



## St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~

Los Osos, California

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2024 8:00 am

You are warmly welcome at St. Benedict's for who you are

### About Our Service

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.

We invite everyone to stand and sit as you are able during various parts of the service. Indicators are found within parentheses throughout the bulletin. Apologies if any are missing.

Please silence your phones.

An all-gender restroom is located through the white door at the left of the sanctuary. All other restrooms are located by exiting out the doors and going down the outdoor wooden walkway towards the red door and then down the hallway to the left. Please ask an usher for assistance if needed.

(please stand as you are able)

### A Penitential Order

Officiant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures for ever.*

Officiant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31 .

Officiant: *Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.*

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.*

*Officiant* 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.**

## **Canticle H**

## **A Song of Hosea**

Hosea 6:1-3

Come, let us return to our God, \*  
who has torn us and will heal us.

God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, \*  
after two days revive us,

On the third day restore us, \*  
that in God's presence we may live.

Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, \*  
whose justice dawns like morning light,  
its dawning as sure as the sunrise.

God's justice will come to us like a shower, \*  
like spring rains that water the earth.

## **Collect of the Day**

*Officiant:* God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Officiant:* Let us pray together.

*All:* **O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word,**

***Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.***

(please be seated for the readings)

### **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*Reader: A Reading from the book of Jeremiah*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

*Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.*

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

### **Psalm 119:9-16**

How shall a young man cleanse his way? \*

By keeping to your words.

With my whole heart I seek you; \*

let me not stray from your commandments.

I treasure your promise in my heart, \*

that I may not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord; \*

instruct me in your statutes.

With my lips will I recite \*

all the judgments of your mouth.

I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees \*

than in all manner of riches.

I will meditate on your commandments \*  
and give attention to your ways.  
My delight is in your statutes; \*  
I will not forget your word.

## **Hebrews 5:5-10**

*Reader: A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;  
as he says also in another place,  
“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

**People: Thanks be to God**

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

## **John 12:20-33**

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

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

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain;

but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

*Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.*

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

## **Discussion**

Brian Spolarich

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

(please stand as you are able)

## **Prayers of the People**

Lord of the church, may we bring others to know you, in knowing you to love you, and in loving you to serve you, whom to serve is perfect freedom. We pray for all involved in liberation theology. Guide and strengthen the mission and outreach of your people. We pray for missionary societies, Lord, as you give yourself for us, ***let us give ourselves to you.***

We pray for leaders of nations, for rulers of peoples, that they may work with sensitivity and in humility. We pray for nations emerging from tyranny, for freedom movements and all who work for liberty. Lord, as you give yourself for us, ***let us give ourselves to you.***

We remember all who have been generous to us, all who have shared their resources and their lives. We pray for parents who sacrificed for us, for their giving of time and of attention. We pray for those who have been denied love, for all who have been deprived

of well-being. We remember today children taken into care. Lord, as you give yourself for us, *let us give ourselves to you.*

We give thanks for the passion and cross of our Lord, for the gift of redemption. We pray for all troubled souls, those anxious about their health, or their future. We remember all that are being persecuted for their beliefs or their principles; for all who are suffering at this time, especially

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

Lord, as you give yourself for us, *let us give ourselves to you.*

Lord, give comfort to the bereaved, give courage to the dying. We pray for all who have entered where sorrow and pain are no more. We remember loved ones who have entered into eternal life, and we join with them to sing your praises. Lord, as you give yourself for us, *let us give ourselves to you.*

Officiant: *Lord Jesus Christ, you were lifted up on the cross for us and for our salvation; help us to triumph over evil and to do good, to give ourselves to you as you give yourself for us, and to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.*

Adapted from *Traces of Glory* by David Adam 1999

## **The Peace**

Officiant: There is nothing that can separate you from the love and peace of God. 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.

## **Birthday & Anniversary Prayers**

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or any special concerns, may come forward. Prayers can be found on the white or yellow card in your pew.

## Transition Prayer

*O Lord,  
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 General Thanksgiving

*All: Holy One, author of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

(silence)

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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

*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.*

(please stand as you are able)

## **Blessing**

Officiant: God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. Amen.

## **Announcements**

(please stand as you are able)

## **Dismissal**

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

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

Eucharist Liturgy Adapted from Enriching Our Worship  
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## **Ministers of the Service**

Officiant:	Brian Spolarich
Flowers:	Pamela Bleisch
Altar Guild:	Sara Chesebro
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews

## **This Week at St Ben's**

Monday	March 18
3:30p	Liturgy Committee Meeting (Zoom)
Tuesday	March 19
	9:45a Prayers of the Morning (Zoom)
	10:30a Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	March 20
3:00p	Earthcare Meeting
Sunday	March 24 (Palm Sunday)
8:00a	Contemplative Service
10:30a	Eucharist Service

## **Announcements**

**Benediction Newsletter Articles Due April 8th** - Mark your calendars, it's that time again! Please send articles, pictures, and announcements for our spring newsletter. Feedback is our newsletter is appreciated, especially by new members as it helps them feel welcomed and "in the know."

Our themes for this edition are

- Easter
- Spring
- Rogation Sunday (Google it)
- other seasonal favorites
- Regular parish updates

The newsletter will be distributed at church and online on April 14th.

### **The Tuesday Spiritual Discussion Group**

“Our Living Compass theme for the 2024 Lent season is *Practicing Forgiveness with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. Designed for both individual reflection and group study, this daily devotional provides a foundation for seeking a deeper experience of Lent — one that prepares us for the coming of Easter.”

The Tuesday Spiritual Discussion group will be using an Lenten program sponsored by a group called Living Compass. The six-week program includes Sunday and weekday meditations for the Lenten season. We will begin the

program on Tuesday February 20, 2024 at 10.30 on Zoom. The program booklets are available as pdf electronic copies for free or a print copy available for \$1.00 plus postage. A limited number of print copies have been received and will be available in the back of the church. If you are not planning on attending the Tuesday group, feel free to take one of the booklets for your personal use.

Order booklets at <https://www.livingcompass.org/advent-lent>. Tuesdays at 10:30 on [Zoom](#).

## **Land Acknowledgment**

We acknowledge with gratitude the yak tityu tityu yak tilhini (ytt) / the Northern Chumash People, and the Salinan Tribe / the T'epot'aha'l, "People of the Oaks," on whose ancestral homelands we gather, and whose vibrant culture continues today. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. Help us to be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world.

## **Our Mission Statement**

*St. Benedict's is an inclusive Christian community that celebrates the divine in all beings, and inspires spiritual growth through joyful sacramental worship, loving service, creative expression, thoughtful inquiry, and commitment to social justice.*

## **Our Inclusivity Statement**

The people of St Benedict's are called to share God's love as we minister with and to all persons in Los Osos and beyond, providing worship, nurture, fellowship, and service.

Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, or 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 Episcopal Church**

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