

St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos ~

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024 10:30 am

Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, or physical or mental ability—your presence here today is a blessing!

About Our Service

Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are warmly welcome at St. Benedict's! If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Episcopal Church, simply rest into the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship.

~ Prelude ~

Original Improvisation
Paul Burkle

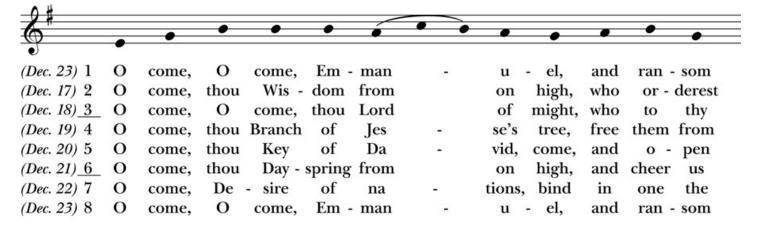
Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy, and living One.

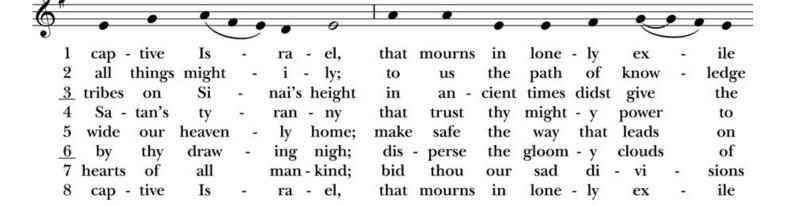
People: You come to your people and set them free.

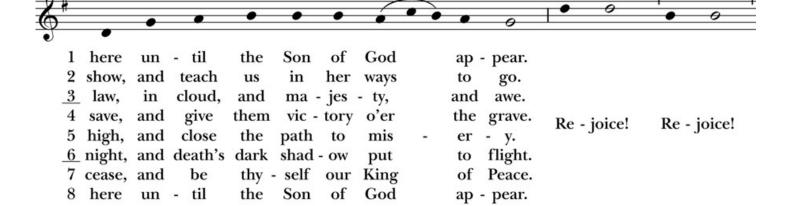
Celebrant: Let us pray.

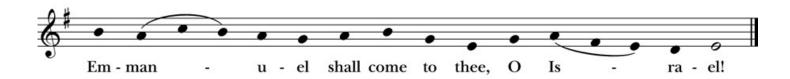
All: All-compassionate and most merciful God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.











The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation; Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

People: Amen

Malachi 3:1-4

Reader: A Reading from the book of Malachi

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

(the Canticle will be chanted by the cantor and the choir)

J Canticle 16

The Song of Zechariah

S-248 Blue Hymnal

Philippians 1:3-11

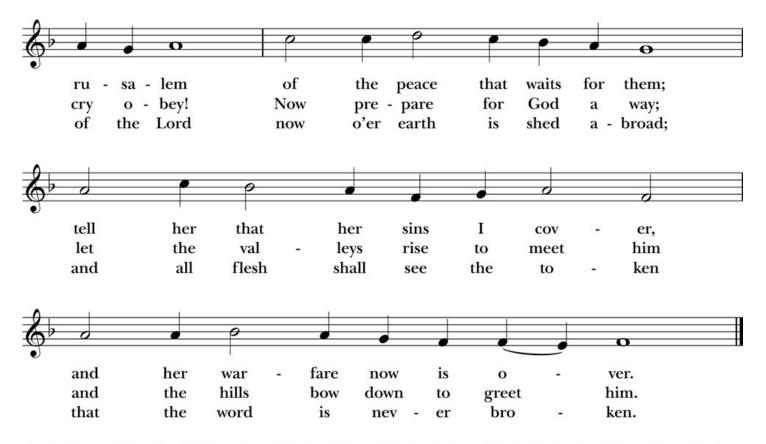
Reader: A Reading from Paul's letter to the church in Phillippi

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

People: Thanks be to God.





Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

Luke 3:1-6

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sermon

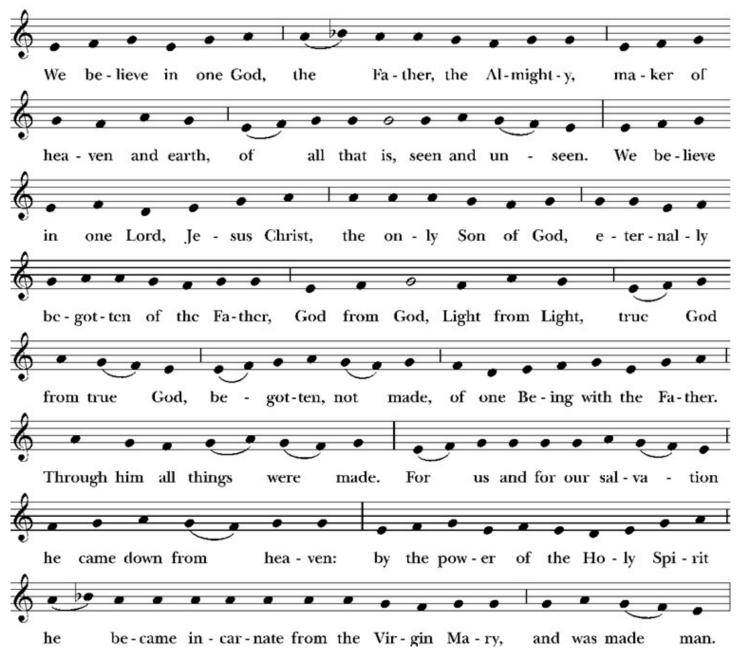
The Rev. Karen Siegfriedt

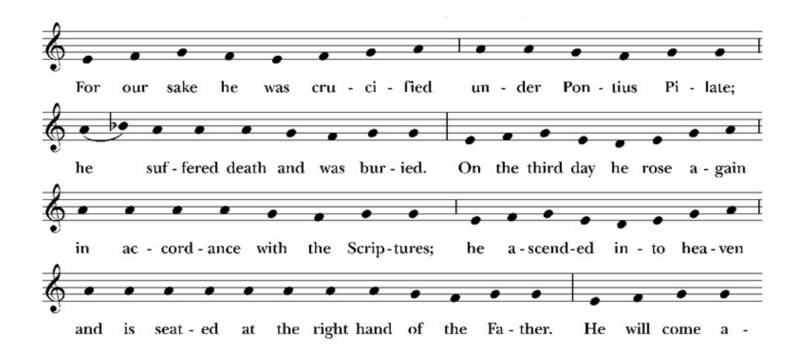
[We pause for a few moments' reflection before affirming our faith.]

♪ Affirmation of Faith

S-104 Blue Hymnal

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





Prayers of the People

BCP Form I

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to our God, saying "God, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For our Bishop Lucinda and our priest Rev. Linzi, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For this community of Los Osos, for every community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy.*

For those who are aged and infirm, for those who are widowed and orphans, and for those who are sick and suffering, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For those mentioned in our bidding book:

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

Let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For those who are poor and those who are oppressed, for those who are unemployed and those who are destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to our God. *God*, *have mercy*.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to our God. *God, have mercy*.

In the communion of Benedict and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. *To you, O Lord our God.*

Celebrant:

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

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.

All Compassionate 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.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please greet one another in the chat.

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

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

51. For a Birthday p 830

Watch over thy child(ren), 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*.

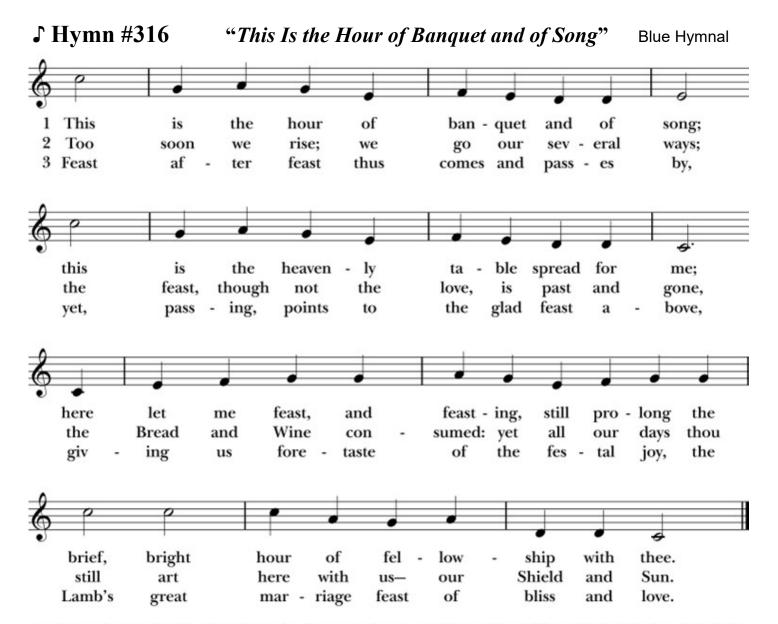
53. For Travelers p 831

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*.

