

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ *Tending Mind and Soul* ~

Los Osos, California

Reign of Christ

November 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!

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 P

A Song of the Spirit

Revelation 22:12-17

“Behold, I am coming soon,” says the Lord, “and bringing my reward with me, *
to give to everyone according to their deeds.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, *
the beginning and the end.”

Blessed are those who do God's commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life *
and may enter the city through the gates.

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, *
with this testimony for all the churches.

“I am the root and the offspring of David, *

I am the bright morning star.” “Come!” say the Spirit and the Bride; *

“Come!” let each hearer reply!

Come forward, you who are thirsty, *

let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *God of unbroken weakness, you laugh at our love of power: may we find kingship in the love that is killed for speaking its name without even the shadow of force; through Jesus Christ, King of Fools, Amen.*

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

Psalm 46

Source: The Psalter © 1994 Liturgy Training Publications

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.

Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

Luke 23:1-8

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

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

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Gospeller: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

Discussion of the Readings

Prayers of the People

You are the King of Glory, the eternal Son of the Father; we give you praise for you have conquered the darkness of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. We offer you our obedience, we give you our love, and seek to live to your glory. Sovereign, grant that your church may be an instrument for the coming of your reign on earth. We pray for all who are seeking to bring peace and goodwill to the earth. May your kin-dom come ***in us as in heaven.***

We pray for the rulers of nations and people, especially those meeting this week, that they may be open to your will and govern with grace. We ask your blessing on all divided peoples, especially the people of this nation; on all suffering from war especially the people of Ukraine and Russia. We remember all who are striving for freedom, all who are seeking to improve our world, all working to relieve poverty. We look for the day when the kingdoms of this world will become the kin-dom of Christ. May your kin-dom come *in us as in heaven*.

Sovereign, come and rule in our homes; come rule in our lives and all our relationships; come rule in our dealings; come rule in our hearts. Come Lord, change us and we shall be changed. May your kin-dom come *in us as in heaven*.

We remember all who are struggling and cannot cope on their own. Lord give comfort and strength to all who are ill, all who are fearful. We pray for friends and loved ones who are in need at this time, starting with those in the bidding book.

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

May your kin-dom come *in us as in heaven*.

You, King of Glory, have triumphed over death, you have defeated darkness, you have redeemed us by love. We commend to you all our loved ones and friends who have departed this life. May your kin-dom come *in us as in heaven*.

To you O Christ, our Sovereign and our God, belongs all power, dominion and authority in heaven and earth. Come, rule in our hearts, help us to forward your reign on earth. We ask this in your holy name, Jesus Christ our Lord, living and reigning with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 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.*

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.*

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: *Eternal God, whose Son at supper prayed
that his disciples might be one,
as he is one with you:
draw us closer to him,
that in common love and obedience to you
we may be united to one another
in the fellowship of the one Spirit,
that the world may believe that he is Lord,
to your eternal glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

From Church of England

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 God's blessing be with you always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia, let us go forth in peace to love and serve our God
Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

Today's Eucharist Liturgy is from
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This Week at St Ben's

Tuesday

9:45a Prayers for the Morning

10:15a Spiritual Conversation

5:30p Vespers

6:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday

1:00p Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday

8:00a Contemplative Communion

10:30a Eucharist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION - this week the conversation will reflect on the ideas in Pema Chodron's book, [Welcoming the Unwelcome](#).

THANKSGIVING: Join us for Thanksgiving on Thursday. We plan to eat at 1pm so please be here a little earlier with your contribution. There is a sign up sheet—please tell us how many will be in your party as well as what you plan to bring.

ADVENT REFLECTION booklets [Living Well through Advent - Practicing Simplicity with all your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind](#). are now available on the ushers table. Consider joining an in-person conversation happening on Thursdays at 10am for about an hour in-person at the church, starting on December 1st for four weeks.

PEOPLE'S KITCHEN is coming up on December 3rd. Please let Pat Henry know how you can help (riecie5381@gmail.com)

ADVENT RETREAT Saturday, December 10th, 9:30—3 at St. Stephens Episcopal Church (1344 Nipomo Street, San Luis Obispo), We will gather at 9:30am for worship, Bible study, and reflection. You are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and bring a journal or computer, if you are someone who enjoys writing while reflecting. Lunch will be provided (suggested donation \$10) The theme of the day is "Courage in the Wilderness" and it will be hosted by Canon Martha Korienek. Questions? Please email Canon Martha at canonmartha@realepiscopal.org. The registration link is in the Benediction Weekly.

PERSONAL PRAYER – If you'd like prayer support during the week, contact Louisa Beeler (805) 543-2898. If there is no answer, please leave a message and your call will be returned. Prayer requests may also be emailed at any time to prayers@stbenslososos.org and requests for pastoral care may be sent to pastoralcare@stbenslososos.org.

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