



St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul ~

Los Osos, California

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024 8 am

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

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.

During Communion

We have gluten-free wafers available. Please let your nearest usher know *before the service begins* if you would prefer a gluten-free wafer, and they will inform the celebrant.

We use wine per the Canons of the Episcopal Church; it is offered either from the common cup or individual cups. If you prefer to abstain from alcohol for any reason, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive the cup by sight. Taking Communion with just one element (Bread) is considered complete.

(please stand as you are able)

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: *Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

All: *All-compassionate and most merciful God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Canticle 20

Glory to God

Gloria in excelsis

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

Holy God, heavenly One,
almighty God and Creator,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Savior Jesus Christ, only Son of God,
Holy 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 Creator:
receive our prayer.

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

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

All: *O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

(please be seated for the readings)

Acts 4:5-12

Reader: A reading from the book of Acts

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they

had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

`the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

1 John 3:16-24

Reader: A Reading from the first letter of John

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods

and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

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

John 10:11-18

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

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

Discussion

The Rev. Jen Crompton

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

(please stand as you are able)

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All: *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:
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.*

*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.*

*He has spoken through the Prophets.
We trust 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

Consoled by the knowledge that the Good Shepherd gives his life for us, let us pray for the needs of our community, our church, and our world, saying: Lord, have mercy.

The earliest Christian community held all things in common, and no one was in need. May we recommit ourselves to hold the goods of this world in common and to work to eliminate hunger and homelessness. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

When we share with one another, we make a new world. May we build a new community on earth which knows God as home. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Following the example of the shepherd who searched for the lost sheep, let us seek out the lost in our community and welcome them into our midst. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Conscious of the Good Shepherd's voice, may we speak God's words of reconciliation and peace to all we meet, and may all in authority receive the joyful message of peace. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

We are called to give up our lives for others. Let us praise God for all in serving professions who work at low pay for the welfare of others. May we give our lives to those in our care. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

We remember especially those for whom prayers are requested in our bidding book.

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

For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant: *God, in you we live and move and have our being. You seek us before we know your name, and you give us joy in your life. Accept our prayer of joy in being found and forgiven and loved by you, for we pray in the name of Christ your Son and in the joy of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Adapted from Intercessions for the Christian People

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.

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.

(please stand as you are able)

Holy Eucharist

BCP Prayer C

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: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People *Glory to you for ever and ever.*

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People *By your will they were created and have their being.*

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People *Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People *By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.*

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

People *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Holy One, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

All: *We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.*

Holy God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah; God and parent of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and

not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

All: ***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Holy One, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***AMEN.***

All: ***By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. AMEN.***

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.***

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Holy Communion

The celebrant continues:

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.

If God is calling you, you are welcome to receive communion when the celebrant invites your section forward. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. As your group is called forward, please spread out to widen the circle and increase safe social distancing.

Silence

(please stand as you are able)

Prayer

*All-compassionate and ever-living God,
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.*

Blessing

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

Dismissal

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

All: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!*

Today's Liturgy is from the outline in the Book of Common Prayer.

Ministers of the Service

Celebrant:	The Rev. Jen Crompton
Preacher:	The Rev. Jen Crompton
Flowers:	Pamela Bleisch
Altar Guild:	JW Wright
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews

This Week at St Ben's

Tuesday	April 23
9:45a	Prayers of the Morning (Zoom)
10:30a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	April 24
11:00a	Laundry Love
4:00p	Laundry Love
Sunday	April 28
8:00a	Contemplative Service
10:30a	Eucharist Service

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.



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