

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ *Tending Mind and Soul* ~

Los Osos, California

The First Sunday of Advent

November 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 are you, holy and living One.
People: *You come to your people and set them free.*

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: *Holy Thief, stealing away our false securities and idle vanity: awaken us from the dull sleep that clings to empty fear and vacant routine; unfold o us the time of crisis when love of truth floods a thirsty world; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.*

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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

Psalm 122

With joy I heard them say, "Let us go to the Lord's house!"
And now, Jerusalem, we stand inside your gates.

Jerusalem, the city so built that city and temple are one.
To you the tribes go up, every tribe of the Lord.

It is the law of Israel to honor God's name.
The seats of law are here, the thrones of David's line.

Pray peace for Jerusalem: happiness for your homes,
safety inside your walls, peace in your great houses.

For love of family and friends I say, "Peace be with you!"
For love of the Lord's own house I pray for your good.

Source: The Psalter © 1994 Liturgy Training Publications

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Matthew 24:36-44

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

People: *Praise and Glory to God.*

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to Christ the Word*

Discussion of the Readings

Prayers of the People

Lord, you are ever among us. Open our eyes to your presence, that your church may be true to its mission, that each congregation may proclaim your goodness, that all of us may show forth your glory. Lord, come down, *come in, come among us.*

To the nations that are looking for freedom, to the peoples that are longing for liberty, to the individuals striving for justice, to all who are seeking to improve the world, to all who are seeking to improve themselves, Lord, come down, *come in, come among us.*

To our homes as we prepare for your coming, to our loved ones as they reveal to us your love, to our work, that it may show forth your presence, into our leisure and into our pleasures, Lord, come down, *come in, come among us.*

To all who long for release, to all who cry in pain, to the sick in body, in mind, and in spirit, to those who can no longer cope, to all who are oppressed and in darkness, to all who watch and wait and weep for you, to those for whom our prayers have been asked and those who are in our hearts...

[Prayers from the bidding book are read. The people may add additional prayers silently or aloud.]

Lord, come down, *come in, come among us.*

That we may know that life is eternal, that loved ones departed are in your keeping, that we may rejoice in hope, that we may come to your glory, Lord, come down, *come in, come among us.*

Celebrant: *Lord, we watch, we wait, we look, we long for you. Dispel the clouds and darkness and awaken us to your glory, that we may walk in your light, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

From "Clouds and Glory" by David Adam — © Morehouse Publishing 2001

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

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, we thank you that in Christ you give yourself into our hands: may we who have tasted life proclaim the coming feast when many will come from east and west, from north and south to greet the Lord of all; we ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.*

Blessing

May the God who brings heaven to earth give truth to our judgement and flame to our longing that our hearts might be ready to be born again in love; and the blessing of God, Creator, Word and Holy Spirit. *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
"Enriching Our Worship" Supplemental Liturgical Materials
prepared by The Standing Liturgical Commission of the Episcopal Church
© 1997 Church Publishing Incorporated, New York. Used with permission.



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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 Saturday December 3rd. Please let Pat Henry know how you can help (riecie5381@gmail.com)

PRAYER PLACE POP UP at the Abundance Shop Saturdays in Advent, Join your Trailblazer Discovery Team, Sandy Fisher, Cathy Gildea, Barbara Hirahara, and Deacon Jen, at our Prayer Place Pop-up at the St. Ben's Abundance Shop during the season of Advent! Starting December 3 through 17th from 11-4, stop by for a blessing-to-go or a cup of coffee to stay. We will offer prayer, a question of the day based on the season of Advent, or just an opportunity to share anything that might be on your heart. Please stop by and invite others you know to do the same.

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 Jill Denton (805) 534-1101. 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.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday

9:45a Prayers for the Morning
10:15a Spiritual Conversation
5:30p Vespers followed by supper

Wednesday

11:00a Laundry Love
4:00p Laundry Love

Thursday

10:00a Advent Course
4:00p Liturgy Committee
5:30p Choir Rehearsal
7:00p A Storied Pilgrimage on Race

Friday

9:00a Gentle Yoga

Saturday

12:00p People's Kitchen
11a-4p Pop-up Prayers

Sunday

NO 8am SERVICE
10:30a Eucharist followed by Potluck