



## St Benedict's Episcopal Church

Los Osos, California

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

ECUMENICAL SUNDAY

October 31, 2021 8:00 AM SERVICE

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your faith journey, there's a warm welcome for you here

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Celebrant: *Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.*

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

All: *Holy and Life-Giving Spirit, You know our innermost thoughts even before they break through into consciousness; You teach us how to pray. Breathe your breath into our hearts and minds this morning. Prepare us for worship, that our thoughts may turn to you and our hearts bow down in grateful praise of God - Creator, Word and Holy Spirit, Amen.*

### Canticle N

### A Song of God's Love

*1 John 4:7-11*

*Beloved, let us love one another, \*  
for love is of God.  
Whoever does not love does not know God, \*  
for God is Love.  
In this the love of God was revealed among us, \*  
that God sent his only Son into the world,  
so that we might live through Jesus Christ.  
In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us \*  
and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.  
Beloved, since God loved us so much, \*  
we ought also to love one another.  
For if we love one another, God abides in us, \*  
and God's love will be perfected in us.*

### Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *Transcendent God, whose thoughts are not our thoughts, whose ways are not our ways: give us active minds and open hearts as we read the scriptures that they might come alive in witness to your living word, Jesus Christ, the one who draws near to us. Amen.*

Prayers for an Inclusive Church © 2009 Steven Shakespeare

## **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

— *A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

—*Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People.*

## **Psalms 46**

Our sure defense, our shelter and help in trouble, God never stands far off.  
So we stand unshaken when solid earth cracks and volcanoes slide into the sea,  
when breakers rage and mountains tremble in the swell.  
The Lord of cosmic power, Jacob’s God, will shield us.

A river delights the city of God, home of the Holy One Most High.  
With God there, the city stands; God defends it under attack.  
Nations rage, empires fall. God speaks, earth melts.  
The Lord of cosmic power, Jacob’s God, will shield us.

Come! See the wonders God does across the earth:  
everywhere stopping wars, smashing, crushing burning all the weapons of war.  
“An end to your fighting! Acknowledge me as God, high over nations, high over earth.”  
The Lord of cosmic power, Jacob’s God, will shield us.

The Psalter © 1994 Liturgy Training Publications

## **Romans 3:19-28**

— *A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans*

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

— *Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People.*

## John 8:31-36

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

People: *Praise and Glory to God.*

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Gospeller: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to Christ the Word*

### ~ ~ ~ Reflections on the Readings ~ ~ ~

## Prayers of the People

Brothers and sisters in the faith, from the nations of the earth God has called forth one people to be the sign of the unity intended for all humankind. Let us offer our prayers for the church and for its mission in the world, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the people of the earth, that where there is strife and division, the gift of peace may be the reward of all who work for justice, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the church of Jesus Christ, that where there is weakness health may be restored, and where there is division unity may be nourished, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all leaders in the church, that where there is jealousy or distrust, a spirit of forgiveness and compassion may nurture humble service, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who are called to preach the gospel, that in the presence of fear and anxiety the message of hope may be proclaimed courageously and effectively, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all missionaries in foreign lands, that when faced with hardship and testing, they may be strengthened in their mission by the Spirit of God, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For our community and our families, that where there is misunderstanding or discord, we may receive the grace to forgive and so rejoice in the peace of Christ, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

[Prayers are read from the bidding book;  
additional prayers may be offered silently or aloud.]

*God of unity and peace, in baptism you have made us one people in the body of your Son. Hear us, as with one voice we offer you these prayers in the name of Jesus, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.*

Intercessions for the Christian People © 1990 Liturgical Press OSB

## 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,*  
                         *the evil done on our behalf,*  
                         *and the good that we have left undone.*  
***Forgive, restore, and strengthen us***  
                         *through our Savior Jesus Christ,*  
                         *that we may abide in your love*  
                         *and serve only your will.    Amen.*

*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:        The peace of Christ be always with you.  
People:            ***And also with you.***

*[You are invited to make your offering at: <http://www.stbenslososos.org/support-us/> ]*

## The Holy Eucharist

NZPB

The Lord is here.  
***God's Spirit is with us.***  
Lift up your hearts.  
***We lift them to the Lord.***  
Let us give thanks to God.  
***It is right to offer thanks and praise.***

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, all-compassionate and everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

You are the source of all life and goodness; through your eternal Word you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image; uniquely human you created each of us.

When we sinned and turned away you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature.

By his death on the cross, he made the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world and freed us from the bondage of sin.

You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory.

In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

All:               ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

All glory and thanksgiving to you, Holy Father;  
on the night before he died your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;  
when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take, eat, this is my body  
which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you,  
for this is my blood of the new covenant  
which is shed for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

***Glory to you, Lord Christ; your death we show forth; your resurrection we  
proclaim; your coming we await; Amen! Come Lord Jesus***

Therefore loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,  
his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption  
with this bread of life and this cup of salvation.

Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving  
which we offer through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive  
may be to us the body and blood of Christ,  
and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power,  
may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

***Blessing, honor and glory be yours,  
here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen***

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior Christ teaches us, we now pray:

All                    *Eternal Spirit,  
Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love Maker,  
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 people of the world!  
Your Heavenly Will be done by all created beings!  
Your Commonwealth of Peace and Freedom sustain our  
   hope and come on earth!  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
   now and forever. Amen.*

New Zealand Prayer Book

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant:            We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People:                *We who are many are one body,  
                                 for we all share in the one bread.*

## **Holy Communion**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*(The consecrated bread will be distributed to you individually, that you may consume it.  
The cup of consecrated wine will be held before you, that you may receive it with your eyes.)*

A period of silence is kept before joining in our final prayer.

*God Most High, we thank you for welcoming us, teaching us, and feeding us.  
We deserve nothing from you  
but in your great mercy you have given us everything in your Son Jesus Christ.  
We love you and give ourselves to you  
to be sent out for your work;  
grant us your blessing, now and for ever. Amen.*

Anglican Church of Kenya

## **The Blessing**

May God bless you and keep you;  
May God's face shine on you give you grace,  
May God's eyes light upon you and bring you peace.  
And may the blessing of God All-Compassionate,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

## **Announcements**

### **The Dismissal**

Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia!

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

People: ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!***

Today's Eucharistic Liturgy is from the Prayer Book for  
The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia © 1989