The Offertory

You are invited to make a thank offering, but if you do not contribute financially today please give thanks for God's blessing as the plate is passed. You can contribute at our website www.stbenslososos.org at any time.



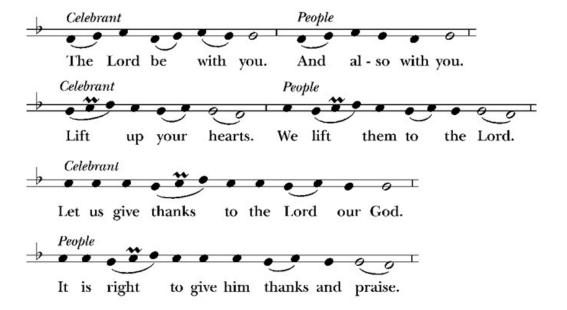


Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), alt. Music: Canticum refectionis, David McKinley Williams (1887-1978). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

∫ 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 Eow2



Setting: Copyright @ Church Publishing Inc.

Celebrant: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

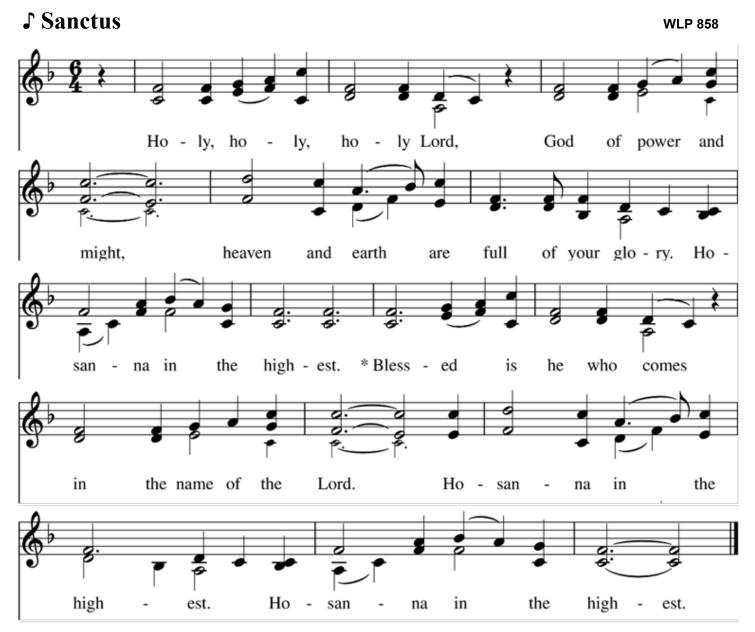
From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars;

earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a parent cares for their children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:



Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death

and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son,
Jesus the holy child of God.
Living among us, Jesus loved us.
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.
He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

"Take, eat:

This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

"Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

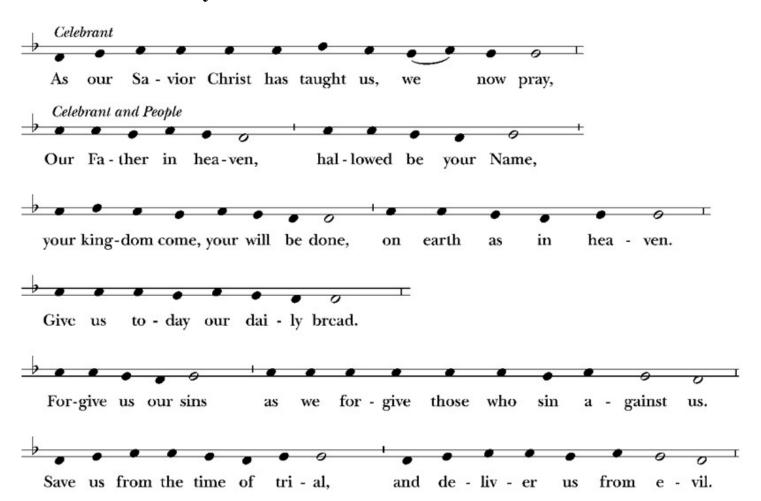
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

