



# St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos ~

## The First Sunday after Epiphany

January 12, 2025 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

Officiant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

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.***

### ♪ Hymn

### “Arise! Your Light is Come”

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show  
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door; pro -  
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born, bind  
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song! Rise

forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.  
up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
up like ea - gles on the wing, God's power will make us strong.

## Collect of the Day

Officiant: Christ be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Officiant: *God in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.*

People: *Amen*

## Isaiah 43:1-7

Reader: *A Reading from the book of Isaiah*

Thus says the Lord,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up,"

and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth--

everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made."

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

People: *Thanks be to God*

## Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

## Acts 8:14-17

Reader: *A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

People: *Thanks be to God*

1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,  
 2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,  
 3 Straight - way and stead-fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call  
 4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,

as peace - ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.  
 sent you his king - dom to pro - claim, his ho - ly will to do.  
 free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.  
 that, like - wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Caithness*, melody from *The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

### Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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

People: ***Glory to You, Lord Christ.***

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Officiant: *The Gospel of Christ*

People: ***Praise to You, Lord Christ.***

### Sermon

Berkeley Johnson

[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 became truly human.  
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.  
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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**

God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

BCP Form III

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

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

*Silence*

Officiant: Holy One, accept these 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, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## **Confession and Absolution**

*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.***

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

## The Peace

Officiant: 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 any special concern, 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.*

## 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](http://www.stbenslososos.org) at any time.*



### ♪ Hymn #119

### “As With Gladness Men of Old”

Blue Hymnal

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger - bed;  
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger rude and bare;  
4 Ho - ly Je - sus! ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;  
5 In the heaven - ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
 2 there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;  
 3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 4 and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:

1 so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.  
 2 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek the mer - cy - seat.  
 3 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ! to thee, our heaven - ly King.  
 4 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 5 there for ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: Dix, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

## ♪ 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*

## The General Thanksgiving

All: *Holy One, author of all mercies,  
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
 to us and to all whom you have made.  
 We bless you for our creation, preservation,*



*and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

(silence)

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.*

*Give us today our daily bread.*

*Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.*

*Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.*

*For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.*

### **Blessing**

Officiant: Live without fear: our Creator has made us holy, has always protected us, and loves us as a parent.  
Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. *Amen.*

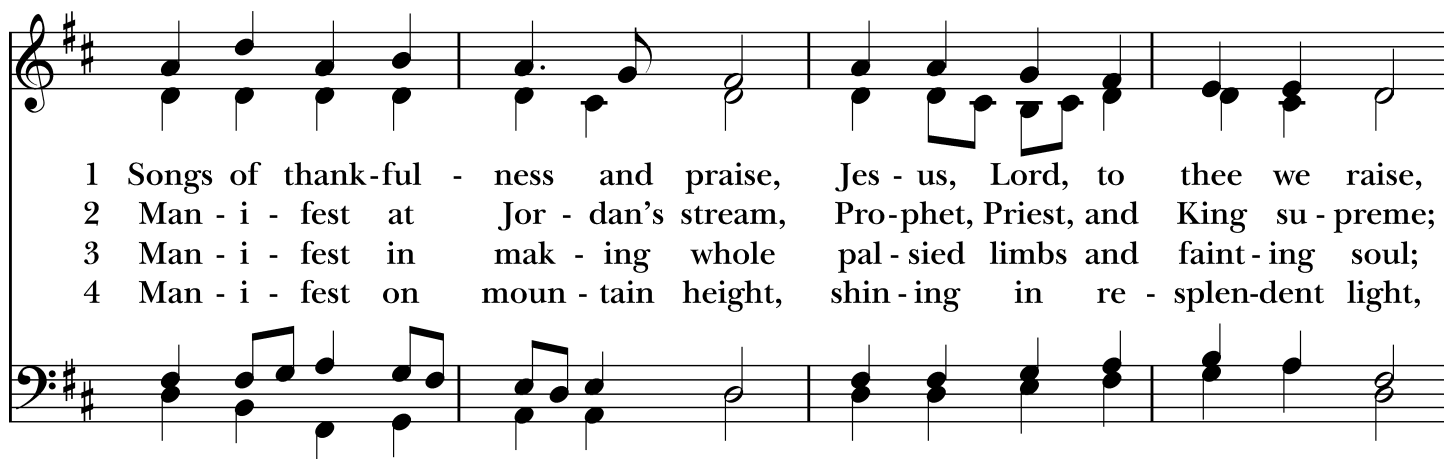
(source: from Saint Clare)

