

# St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ *Tending Mind and Soul* ~

Los Osos, California

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 20, 2022

—8 a.m. 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 J**

**A Song of Judith**

Judith 16:13-16

*I will sing a new song to my God, \*  
for you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible.  
Let the whole creation serve you, \*  
for you spoke and all things came into being.  
You sent your breath and it formed them, \*  
no one is able to resist your voice.  
Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, \*  
rocks melt like wax at your presence.  
But to those who fear you, \*  
you continue to show mercy.  
No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, \*  
but whoever fears the Lord shall stand in your sight for ever.*

## Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *God of kindness, interrupting our vicious cycles of resentment and revenge: teach us to walk the way of Forgiveness beyond all accounting and to love the gift that has no measure; through Jesus Christ who died for all. Amen.*

## Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

— *Hear What the Spirit is Saying to God's People.*

## Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

The Psalter © 1994 Liturgy Training Publications

No need to fret over sinners or to envy wrongdoers.  
They wither like grass, they wilt like young plants.  
Trust God and do good, settle down and be at peace.

Delight in the Lord who satisfies your heart.  
Give your life to the Lord. Trust God to act on your behalf,  
to make your integrity shine forth and your justice bright as noon.

Be still, wait for the Lord.  
Waste no energy fretting about the success of evil schemers.  
Stop your ranting and raving, for anger begets nothing but harm.

Wrongdoers will be exiled, but those who wait for God will possess the land.  
Soon the wicked shall vanish, you will search and not find them;  
but the poor will own the land and enjoy wealth and peace.

The just are saved by God, their refuge in troubled times.  
They seek help from God who saves and rescues them,  
who saves and frees them from the wicked.

## **1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50**

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

— *Hear What the Spirit is Saying to God's People.*

## **Luke 6:27-38**

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

People: ***Praise and Glory to God.***

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Gospeller: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: ***Praise to Christ, the Word.***

## Prayers of the People

From "Glimpses of Glory" by David Adam © 2000 Morehouse Publishing

Lord, you are our delight and our joy, we seek to reflect your grace and goodness: make us slow to anger and not too ready to condemn. We pray that your church may be open and welcoming to all in need. We remember today churches that are divided by factions or through animosity. We pray for churches that are working to heal divisions and hurts.

God of love and hope, *give us your peace.*

God of peace, we pray for peace-givers and peace-makers. We pray for all who are seeking to bring reconciliation and hope to communities and peoples. We remember today the work of Amnesty International, the United Nations and the peace-keeping forces of the world. We pray for peace in Ukraine, and for all peoples involved in conflict, strife, or aggression.

God of love and hope, *give us your peace.*

We remember all who have hardened themselves, or become insensitive, all who are afraid of being moved or touched, all afraid of close contact, all who are suffering from a breakdown in relationships. We give thanks for our homes and our loved ones and pray for their peace, that we may have peace in our communities and in our lives.

God of love and hope, *give us your peace.*

We remember with love all who are struggling at this time, all who realize that they are perishable beings through illness or disability: may they be strong in the spirit and strong in the Lord. We pray for all whose lives are disturbed or distressed. We pray especially for friends who are ill or in need, remembering 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.]

God of love and hope, *give us your peace.*

We rejoice that in our God we are more than conquerors. In your power, O Lord, we will overcome all evil, we will triumph over death and rejoice in life eternal. We pray for loved ones departed, that they may rest in peace and rise in glory.

God of love and hope, *give us your peace.*

*God of grace and glory, give us the gift of generosity, that we may reveal your love and forgiveness, and live in fellowship and peace with each other as we work for the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

## Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence*

*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: May our 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.***

*To maintain safe social distancing, please simply greet others verbally or with a bow or nod.*

*Collection plates are not passed, but you may put your contributions in the plate by the usher's station before the service, or at the Peace, or contribute at our website any time.*

## **The Holy Eucharist**

EOW 2

Celebrant: May God be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We raise our hearts to God.***

Celebrant: Let us thank the giver of life.

People: ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

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 mother cares for her 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 say:

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 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed 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**

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.*

## **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.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. This is God's table and all are welcome here.

*If God is calling you, you are welcome to receive communion, If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.*

## **Closing Prayer**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *Creator of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Savior. Amen.*

## **The Blessing**

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may the blessing of God, Creator, Word and Holy Spirit, be with you always. Amen.

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Today's Eucharist Liturgy is from  
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