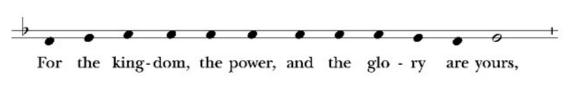
In the fullness of time bring us, with Benedict and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

All: Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

↑ The Lord's Prayer

S-148 Blue Hymnal





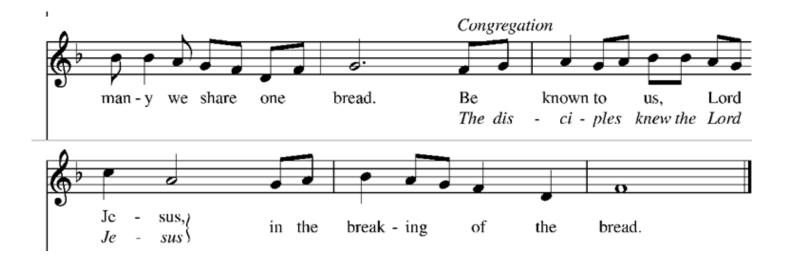


Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread





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.

♪ Communion Music

The St. Benedict's Choir

"Come to Us, Emmanuel"
by Carmen Scialla





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

Silence

Sending of the Eucharistic Visitor

All:

If no visitation is to be made, prayer is not said.

When the Eucharist is brought to people at any place outside our walls, we say the following to send our Lay Eucharistic Visitors or other Ministry team members out with care and blessings.

Celebrant: In the name of this parish family, I send you forth, bearing these holy gifts, to
______. Together, we share in the body and blood of Christ. And we who are many are one Body because we share one Bread and one Cup.

We who are many are one Body, because we share one Bread and one Cup. Amen

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



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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

Eucharist Liturgy Adapted from Enriching Our Worship
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The Advent Candles

First Sunday: Hope Second Sunday: Peace Third Sunday: Joy Fourth Sunday: Love

Ministers of the Service

Celebrant: Rev. Karen Siegfriedt Preacher: Rev. Karen Siegfriedt

Altar Guild: Pat Stoneman Eucharistic Minister: Brian Spolarich

Eucharistic Assistant: Alan Kiste

Lector: Bryson McKelvey Flowers: Sharon Porter

Usher: Alan Kiste

Usher: Maureen Titus

Intercessor: Helen Schnieders
Cantor: Brian Spolarich

Music: Paul Burkle
Online Host: Jane Wu

Tellers: Alice Welchert

Tellers: Diana Hammerlund Technical: Hannah Matthews

This Week at St Ben's

Monday Dec 9

3:30p Liturgy Committee

Tuesday Dec 10

9:45a Prayers of the Morning (Zoom)
10:30a Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)

Wednesday Dec 11

6:00p SLO Blues Society

Thursday Dec 12

6:00p Choir Practice

Sunday Dec 15

10:30a Eucharist Service

Christmas at St. Benedict's

Sunday Dec 18

7:00p Blue Christmas Service

Tuesday Dec 24

7:00p Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

Wednesday Dec 24

10:30a Christmas Day

Eucharist Service

12:00p Light Brunch

Announcements

Bidding Book Prayers – 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

Tuesday Morning Prayers & Spiritual Conversation: During Advent, the Spiritual Conversation group will be using the Living Well Through Advent: Practicing Peace with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind from Living Compass. This seasonal resource consists of short daily readings to inspire reflection as we prepare ourselves to honor the birth of Jesus. You do not have to read the book to participate. Join on Zoom.

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 and requests for pastoral care may be sent to pastoralcare@stbenslososos.org.

Christmas Flowers: The flower guild would greatly welcome your donations and dedications to underwrite our Christmas flowers. If you wish to donate to fund a poinsettia in honor of a loved one, please email Hannah and let her know that you have made a donation. A marked envelope for donations will also be available at church. Please indicate if your donation is in Thanksgiving or in Memory. Dedications will be printed in our Christmas bulletins.

Diocesan Advent Retreat: You are invited to join others from around the diocese for our annual Advent Retreat. This year it will be on Saturday, Dec 14, 10am to 3pm, at St. James in Paso Robles. The theme this year is 'Encountering Emmanuel,' and there will be both large group and small group discussions, as well as personal time (for things like walking or journaling), and we will begin and end with worship. Lunch will be offered; there is a suggested \$10 donation to cover the cost of lunch, but this is not required. Please register online via the link in the Benediction weekly.

More announcements may be found in the Benediction weekly.

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge with gratitude the yak tityu tityu yak tiłhini (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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