### **Announcements**

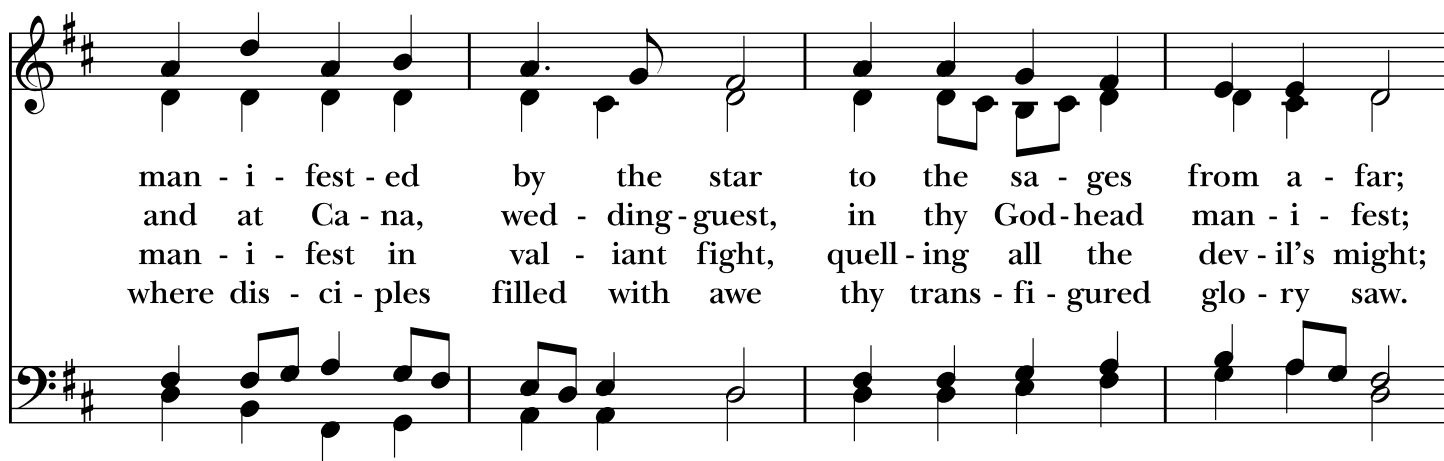
♪ Hymn #135

“Song of Thankfulness and Praise”

Blue Hymnal



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;  
 4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen - dent light,



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;  
 and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
 where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;  
 man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
 When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

## Dismissal

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

All: *Thanks be to God.*

## ♪ Postlude

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

---

Today's Liturgy  
is from the outline in the Book of Common Prayer.  
Music reproduced and broadcast under OneLicense #A706314

---

## Ministers of the Service

Officiant:	Berkeley Johnson
Preacher:	Berkeley Johnson
Liturgical Assistant:	Bryson McKelvey
Lector:	Roz Malone
Flowers:	Sarah Chesebro
Usher:	Jim Malone
Usher:	Lisa Gonzalez
Intercessor:	Helen Schnieders
Music:	Paul Burkle
Altar Guild:	Sarah Chesebro
Online Host:	Don Maruska
Teller:	Diana Hammerlund
Teller:	Sandy Fisher
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews
Coffee Hour Host:	Barbara Hirahara

## This Week at St Ben's

Tuesday	Jan 14
9:45a	Prayers of the Morning (Zoom)
10:30a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	Jan 15
3:00p	Earthcare Meeting
Thursday	Jan 15
6:00p	Choir Practice
Saturday	Jan 18
9:00a	Men's Breakfast
Sunday	Jan 19
10:30a	Eucharist Service
12:00p	Parish Council Meeting

## Announcements

**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:** During the season after The Epiphany, the Spiritual Conversation group will be focusing on spiritual practices that help us be present in the world as God's light. We will be loosely guided by Pema Chodron's *When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times*. You do not have to read the book to participate, all are welcome on Zoom. And SAVE THE DATE!! ... the Spiritual Conversations Group is planning an in-person gathering on January 22 as Art and Judy will be in town. Details are still tbd, but do mark your calendars for that!

### Sunday, January 26 at 12:30pm

Please do plan to stay after church on Sunday, January 26 for our most important all-parish meeting of the year - our Annual Parish Meeting! We'll look back on 2024 and welcome our new vestry. Our Annual Meeting is your chance to learn about all that goes into the life and mission of St. Ben's - please do plan on attending if you can!

## LA Fire Response

The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles has a page on their website ([diocesela.org/fire-response/](https://diocesela.org/fire-response/)) dedicated to Fire Response and Resources, with a video from the Bishop of Los Angeles. It's a good page to bookmark if you're wondering how you might help and stay informed.

**Earthcare Team:** St. Benedict's is a member, along with 22,000 other congregations (Christian, Jewish, and Muslim), of [Interfaith Power and Light](#). Our Earthcare Team invites you to take a few minutes to review and respond to the following call to action:

"The incoming President and several new Members of Congress are backed by fossil fuel companies, and have promised to slash the protections our faith communities have fought for including, protections on clean air and water, undermining investments in clean energy, and weakening the protections keeping Americans safe from extreme weather. We must stand together and defend the progress we've made."

Use this [link](#) to make your voice heard.

## Stewardship Campaign

We have wrapped up our Stewardship Campaign for the year ahead, THANK YOU to everyone who has pledged to support the life and mission of St. Benedict's in 2025! We have fallen short of our hoped-for goal for this year, and so Lisa Gonzalez, our treasurer, is working on the final details of a budget with a bit of a deficit for the coming year (the budget will be available in advance of our Annual Parish Meeting for everyone to take a look at, we will vote on adopting the budget at the meeting itself).

Needless to say, It's never too late to pledge your support, and no dollar amount is too small! If you'd like to add your support, increase your contribution, or make a donation you can be confident every single penny will be put to good use in service of the life and mission of this place.

## 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.



**St. Benedict's Episcopal Church**  
**PO Box 6877**  
**2220 Snowy Egret Lane**  
**Los Osos, CA 93402**  
**805-528-0654**  
**office@stbenslosos.org**  
**www.stbenslosos.org**

