

St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~ Los Osos, California The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

Whoever you are and wherever you are in your faith journey, there is a warm welcome for you here at St. Benedict's!

 \sim Prelude \sim

"Voluntary I"

William Boyce (1711-1779)

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Dave Alm, Piano

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.

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.

1 John 1:9

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.

Celebrant: \mathbf{B} less the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: God's mercy endures for ever



Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

All: Creator and Healer, root of all goodness, working your Sabbath will in the chaos of our life: teach us the insight that gives true judgement and praises you wherever you are found making miracles from spit and mud; through Jesus Christ, the son of the earth. Amen.



I Samuel 16:1-13

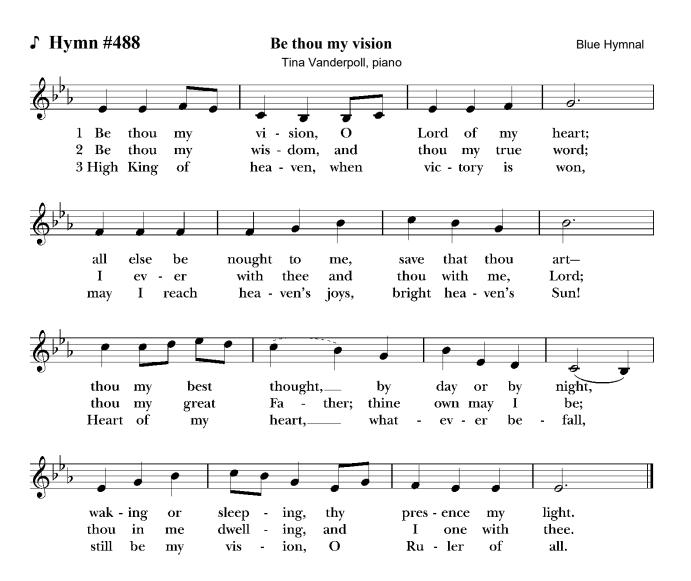
Reader: A Reading from the first book of Samuel

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People: Thanks be to God



Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

John 9:1-41

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall

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.

Prayers of the People

Father, creator of light, we remember all who walk in darkness, all who do not know your love, all who are unaware of your light. We pray that your church may shine as a light in the world and bring all peoples to you who are the true light. We pray for all who go out in mission, all who proclaim your love. Jesus, Light of the world, scatter the darkness from our hearts and minds.

We pray for all who are caught up in works of darkness, those who misuse your world, those who have no respect for people or their feelings, those who deal in wickedness and vice; that a new awareness may conquer their blindness, a new vision dispel their darkness. Jesus, Light of the world, scatter the darkness from our hearts and minds.

Lord, forgive the hurt we cause by our own blindness. May the brightness of your light bring joy to our homes, new love to our relationships, deep peace to our communities. Jesus, Light of the world, scatter the darkness from our hearts and minds.

We pray for all who are blind, for all whose sight is failing. We remember all whose minds are darkened by fear or sin, all who are beset by dark deeds of the past. We pray for all who are consumed by hatred or by desire for revenge. Jesus, Light of the world, scatter the darkness from our hearts and minds.

[here prayers are added from the bidding book and you are invited to add your own prayers silently or aloud]

We praise you for all who have entered into a fuller vision, all who have awakened to your glory in heaven. We pray that we may not sorrow for the departed but rejoice in their freedom. Jesus, Light of the world, scatter the darkness from our hearts and minds.

Open our eyes to your presence, open our ears to your call, open our hearts to your love; that we may give ourselves to you and walk before you as children of light; through him who is the Light of the World, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please greet one another in the chat.

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or travel, please share in the chat.

51. For a Birthday p 830

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his/her/their* days increase; bless and guide *him/her/their* wherever *he/she/they* may be. Strengthen *him/her/them* when *he/she/they* stand(s); comfort *him/her/their* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him/her/their* up if *he/she/they* fall; and in *his/her/their* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *him/her/their* life/lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

52. For an Anniversary p 431

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

53. For Travelers p 831

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel [in particular _____]; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them into safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Transition Prayer

O God.

You are the light that illumines our path.

You are the map that gives us direction.

You are the peace that makes us strong.

You are the guide whom we faithfully follow.

May your light illuminate our entire lives.

