



## St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~

Los Osos, California

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 2023 10:30 am

You are warmly welcome at St. Benedict's for who you are  
and where you are on your faith journey!

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[Please stand as you are able.]

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

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.*

### Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Christ be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *Jesus, you are the way through the wilderness: show us your truth in which we journey, and by the grace of the Holy Spirit be in us the life that draws us to God. Amen.*

from Enriching Our Worship

(please be seated for the readings)

### Exodus 33:12-23

Reader: *A Reading from the book of Exodus*

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight,

show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

The Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

Reader: The word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

## **Psalm 99**

The Lord is King;

let the people tremble; \*  
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion; \*

he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*

he is the Holy One.

"O mighty King, lover of justice,

you have established equity; \*  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God

and fall down before his footstool; \*

he is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among his priests,  
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*  
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*  
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; \*  
you were a God who forgave them,  
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God  
and worship him upon his holy hill; \*  
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

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

All: ***Thanks be to God***

## **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and

how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader: The word of the Lord

People: ***Thanks be to God***

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

(please stand as you are able as we welcome the Gospel)

## **Matthew 22:15-22**

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

People: ***Glory to You, Lord Christ.***

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

People: ***Praise to You, Lord Christ***

[We pause for a few moments’ reflection.]

(please stand as you are able)

## **Affirmation of Faith**

***We trust in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***We trust in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:***

*was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We trust in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## **Prayers of the People**

Pondering the relationship between our duties to God and our duties as citizens, let us pray for ourselves and for the whole world, saying: *Lord, have mercy.*

That all in our community may know what is God's and what is Caesar's, and may have the courage so to live, let us pray to the one who alone is Lord: *Lord, have mercy.*

That as the Lord guided Cyrus for the sake of Israel, God will guide our country, its leaders, and its citizens, that justice and peace will be the signs of our trust in God, let us pray to the one who alone is Lord: *Lord, have mercy.*

That the leaders of the church, in the spirit of Paul, may preach the gospel not merely in words but in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the one who alone is Lord: *Lord, have mercy.*

That each of us, following Jesus, may be truthful, courting no one's favor, but living with simplicity and candor, let us pray to the one who alone is Lord: *Lord, have mercy.*

That through the faith, love, and constancy of Christians God's name may be made

known from the rising to the setting of the sun, let us pray to the one who alone is Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

That like the apostles all the people in the church may live their faith and labor in love for the poor, the homeless, the imprisoned, the persecuted, and the sick, and that by God's power the suffering of all may be relieved, let us pray to the one who alone is Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray for those you have commended to our care:

*(Prayers from the bidding book are read.  
Please add your own prayers silently or aloud.)*

Let us pray to the one who alone is Lord: ***Lord, have mercy.***

*O God, ruler of all, grant that our nation and its citizens may respond to your call, and that we may live out all civic virtues in honesty and integrity. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son and our Lord. Amen.*

*Adapted from Intercessions for the Christian People, Clouds and Glory © 2001 David Adam*

### **Confession and Absolution**

All: ***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: Almighty 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.***

Please greet others verbally or with a bow or nod.