



## St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos ~

### The Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 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!

### ~ Prelude ~

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

Celebrant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

Celebrant: Dear people of God, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the Incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we enter the house of God, where we recognize Christ in the breaking of bread.

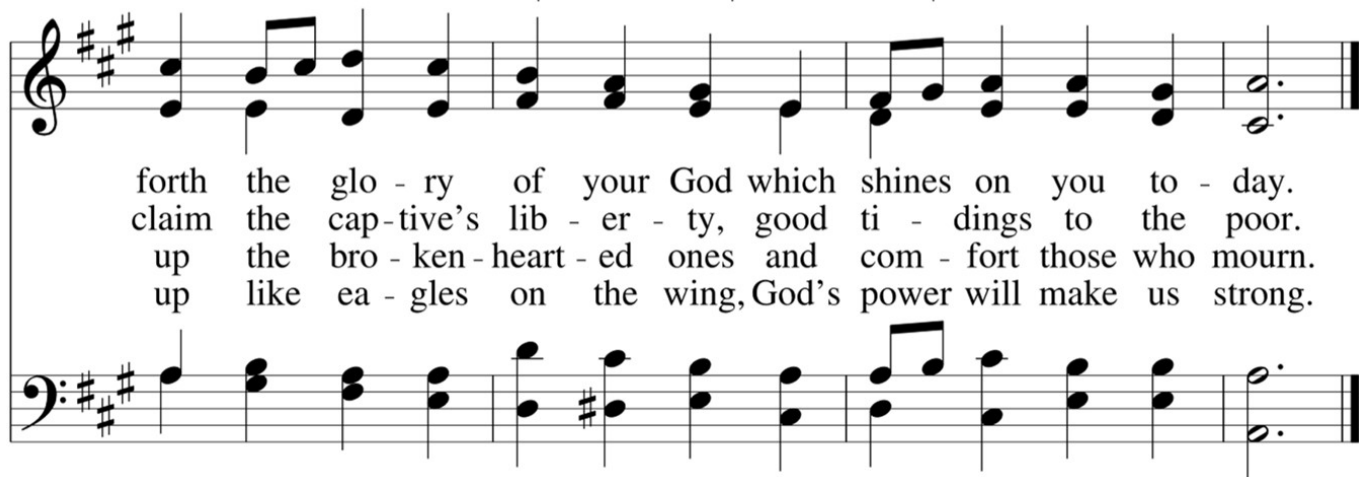
Let us pray.

O eternal God, who has created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon: We humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. ***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

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: *Amen*

## Malachi 3:1-4

Reader: *A Reading from the book of Malachi*

Thus says the Lord, 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: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 24:7-10

The cantor/choir will sing the Antiphon, it is then repeated by the congregation.



The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it; the world and all who



dwell there - in.†

Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

"Who is this King of glory?" \*  
"The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle."

Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

"Who is he, this King of glory?" \*  
"The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory."

Antiphon repeated by all

## Hebrews 2:14-18

*Reader: A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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



1 Of the Fa - ther’s love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -  
 2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,  
 3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,  
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that  
 bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the  
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on  
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have \_\_\_\_\_ been, and that fu - ture  
 world’s Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his  
 earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in  
 and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! \_\_\_\_\_  
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! \_\_\_\_\_  
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! \_\_\_\_\_  
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! \_\_\_\_\_

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: ♩ ♪ ♪ ♪

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

## **Luke 2:22-40**

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

*People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

*Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.*

*People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

[We pause for a few moments' reflection.]

# Affirmation of Faith

S-104 Blue Hymnal

We be - lieve in one God, the Fa - ther, the Al - might - y, ma - ker of  
hea - ven and earth, of all that is, seen and un - seen. We be - lieve  
in one Lord, Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, e - ter - nal - ly  
be - got - ten of the Fa - ther, God from God, Light from Light, true God  
from true God, be - got - ten, not made, of one Be - ing with the Fa - ther.  
Through him all things were made. For us and for our sal - va - tion  
he came down from hea - ven: by the pow - er of the Ho - ly Spi - rit  
he be - came in - car - nate from the Vir - gin Ma - ry, and was made man.  
For our sake he was cru - ci - fied un - der Pon - tius Pi - late;  
he suf - fered death and was bur - ied. On the third day he rose a - gain  
in ac - cord - ance with the Scrip - tures; he a - scend - ed in - to hea - ven  
and is seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther. He will come a -

gain in glo - ry to judge the liv - ing and the dead, and his king-dom  
will have no end. We be-lieve in the Ho - ly Spi - rit, the Lord,  
the giv - er of life, who pro - ceeds from the Fa - ther and the Son.  
With the Fa - ther and the Son he is wor-ship-ed and glo - ri - fied.  
He has spo - ken through the Pro - phets. We be - lieve in one ho - ly  
cath - o - lic and a - po - sto - lic Church. We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism  
for the for - give - ness of sins. We look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. A - men.

Music: Plainsong, Mode 4; Credo I; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1984 Mason Martens.

## Prayers of the People

BCP Form III

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.*

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*

Celebrant: 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.*

Celebrant: Holy 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 others in the chat.

