

# St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

 $^\sim$  Tending Mind and Soul  $^\sim$ 

# The Second Sunday in Lent March 5, 2023

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

~ Prelude ~

"Voluntary I"

William Boyce (1711-1779)

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#### **A Penitential Order**

The New Zealand Prayer Book

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures for ever.

**H**ear 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.





Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928), from *Freedom Mass*, based on traditional African melodies. Copyright © 1989 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

# **Collect of the Day**

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

All: Holy God, whose wild Spirit's breath defies our frozen idols: take the night time of our fear and make it a welcoming womb for us and all the world; through Jesus Christ in whom we are born anew. Amen.

#### **Genesis 12:1-4a**

Reader: A reading from the book of Genesis

The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

All: Thanks be to God

**Psalm 121** Of David. A maskil.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*

from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, \*

the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved \*

and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*

shall neither slumber nor sleep;

The Lord himself watches over you; \*

the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*

nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; \*

it is he who shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*

from this time forth for evermore.

#### Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Reader: A reading from the Paul's letter to the Romans

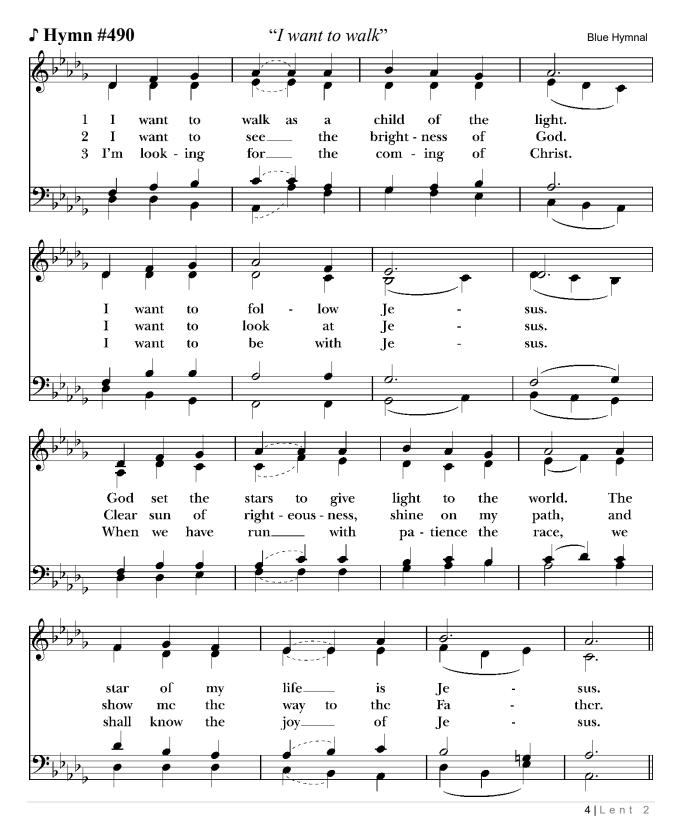
What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

All: Thanks be to God





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#### John 3:1-17

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows

where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

#### The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall

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

#### **J** Nicene Creed

Deacon: Let us stand and join in the Affirmation of our Faith.

I believe in God almighty,

author of all things that be,

Maker of the earth and heavens,

Keeper of the sky and sea.

I believe in God's son, Jesus,

now for us both Lord and Christ,

of the Spirit and of Mary

born to bring abundant life.

I believe that Jesus suffered,

scourged and scorned and crucified;

taken from the cross, was buried—

True Life there had truly died.

I believe that on the third day

Christ was raised up from the grave,

then ascended to God right hand.

He will come to judge and save.

I believe in God's own Spirit,

bonding all the saints within

One church, catholic and holy,

where forgiveness frees from sin;

in the body's resurrection,

for the breaking of death's chain

gives the life that's everlasting.

This the faith that I have claimed.

#### **Prayers of the People**

Let us come before God in this Lententide, praising and blessing and adoring our everliving God, saying: In your glorious mercy, *Holy One, hear our prayer*.

