

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~

Los Osos, California

The Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 27, 2022

—8 a.m. 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 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 unknown and unsheltered by our poor constructs; open to us the moments when heaven overshadows time and robs us of empty words; in the moment of silence help us to listen to the Chosen One who goes to die that we might live, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

Psalm 99

Source: The Psalter © 1994 Liturgy Training Publications

The Lord reigns from the cherubim throne, nations tremble, earth shakes!
The Lord of Zion is great, high above all peoples.
Praise the great and fearful name, "Holy is the Lord!"

All-compassionate ruler, you love justice,
You strengthen the upright and secure equity for Jacob.
Bow down to worship at God's feet, lift your voice in praise, "Holy is the Lord!"

First among the priests of our God were Moses, Aaron and Samuel;
They called out God's Name.
The Lord heard them and spoke from a pillar of cloud; they honored each command.

Our God did what was needed,
It was yours, Lord, to punish, yours to forgive sin.
Bow down to worship the Lord. Give praise in God's holy place
"Holy is the Lord our God!"

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

Luke 9:28-43a

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

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

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

Holy One, we pray that the glory of your presence may fill our lives and be reflected in all we do. We ask that our churches may be radiant with your glory, that the gospel may not be veiled from sight but revealed in our actions and witness. We pray for all preachers, for ministers of the word and the sacraments, that they will reveal to us the face of Jesus Christ.

Christ, let your glory be about us ***and fill our hearts and minds.***

We give thanks for all who add beauty and glory to our world. We pray for artists, writers, musicians and craftspeople; for gardeners, architects, planners and for all who influence our daily life. We pray for all who live in desolate places where beauty is scarce.

Christ, let your glory be about us *and fill our hearts and minds.*

We give thanks for all who have enriched our lives and improved our environment, especially EcoSlo and the Los Osos Valley Garden Club. We pray for those who work to meet our daily needs. We ask your blessing upon our homes and places of work, upon our friends and our loved ones. Christ, let your glory be about us *and fill our hearts and minds.*

We pray for all who are finding life dull or drab, for all who are getting no joy or satisfaction out of their life. We remember the stressed and the distressed, the over-worked and the over-anxious. We pray also for all who suffer from defective hearing or vision, especially any who are losing the use of their faculties. We ask for comfort and strength for all who are ill and all who have asked for our prayers, starting with those in the bidding book...

[you are encouraged to add your own prayers and thanksgivings aloud or silently]

Christ, let your glory be about us *and fill our hearts and minds.*

Holy One, we pray that we may be changed from glory into glory. We pray for all who now see you face to face, all who rejoice in the glory of your nearer presence.

Christ, let your glory be about us *and fill our hearts and minds.*

God of grace and goodness, awaken us to your glory, that our lives may reflect your radiance, that we may share in your likeness, and in walking the way of Christ we may reveal your love to the world; through the same Christ 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 may be kept.

Minister and People:

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 3

Celebrant May God 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 say 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

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 God, your steadfast purpose
is the completion of all things in your Son.
May we who have received the pledges of the kingdom,
live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love,
until the world reflects your glory
and you are all in all;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.***

Episcopal Church of Scotland

The Blessing

May God who created all things by his word direct you.
May Jesus the Word made flesh dwell among you.
May the Holy Spirit of God inspire you.
And may the blessing of God the All-Compassionate:
Author, Word, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Glimpses of Glory, David Adam

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St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

2220 Snowy Egret Lane, Los Osos CA 93402
P.O. Box 6877, Los Osos CA 93412
Phone: (805) 528-0654 Email: office@stbenslososos.org
Website: www.stbenslososos.org