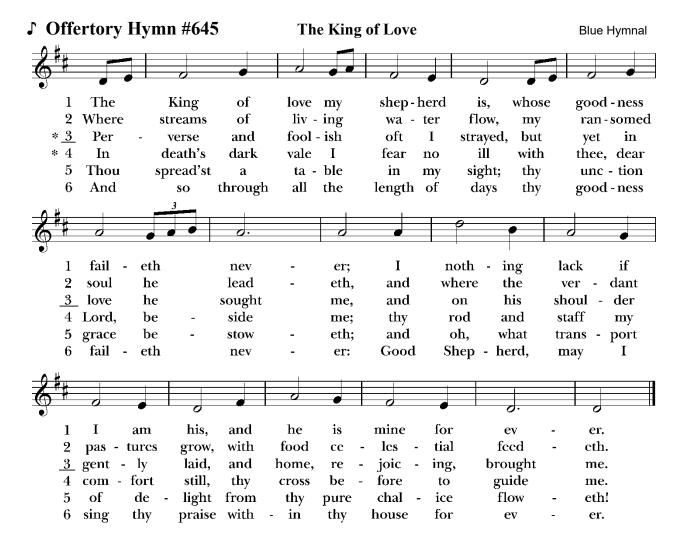
And your guidance bring direction to our work.

May we find inspiration in your Word,

And peace in our hearts as we follow you.

Amen.

The Offertory You may contribute at our website www.stbenslososos.org at any time.



Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: St. Columba, Irish melody, harm. Hymnal 1982.

♪ Doxology:

[Hymn tune #400]

[sung]

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise God the Source of all our gifts
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia

Holy Eucharist

Celebrant Our God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to God.

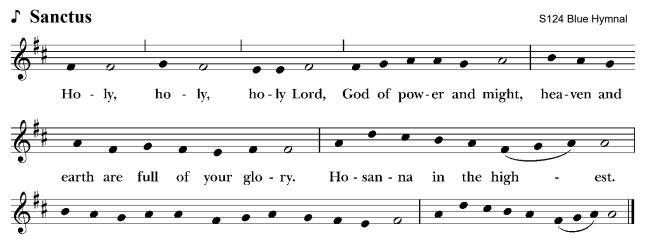
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We delight in giving thanks and praise to you O Compassionate One for you have given us all that we have and all that we love. Your Spirit hovered over the deep at the beginning of time and space – you separated the heavens from the earth and the water from the land. You created the interplay of oceans and wind that bring rain and the fresh water which gives us life.

Your life gives us life, your love sustains us.

And so, together with the saints, with the angels and archangels who are continually proclaiming your glory, we join in the ancient but ever new song of your praise, as we sing:



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Although we spurned your sustaining love and went our own ways, thinking that we could manage better on our own, you never abandoned us in our foolishness: you led the Hebrew people through the desert making them into a nation in covenant with you; and you given us the New Covenant and made us into your royal priesthood, your Body in the world. We thank you for the promise of new sight, that the eyes of our hearts may be open to you and to the wonder of all you are creating. We thank you for sending your Son, your very self to die upon the cross that all beings might be healed and brought back into your kin-dom. We thank you for the life that flows from him, greening our souls.

In Jesus you showed us how to live in your kin-dom. Through his teachings, his life, death, and resurrection you open for us the healing of the ages, and the new life of the Spirit. And so, in this moment, we commit ourselves again to the path that you open for us. We ask that through us you will provide springs of living water for a thirsty world.

Celebrant Come, Lover of the world,

People Come, 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 water

Renew us, so that we may share your love with the world.

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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray:

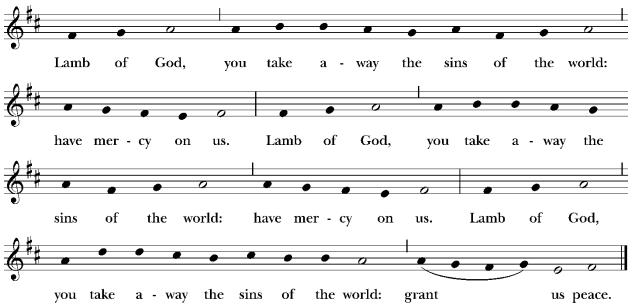
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are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

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

▶ Fraction Anthem

S161 Blue Hymnal



Music: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 and invited to receive communion. Please contact the church office to arrange to receive communion in your home.