O God, who spoke through the prophets and who lives in the only begotten one, show to your church all things. Help us hear your purpose and receive your grace; confirm in your truth all the baptized, especially bishops and clergy, theologians and teachers, mystics and martyrs. In your glorious mercy: *Holy One, hear our prayer*.

God of promise and deliverance, we thank you for birthing us in the waters of baptism and for drowning our death in your unending life. We beg that your love well up within us, that our whole lives may worship you. In your glorious mercy: *Holy One, hear our prayer*.

God of the people of Israel, Sovereign of every nation, grant your vision of mercy and justice to all who rule in the earth especially Joseph, our president. Prosper the labors of those seeking peace. Assist all who work for reconciliation in the streets and for reformation in prisons. In your glorious mercy: *Holy One, hear our prayer*.

O Holy One with the pierced limbs and side, bind us to all those who suffer. Keep us mindful of all innocent victims, the oppressed, the outcast, the alien, the forlorn. Summon us to restlessness until all who suffer find rest from their sorrow. In your glorious mercy: *Holy One, hear our prayer*.

[Prayers are read from the bidding book; additional prayers may be offered silently or aloud.]

God of Abraham and Sarah the great I AM, we give you thanks for the signs of your radiant presence in the faith of our forebears especially Blessed Benedict. Bless us with awe to receive their testimony. Transfigure us by the gift of faith for our life's journey, until we behold face to face your glorious beauty, through Christ our Savior. **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; 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.

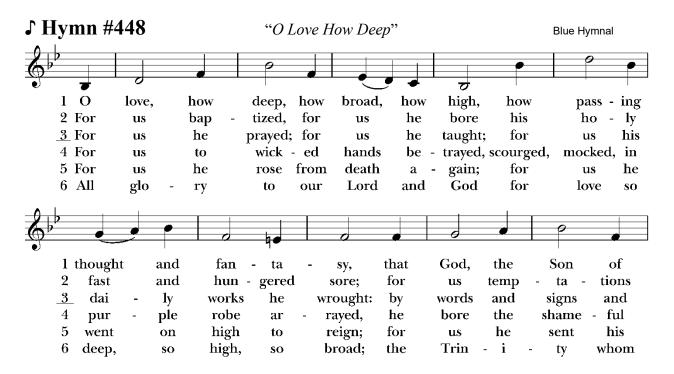
May we find inspiration in your Word,

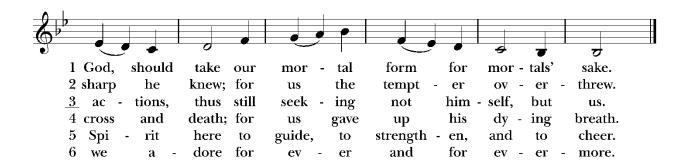
And peace in our hearts as we follow you.

Amen.

# The Offertory

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





Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: Deus tuorum militum, from Antiphoner, 1753; adapt. The English Hymnal, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

#### **J** Doxology

Traditional Hymn Tune

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.

The Eucharist EOW Prayer 2

Celebrant: The Lord 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 continues:

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 sing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

#### Celebrant and People:

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.

#### The Celebrant continues:

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 our Blessed Mother Mary and 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.

#### Celebrant and People:

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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

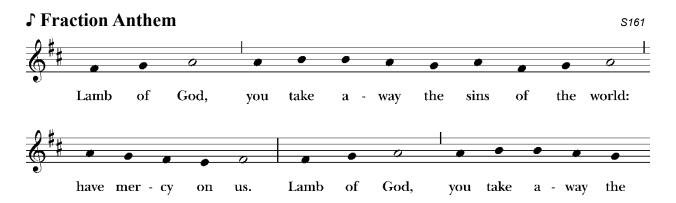
Give us this day our daily bread.

