

# St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ *Tending Mind and Soul* ~

Los Osos, California

Easter 6

May 14, 2023

—8 a.m. Service—

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

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Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: *Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

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 M

## A Song of Faith

1 Peter 1:3-4,18-21

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, \*  
by divine mercy we have a new birth into a living hope;  
Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, \*  
we have an inheritance that is imperishable in heaven.  
The ransom that was paid to free us \*  
was not paid in silver or gold,  
But in the precious blood of Christ, \*  
the Lamb without spot or stain.  
God raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory \*  
so that we might have faith and hope in God.

## Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *Trinity of love, inviting us to abide in you: may we follow the Spirit of truth through desert wild and city street, rutted field and snowbound height, battleground and market square, that your demanding love might speak to the heart of the manifold world; through Jesus Christ, our Brother. Amen.*

## **Acts 17:22-31**

Reader: *A Reading from the book of Acts*

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

## **Psalm 66:7-18**

Source: the Book of Common Prayer, 1979

God saved the people at the exodus. The praise of one joins the praise of all.

Let us rejoice then in God,  
who rules forever with might, keeping a watch on all nations. Let no rebels raise their heads!

Bless our God, you peoples, loudly sound God's praise,  
who kept our spirits alive and our feet from stumbling.

God, you have tested us, refined us like silver in fire.  
You led us into a trap, you put a weight on our backs,  
you let others beat us down. We passed through water and fire, but then you brought us relief.

I come to your house with gifts to keep the vow I made.  
This promise was on my lips when I was afflicted.  
I will offer sacrifice, burnt offerings of rams, wild bulls and goats.

Come, listen, all who fear God, as I tell what happened to me.  
To God I cried aloud, praise upon my tongue,  
"If I have evil in my heart, let my Lord not listen!"

## 1 Peter 3:13-22

*A Reading from Peter*

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

## John 14:15-21

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

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Gospeller: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to Christ, the Word.*

## Discussion of the Readings

## Prayers of the People

Let us now demonstrate the hope that fills our hearts by turning to God in prayer, saying: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all ministers of the gospel, that they may preach the word boldly and without apology. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all leaders of nations, that they may be unrelenting in their quest for peace. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all the suffering peoples of this world, especially those who suffer for doing right. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, those among us who experience desolation, especially those for whom God seems most remote. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, all the sick and the dying [especially N.], that they may find life. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Empower with your Spirit, O Lord, the newly baptized, that they may never cease to praise you for the hope that fills their hearts. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

*Gracious God, it is in the power of your abundant and life-giving Spirit that we call upon you in prayer. Deepen our hope in your presence and your promise; hear us in your tender love, now and forever.*

## 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.*

Today's Eucharist Liturgy is from  
"Enriching Our Worship" Supplemental Liturgical Materials  
prepared by The Standing Liturgical Commission of the Episcopal Church  
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## **This Week at St Ben's**

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](mailto:prayers@stbenslososos.org) and requests for pastoral care may be sent to [pastoralcare@stbenslososos.org](mailto: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.

## **St. Benedict's Episcopal Church**

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