830

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his/her/their* days increase; bless and guide *him/her/their* wherever *he/she/they* may be. Strengthen *him/her/them* when *he/she/they* stand(s); comfort *him/her/their* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him/her/their* up if *he/she/they* fall; and in *his/her/their* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *him/her/their* life/lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### 52. For an Anniversary p 431

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### 53. For Travelers p 831

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel [in particular \_\_\_\_\_]; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them into safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## Transition Prayer

Author Unknown

*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.*

## The Offertory

*You can contribute at our website [www.stbenslososos.org](http://www.stbenslososos.org) at any time.*

Unison <sup>C</sup> C7

1 I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de -  
 2 The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be -  
 3 Though none go with me, I still will fol - low, though none go  
 4 Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de -

cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed to fol - low  
 hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be - hind me, the cross be -  
 with me, I still will fol - low, though none go with me, I still will  
 cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low

Je - sus— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
 fore me— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
 fol - low— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
 Je - sus?— no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

WORDS: Anonymous  
MUSIC: Indian folk tune

ASSAM  
10.10.10.8.

♪ Doxology:

[Hymn tune #400]

[sung] *Praise God from Whom all blessings flow  
 Praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia  
 Praise God the Source of all our gifts  
 Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts  
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia*



## Holy Eucharist

BCP Prayer C

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People** *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

**People** *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant God of all power, Creator of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**People** *Glory to you for ever and ever.*

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**People** *By your will they were created and have their being.*

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**People** *Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Celebrant 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 only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**People** *By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.*

Celebrant 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:

## ♪ Sanctus

S-124



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and



earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

*The Celebrant continues*

And so, Holy One, we who have been redeemed by him, 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 Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he 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, he 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,

**All:     *We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.***

Holy God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah; God and parent 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. 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.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, Holy One, 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.*

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

## **The Lord's Prayer**

From the New Zealand Prayer Book

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 testing, 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 forever. Amen.*

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

The celebrant breaks the Bread

# ♪ Fraction Anthem

S-154

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

## Holy Communion

The celebrant continues:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*If God is calling you, you are welcome and invited to receive communion.  
Please contact the church office to arrange to receive communion in your home*

## ♪ Communion Music

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

## ♪ Hymn #325

### “Let Us Break Bread”

Blue Hymnal

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_

2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_

let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_

let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_

*Refrain*

when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

*Refrain*

when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Let Us Break Bread*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. and harm. David Hurd (b. 1950).

Silence

## Prayer

*Creator God,*

*May we who have been strengthened by this sacrament, strengthen those in weakness*

*We who have been fed, feed those in hunger*

*We who have been welcomed, welcome others*

*We who have been seen and known, see and know the needs of others*

*Give us your grace to respond always in loving service*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord*

*Amen.*

## Blessing

Celebrant: May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, exploitation of people, so that we may continue to work for justice, freedom and peace.

All: *Amen.*

Celebrant: May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that we may reach out our hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.

All: *Amen.*

Celebrant: May God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this work, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.

All: *Amen.*

Celebrant: And the Blessing of God Almighty, the One who creates, Redeems and Sanctifies, be upon you and all you love, this day, and forever more.

All: *Amen.*

## Announcements

### ♪ Hymn

### “He’s Got the Whole World”

LEVAS #217

1. He's got the whole world in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand, He's got the whole world

in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand.

2. He's got you and me sister, etc.

3. He's got you and me brother, etc.

4. He's got the pretty little baby, etc.

5. He's got everybody here, etc.

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Hezekiah Brinson, Jr. (b. 1958). Arr. Copyright © 1990 Hezekiah Brinson, Jr. All Rights Reserved.

## Dismissal

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

All: *Thanks be to God.*

## ♪ Postlude

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

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Today's Liturgy is adapted from the Juneteenth Liturgy,  
 compiled by the Vivian Traylor Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians.  
 The Eucharist is from the Book of Common Prayer.  
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## Ministers of the Service

Celebrant:	Canon Martha Korienek
Eucharistic Minister:	Lisa Gonzalez
Eucharistic Assistant:	Michael Lucas
Lector:	Bryson McKelvey
Music:	Paul Burkle
Flowers:	Pamela Bleisch
Ushers:	Michael Lucas & Barbara Schippers
Intercessor:	Louisa Beeler
Altar Guild:	Pat Stoneman
Online Host:	Jane Wu
Tellers:	Bryson McKelvey & Alice Welchert
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews
Coffee Hour Host:	John Horsely & Steve Cake

## This Week at St Ben's

Tuesday	Jun 25
9:45a	Prayers of the Morning (Zoom)
10:30a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	Jun 26
11:00a	Laundry Love
4:00p	Laundry Love
Sunday	Jun 10
10:30a	Eucharist Service
12:30p	Parish Council Meeting

### What is Juneteenth?

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation, but during the Civil War southern states did not honor it. Not until Union troops led by General Gordon Granger ordered its final enforcement in Galveston, Texas, did slavery finally end in Texas, the last Confederate state in the country.

It should be noted that the Emancipation Proclamation applied only to the Confederate states. Enslaved peoples in Union states remains enslaved until the ratification of the 13th Amendment on December 6, 1865.

The original Juneteenth was marked by celebrations in African American churches as early as 1866.

Juneteenth was recognized by the US Congress in 2021 as a national holiday.

Since creation of the national holiday, other churches have begun celebrating the day. The Bible is full of stories of God's liberation: the people of Israel freed from bondage in Egypt, their enslaved captivity in Babylon, the freedom messages of the prophets, Jesus' proclamation that he has come to proclaim release to the captives (Lk 4:16-19), and St. Paul's letter insisting that in Christian communities "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female...." (Gal 3:28) In 2020, the Episcopal Diocese of California approved a resolution in diocesan convention making Juneteenth an official church feast day in the diocese.

### Announcements

**Community Dinner Needs Your Help!** 7/3/24 - We need help from 5 people to bring Potato Salad for 25 people and we need 4 people to bring Chili Beans for 25 people. Please contact Barbara Skippers @ 805-471-2494 to let her know what you are planning to bring.

**8am Sunday Service to Pause for the Summer** - The 8am Sunday Service will be paused for the Summer due to celebrants, officiants and congregants vacation plans and will resume in the Fall.

**Personal Prayer:** If you'd like prayer support during the week, contact Helen Schnieders (818-324-

2646). If no answer, please leave a message and your call will be returned. Prayer requests may also be emailed at any time to [prayers@stbenslososos.org](mailto:prayers@stbenslososos.org) and requests for pastoral care may be sent to [pastoralcare@stbenslososos.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stbenslososos.org).

**Tuesday Morning Prayers & Spiritual Conversation:** The Tuesday morning Spiritual conversation will be discussing ideas from the book *How to Live: What the Rule of St. Benedict Teaches Us About Happiness, Meaning and Community* by Judith Valente. You do not have to read the book to participate. Tuesdays at 10:30 on [Zoom](#).

## 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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