## **Announcements**

### **Birthday & Anniversary Prayers**

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



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.*

1 My God, thy ta - ble now is spread, thy cup with  
 2 O let thy ta - ble hon - ored be, and fur - nished  
 3 Drawn by thy quick - ening grace, O Lord, in coun - tless  
 4 Nor let thy spread - ing Gos - pel rest till through the

love doth o - ver - flow; be all thy chil - dren  
 well with joy - ful guests; and may each soul sal -  
 num - bers let them come and gath - er from their  
 world thy truth has run, till with this Bread shall

thith - er led, and let them thy sweet mer - cies know.  
 va - tion see, that here its sa - cred pledg - es tastes.  
 Fa - ther's board the Bread that lives be - yond the tomb.  
 all be blessed who see the light or feel the sun.

Words: Sts. 1-3, Philip Doddridge (1702-1751), alt.; st. 4, Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Rockingham*, melody from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1780; adapt. Edward Miller (1731-1807); harm. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816).

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



♪ Hymn #321

“My God Thy Table Now is Spread”

Blue Hymnal

(please stand as you are able)

## ♪ 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 B

Celebrant People

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant People

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, the Maker of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

# Sanctus

S-128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven 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: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

## *The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

All: ***We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

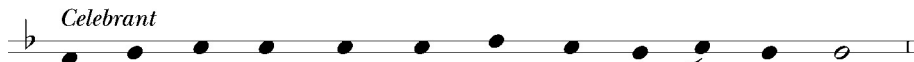
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Dear One; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, gather all things into the circle of Christ's love, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with blessed Mary and blessed Benedict and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.*

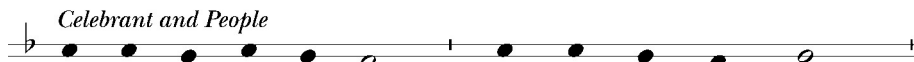
## The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant*

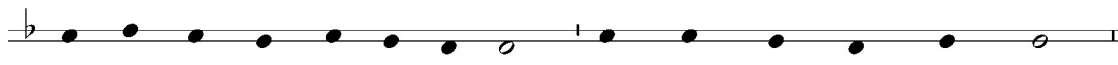


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

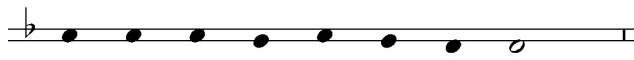
*Celebrant and People*



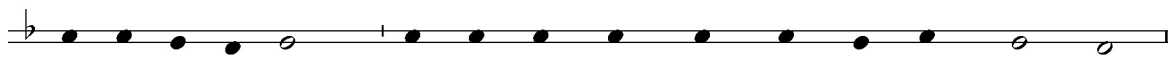
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



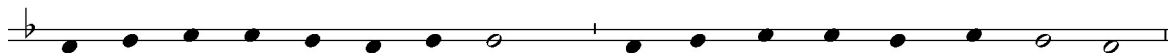
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



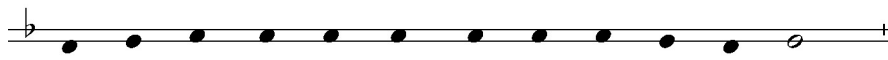
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,



now and for ev - er. A - men.

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

## The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

## ♪ Fraction Anthem

S 167

*Antiphon*

*Cantor; then All*



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

*Cantor*



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

*Cantor*



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

Music: Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

## 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



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,  
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,  
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
 be there at our lab - ors, and give us, we pray,  
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Words: Jan Struther (1901-1953). By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. *Hymnal* 1982.

Silence

**Prayer**

*Almighty and ever-living God,  
 we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
 of the most precious Body and Blood  
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
 and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
 that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.*

*And now, Holy One, send us out  
 to do the work you have given us to do,  
 to love and serve you  
 as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Blessing**

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

**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

Today's Liturgy is from the outline in the Book of Common Prayer.  
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### **Ministers of the Service**

Celebrant:	Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Eucharistic Minister:	Helen Schnieders
Eucharistic Assistant:	Michael Lucas
Altar Guild:	Sarah Chesebro
Lector:	Roz Malone
Flowers:	Sarah Chesebro
Ushers:	Michael Lucas & Jim Malone
Intercessor:	Lisa Gonzalez
Music:	Paul Burkle
Online Host:	
Teller:	Alice Welchert & Bryson McKelvey
Technical:	Hannah Matthews
Coffee Hour Host:	

### **This Week at St Ben's**

Monday 3:30p	Feb 3 Liturgy Committee
Tuesday 9:45a 10:30a	Feb 4 Prayers of the Morning (Zoom) Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Thursday 6:00p	Feb 6 Choir Practice
Saturday 2:00p	Feb 6 Celebration of Life Event



## Announcements

**Coffee Hour Hosts** As we take a wee Potluck break for the month of February, this is the perfect time to **sign up to host coffee hour**. Coffee Hour is such an important part of our time together on a Sunday morning, so please do help support this ministry! Many hands make light work! ~ THANK YOU to all who have so generously supported hospitality at St. Ben's ... **our famous Potluck will be back in March!**

**Morning Prayer** is an ancient daily liturgy, with roots in the Benedictine monastic tradition. You're invited to join me for Morning Prayer, Monday-Friday during Lent, on zoom. Everyone is welcome, no prior experience required! **It looks as though 8am is the winning start time**, if you'd like to express a different preference [please do that here](#), this is the last week to let me know your preferred time!

**Personal Prayer:** If you'd like prayer support during the week, contact Louisa Beeler (805 543-2898). 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. The Spiritual Conversations Group is planning an in-person gathering on January 22 as Art and Judy will be in town. Contact Letty Cotta for more information.

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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