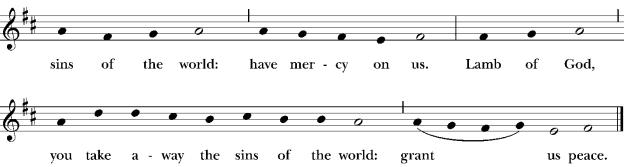
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

The Celebrant breaks the Bread

Silence is observed





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Celebrant:

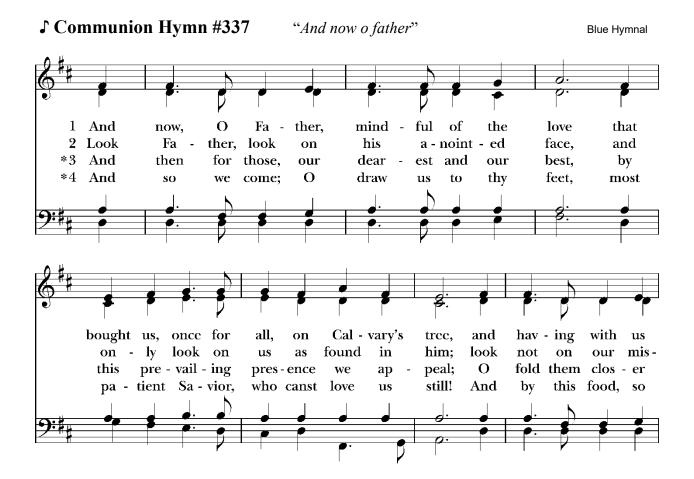
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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) Dave Alm. Piano © 2017 by Hal Leonard LLC





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

All:

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
You have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# **The Solemn Prayer Over the People**

# **Blessing**

#### **Announcements**

See pages 15-16 for more announcements.



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## **Dismissal**

# Verset de Procession sur l'Adora Te Leon Boellmann Sarah Jane Scott, Organ

#### **Ministers of the Service**

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall Deacon: The Rev. Jen Crompton Eucharistic Minister: Diana Hammerlund Acolyte: Areanna Welch Lector: John Horsley Laura Thompson

Ushers: Ron Thompson and Barbara Skipper

Intercessor: Lisa Gonzalez
Altar Guild: Letty Cotta
Online Host: Elaine Beckham

Tellers: Dianne Long/Steve Cake Technical: Hannah-Jaye Matthew

Today's Service used a Eucharist Liturgy from <u>Enriching Our Worship</u>
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#### This Week at St Ben's

Monday Clergy away until Thursday

Tuesday

9:45a Prayers for the Morning 10:30a Spiritual Conversation

5:30p Vespers

Wednesday

4:00p Community Dinner

Friday

9:00a Gentle Yoga

Sunday

8:00a Contemplative Communion, in-person and on Zoom

10:30a Eucharist in-person and on FB

12:00p Choir Practice

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Both Caro+ and Deacon Jen will be participating in the SLO Clergy Retreat this week Monday— Thursday. If needed, they can be contacted by text.

**LENTEN Devotional: Practicing Compassion with all your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind.**Booklets should be here later this week or you get a pdf or purchase as an e-book. If you prefer you can get each day's reflection by email. Check it out at LivingCompass.org/Lent

**The March-April BENEDICTION** newsletter is available now,. If you receive a paper copy, please take ti today and cross off your label.

**SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION** - this week the conversation continues the Celtic path based on the book by Julianne Stanz, <u>Braving the Thin Places</u>. You are welcome even if you don't read it. *Note the new time of 10:30*, <u>Zoom</u>

**MARCH 12** is the neighborhood walk—an important part of our Transition process. Please see Sandy Fisher or another member of the Discovery Team for more details.

**Discover how you can be a TRAILBLAZER, too!** Are you curious about how we reach out and do even more to share God's love with our neighbors? The Trailblazer Discovery Team is taking church outside our walls with the Prayer Pop-Up, a "mobile coffee hour" experience focused on bringing church to the people. Would you like to walk with us as we explore these questions? Contact Deacon Jen.

**PERSONAL PRAYER** – If you'd like prayer support during the week, contact Lisa Gonzalez (805-441-3386) If no answer, please leave a message and your call will be returned. Prayer requests may also be emailed at any time to <a href="mailto:prayers@stbenslososos.org">prayers@stbenslososos.org</a> and requests for pastoral care may be sent to <a href="mailto:pastoralcare@stbenslososos.org">pastoralcare@stbenslososos.org</a>.

**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.

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