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St Benedict's Episcopal Church

Los Osos, California ~ Tending Mind and Soul ~ The Third Sunday in Lent March 20, 2022

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

Prelude:

"Voluntary I" William Boyce (1711-1779) © Le

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A Penitential Order

The New Zealand Prayer Book

Hear the teaching of Christ: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you. *Spirit of God, search our hearts.*

Hear God's word to all who turn to Christ:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.

God has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent, turn to Christ in faith and are themselves forgiving. In silence we call to mind our sins.

Silence

Let us confess our sins. Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.

Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on you, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

The peace of Christ rule in our hearts. *The word of Christ dwell in us richly.*



Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you. People: *And also with you.* Celebrant: Let us pray together.

All: Living Mystery, whose way is not ours, whose name cannot be bought or sold: lead us from justice without compassion and sacrifice without mercy to a love which nurtures and a grace without price; through Jesus Christ, the true Bread. Amen

Exodus 3:1-15

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

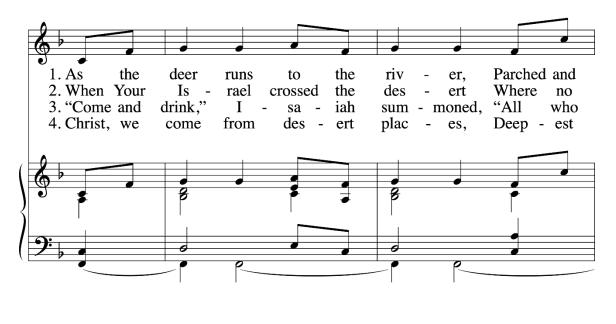
But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

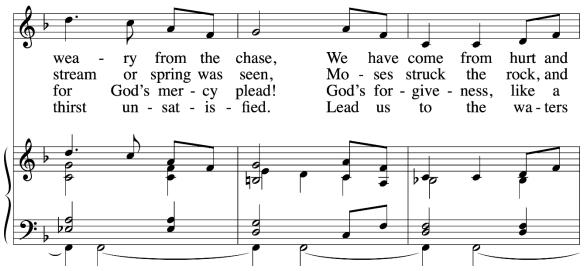
This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people People: *Thanks be to God*

Hymn "As the Deer Runs to the River









Text: Herman G. Stuempfle. Jr., 1923–2007. © 2002, 2006, GIA Publications, Inc.

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Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, © 2002, 2006, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: JULION, 8787878, 7; David Hurd, b.1950, © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc.

Luke 13:1-9

Gospeller:The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke.People:Glory to You, Lord Christ.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Gospeller:The Gospel of the Lord.People:Praise to You, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall

cf Philippians 2.6-11

[We pause for a few moments of silent reflection before affirming our faith.]

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All:

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Holy One we look for you, we long for you, our whole being thirsts for you and your love. Open our eyes, awaken us to what is around us and make us aware of your coming. We pray for all who tend and nurture the young in the faith, for all who are growing in awareness of you and your world. May St. Benedict's be an instrument of peace and justice in our community. In your love and mercy, *hear us and help us.*

Holy One, as you have given us this world to live in, help us to use its riches and resources with sensitivity and care. Bless and guide all who are working on the land, especially those who farm in Los Osos Valley. We pray for all who supply our food and our daily needs, all who are involved in research with crops and cultivation in the face of climate change. In your love and mercy, *hear us and help us*.

We give thanks for our homes and our loved ones. We pray for our places of work. May we be faithful and honest in our dealings: make us sensitive to each other's needs and hopes. We pray especially for homes with young children and for those supporting young adults. In your love and mercy, *hear us and help us*.

God of love and salvation, we pray to you for all who are facing disaster in the failure of crops, all suffering from storms and earthquakes; for the victims of war especially in Ukraine, for all refugees and those who are victims of violence. We pray for all who are will or who have been injured in accidents. We remember those close to us in times of special need...

[here prayers are added from the bidding book. You are encouraged to add your own prayers silently or aloud]

Holy One, in your love and mercy, hear us and help us.

You are our helper and you sustain us in all circumstances. We pray for all who will die today; for our loved ones departed, that you will bring them into the fullness of joy in your kingdom. In your love and mercy, *hear us and help us*.

All-Compassionate and ever-loving God, you are more ready to hear us and to forgive us than we are to come to you. Forgive us for the times we have sinned and failed you; strengthen us as we seek to serve you, that we may follow you in the ways of peace and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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.

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or travel, may come forward. Prayers can be found on the white card in your pew.

The Offertory

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.