♪ Communion Music

"Agnus Dei" from Mass in G

by Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

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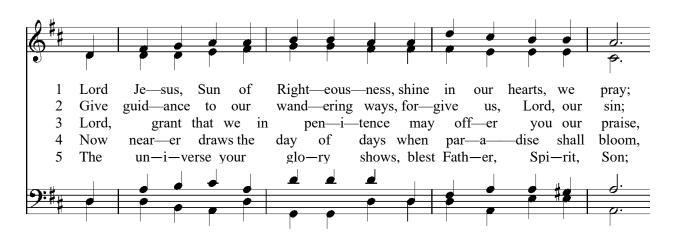
♪ Communion Hymn #144

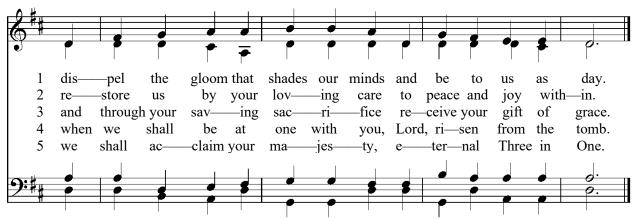
Lord Jesus Son of Righteousness

Dave Alm, piano

Blue Hymnal

Sung to Hymn 489 Tallis Ordinal





Lord Jesus, Sun of Righteousness, #144 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: Latin; tr. Anne K. LeCroy (b. 1930). Copyright © 1982, Anne LeCroy. Music: Cornhill, Harold Darke (1888-1976), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press.

The great Creator of the worlds, #489 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: Epistle to Diognetus, ca. 150; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: Tallis' Ordinal, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585).

Silence

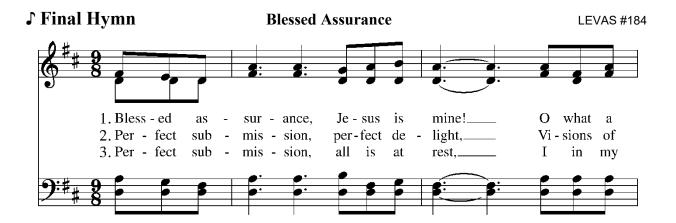
Prayer From Church of England

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.

Solemn Prayer over the People

Blessing

Announcements





Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915). Music: Phoebe P. Knapp (1839-1908).

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

"Finale"

Malcom Archer © Kevin Mayhew 1996

Sarah Jane Scott. Organ

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: Michael Lucas Lector: Byson McKelvey

Ushers: Alan Kiste and Brian Spolarich

Intercessor: Louisa Beeler Altar Guild: Lisa Gonzalez

Online Host: Pat Henry and Suzanne Vaughn
Tellers: Steve Cake & Sandy Fisher
Technical: Hannah-Jaye Matthew

This Week at St Ben's

Today

12:00p Choir

12:30p Parish Council2:00p Deanery Meeting

Monday Rector's Sabbath

Tuesday

9:45a Prayers for the Morning

No Spiritual Conversation this week

5:30p Vespers

Friday

9:00a Gentle Yoga

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Caro+ will be away Friday March 24—Tuesday March 28. If you need help please contact Hannah in the office or Maureen Titus

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION - no conversation this week. The next one starts on March 28th with a video of Brian McClaren, author of The Great Spiritual Migration which will be the base of the next conversation.

PEOPLE's KITCHEN We serve our neighbors at 40 Prado **on** April 1st at 11:30 Please let Pat Henry know how you can help.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER Services

Tuesday April 4, 4:45 Stations of the Cross 5:30 Vespers Thursday April 6, 7:00p Maundy Thursday service Good Friday, April 7, 12:00 Good Friday Liturgy 2:15 Stations of the Cross

Easter Vigil, April 8 7:45p Easter Day, April 9 8am and 10:30am

PERSONAL PRAYER – If you'd like prayer support during the week, contact Louisa Beeler (805-543-2898) If 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.

BIDDING BOOK PRAYERS – If you'd like to request prayers for someone to have their names read out during the worship services on Sunday, please write them in the bidding book on the stand by the usher's station as you come into church.

Our Mission

St. Benedict's strives to be an inclusive Christian community that celebrates the divine in all beings, and inspires spiritual growth through joyful, creative sacramental worship, loving service within our congregation and our wider community, thoughtful inquiry through in-depth study and prayer, and commitment to social and environmental justice.

Our Inclusivity Statement

When we say that everyone is welcome to worship at St. Benedict's, we mean it. Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, physical or mental ability. We embrace and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation. We cooperate in ministry with other local churches and groups of God's people as we participate in the worldwide mission of Christ. St. Benedict's is a long-time supporter of the full inclusion of all Christians in every order (lay, deacon, priest, bishop) and every sacrament and rite of the church.



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