



St Benedict's Episcopal Church

Los Osos, California

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~

The First Sunday of Advent

November 28 2021 8:00 AM SERVICE

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

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 D

A Song of the Wilderness

Isaiah 35:1-7,10

*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weary hands, *
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
and streams in the desert;
The burning sand shall become a pool *
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: *God be with you*

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: *Let us pray.*

All: *Urgent God, breaking through the static to speak to our hearts: disarm our love of control and shake the silent heavens to reveal your dawning glory, judging all in the light of love; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.*

Jeremiah 33:14-16

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

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

Psalm 25

Lord, I give myself to you.
I trust you, God; do not fail me, nor let my enemies gloat.
No one loyal is shamed, but traitors know disgrace.

Teach me how to live, Lord, show me the way.
Steer me toward your truth, you, my saving God,
you, my constant hope.

Recall your tenderness, your lasting love.
Remember me, not my faults, the sins of my youth.
To show your own goodness, God, remember me.

Good and just is the Lord, guiding those who stray.
God leads the poor, pointing out the path.

The Psalter © 1994 Liturgy Training Publications

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

— *A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.*

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

Luke 21:25-36

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

People: *Praise and Glory to God.*

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so

that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Gospeller: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to Christ the Word*

~ ~ ~ Reflections on the Readings ~ ~ ~

Prayers of the People

Holy and Mighty God, we long for you and your love. Fill your Church with your grace and goodness, that we may grow in holiness and in hospitality, that we may reach out in mission and love, that we may reveal your light and your glory. Lord, make us active in service and joyful in praise. Show us your way, O God, *and teach us your paths.*

We pray for the nations of the world and for righteous dealings. May the resources of the earth be neither hoarded nor squandered, but used to the benefit of all and the relief of those who need. Strengthen all who strive for justice and integrity in world trade; may vulnerable peoples be freed from oppression and abuse. May we all have compassion and concern for the poor. Show us your way, O God, *and teach us your paths.*

Come, Compassionate One, fill our homes with your light and love. Make us sensitive in our dealings and gentle in our actions. Keep us alert to the needs and hopes of others, that our homes may reflect your presence and your glory. Show us your way, O God, *and teach us your paths.*

God of freedom and peace, we remember before you all who are captives to sin, vice or addiction, all who are damaged by oppression violence or abuse. We pray for all who are in sickness, danger, or any kind of adversity, especially those for whom our prayers have been asked, and for those who are in our hearts.....

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

Bless all who seek to rescue and restore those in need or distress. Show us your way, O God, *and teach us your paths.*

We give thanks for all who have passed beyond trouble and darkness and are now at peace in your kin-dom. We rejoice in the fellowship of the saints and pray we may follow their way of holiness and love. Show us your way, O God, *and teach us your paths.*

Come, Lord God, change us and we shall be changed.

Come, increase our awareness of your presence.

Come, strengthen our love for you.

Come, fill our hearts with holiness.

Come, awaken us to be ready and watchful for your coming.

Come, Lord God, change us and we shall be changed; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Source: "Glimpses of Glory" by David Adam — © Morehouse Publishing © 2000

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

EDW 3

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: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey.

And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

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.***

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:

“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All: ***Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!***

Celebrant: Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with the blessed virgin Mary, blessed Benedict, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

All: ***Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.***

The Lord’s Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught 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

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

All: *O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord .
Amen.*

Church of Ireland

The Blessing

May the everlasting God shield you, east and west and wherever you go,
And the blessing of God be upon us, *the blessing of the God of life.*
The blessing of Christ be upon us, *the blessing of the Christ of love.*
The blessing of the Spirit be upon us, *the blessing of the Spirit of grace.*
The blessing of the Trinity be upon us, now and for ever more. *Amen.*

Announcements

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 Eucharist Liturgy is from
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