Hymn

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PILGRIMAGE



Doxology:

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Holy Eucharist

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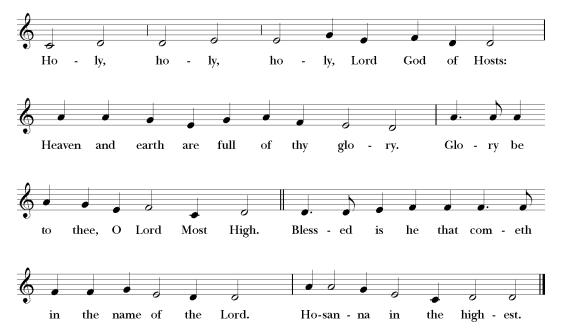
Celebrant	Our God be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up to God.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Holy One.
People	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We delight in giving thanks and praise to you, our compassionate God. In the beginning of time you brought the cosmos into being and every day you continue your creative work, forming black holes, exploding stars and generating new life in every part of the expanding universe. And in the midst of this, you care for us as your children, calling us from the moment of our conception to become your sons and daughters, working in co-creation with you to manifest your kin-dom on earth.

We thank you for the beauty that surrounds us in this valley; for the oaks, the sage brush, the migrating birds and the coyotes. We thank you for daffodils, ground squirrels and herons. We thank you for the Christ shining forth in creation and in our hearts.

We are filled with joy and praise as we join with the saints and angels, and with our loved ones who have one before us, in the ancient, ever-new song of the universe:

Sanctus



The Celebrant continues

We often lose sight of your all-encompassing love and get lost in the blind alleys of sin and addiction, which fail to bring life and harm ourselves and others. But you never abandon us to our own devices – you accompany us, ready to welcome us back when we are ready. And so you became human, sending the Christ into this creation in human form, that we might know what it is to be fully human and might turn to you and join you in your work of redemption. We thank you that in Jesus we see the One who fully lived the path he taught, the path of humility and creativity in dependence upon you.

In doing so, he challenged the powers of this world; in doing so, he challenged the authorities of his time and was betrayed, beaten and crucified in shame. Yet you did not leave him in the grave but on the third day you raised him up to life and through him gave us life, like the seed that bears in itself the secret of the harvest.

And so this morning we are gathered to give thanks and praise for his life, death and resurrection, asking that we too may be fruitful in your work.

CelebrantCome, Lover of the world,PeopleCome, generous One,By the glory of your creation around us,By the presence of the Christ within your people,By the wind of your Spirit moving over the waterRenew us, so that we may share your love with the world.

The Celebrant continues

And so we offer you these gifts which earth has formed and human hands have made. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

We now celebrate, O God, the memorial of Christ our Savior. By means of this holy bread and cup, we show forth the sacrifice of Christ's death, and proclaim the resurrection, until Christ comes in glory.

Gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in the Risen One, and make us a living sacrifice of praise, a demonstration of your abundant love, a fountain of your living water.

All By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, All-Compassionate Creator, now and forever. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

Fraction Anthem



Holy Communion

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. 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

Communion Music

"Agnus Dei" from Mass in G

by Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

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Words: Att. John Fawcett (1739/40-1817) Music: Sicilian Mariners, Sicilian melody; first published The European Magazine and London Review, 1792, alt.

We pause for a few moments' reflection before joining in our final prayer.]

All: Most loving God, creator and redeemer, we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory. Through Christ, and with all your saints, we offer ourselves and our lives to your service. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to stand with you in your world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant, our friend and brother. Amen.

New Zealand Prayer Book

Solemn Collect

The Blessing

May the outrageous welcome of the Creator accept us for who we are; may the incarnation of the Word touch and hold us close; may the wandering of the Spirit help us risk ourselves for love; and may the blessing of God All-Compassionate, Author, Word, and Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. *Amen* Prayers for an Inclusive Church © 2009 Church Pub. Co

Announcements

Final Hymn

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Dismissal Let us go forth in peace to love and serve our God *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude:	"Be Thou My Vision"	
Slane	Traditional Irish	© 2006 Hal Leonard LLC

Today's Eucharist Liturgy is from the outline in the Book of Common Prayer, page 401, utilizing prayers written by the Rector. Music reproduced and broadcast under OneLicense #A706314

Ministers of the Service

Celebrant:	The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall
Eucharistic Minister:	Sarah Chesebro
Lector:	Jim Malone
Ushers:	Sandy Fisher and Maureen Titus
Intercessor:	Louisa Beeler
Altar Guild:	Lorienne Schwenk
Online Hosts:	Pat Henry & Suzan Vaughn
Tellers:	Bryson McKelvey and Lorienne Schwenk
Director of Music:	Dave Alm
Technical:	Hannah Jay Matthew

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 20

- 8am Contemplative Communion in-person and on Zoom
- 9:20 am Bible Conversation
- 10:30 am Eucharist service (also live-streamed on FB)
- 12:30pm Parish Council

Monday, March 21 RECTOR'S SABBATH

Tuesday, March 22

- 9:45 am Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
- 10:15 am Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
- 5:30 pm Vespers: in person and on Zoom

Wednesday, March 23

• 6:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 24

• 11am Lord Teach us to Pray - six week study of the Lord's Prayer

OFFICE HOURS: Hannah Jay is in the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2-5. If you need something at other times please contact Caro+

COMING UP: Saturday April 2 we are serving lunch at 40 Prado in SLO. Please let Pat Henry (Riecie5381@gmail.com) know that you can provide food and/or serve our neighbors.