

St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos ~

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, or physical or mental ability—your presence here today is a blessing!

About Our Service

Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are warmly welcome at St. Benedict's! If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Episcopal Church, simply rest into the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship.

~ Prelude ~

Original Improvisation
Paul Burkle

A Penitential Order

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: Most merciful God,

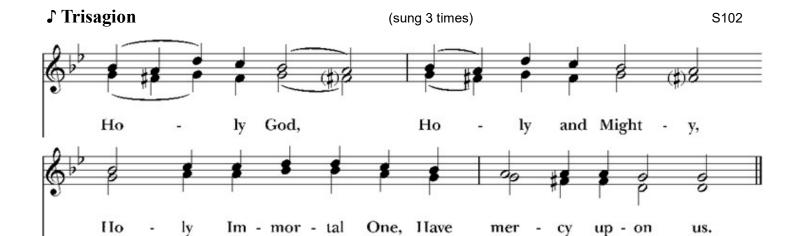
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant May the All-Compassionate God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord

Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in

eternal life. Amen



Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your

people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

and for ever. Amen.

People: Amen

Isaiah 43:16-21

Reader: A Reading from the book of Isaiah

Thus says the LORD,

who makes a way in the sea,

a path in the mighty waters,

who brings out chariot and horse,

army and warrior;

they lie down, they cannot rise,

they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things,

or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing;

now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert.

The wild animals will honor me.

the jackals and the ostriches;

for I give water in the wilderness,

rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my chosen people,

the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1-8 S-408

Chant on a single note, changing note with the bolded word.

When the LORD restored the fortunes of **Zion**, * then were we like those who **dream**.

Then was our mouth filled with **laughter**, * and our tongue with shouts of **joy**.

Then they said among the **nations**, *

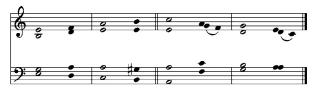
"The LORD has done great things for **them**."

The LORD has done great things for **us**, * and we are glad in-**deed**.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, * like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with **tears** * will reap with songs of **joy**.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the **seed**, * will come again with joy, shouldering their **sheaves**.



© 1978, James Frazier.

Philippians 3:4b-14

Reader: A Reading from Paul's letter to the church in Philippi

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

People: Thanks be to God.



John 12:1-8

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

[We pause for a few moments' reflection.]

Affirmation of Faith

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: 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. who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

Adapted from Glimpses of Glory by David Adams

Loving God, in the stillness of this place, refresh us; in the stillness of our minds, renew us; in the quiet of our hearts, restore us.

Holy One, we come before you.

Change us and we shall we changed.

We give thanks for those who work to provide for us.

We pray for all who grow produce and prepare our food,
for all who cater and provide hospitality for others,
for all who work in warehouses and stores.

Holy One, we come before you.

Change us and we shall we changed.

O God, we are grateful for places of rest and peace:

we thank you for this place and for this community of care.

And we pray for all those who are overworked in their caring for others.

We ask your blessing on all who have shared their time and their love with us.

Holy One, we come before you.

Change us and we shall we changed.

We pray that through your cross and passion we may

come to know the power of your resurrection.

We remember before you all who are suffering,

all who are struggling or despairing at this time,

all who are facing troubles and trials in their life.

We remember especially

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

Holy One, we come before you

Change us and we shall we changed.

We give thanks for all those who have passed through pain and suffering and are now where sorrow and pain are no more, for all who have experienced the power of your resurrection.

Holy One, we come before you.

Change us and we shall we changed.

Silence

Celebrant: Almighty God, hear these prayers of your people;

in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please greet one another in chat.

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or special concern, 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/lives; 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*.

The Offertory





Words: Samuel Wolcott (1813-1886). Music: *Moscow*, melody Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916 based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1892).

♪ 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.

Holy Eucharist EOW Prayer 1

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.

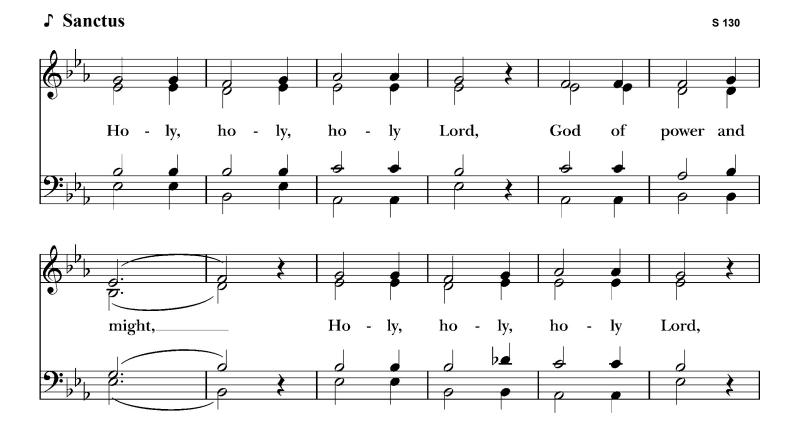
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of

mercy.

Through Jesus Christ our Savior; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:







Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he 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."

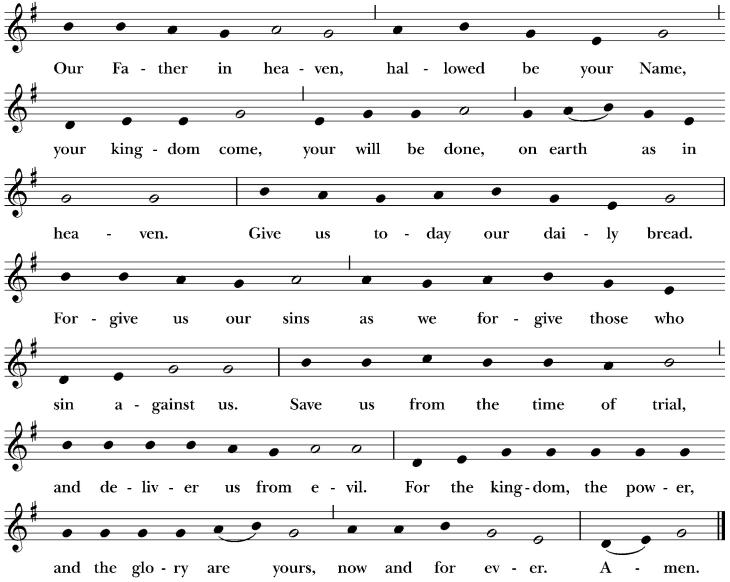
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children, that with blessed Mary and blessed Benedict, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

All: 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.

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



Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 From: Music For the Lord's Supper. Theodore Presser Company. Used by permission.

The Breaking of the Bread

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The celebrant breaks the Bread

Who



bread

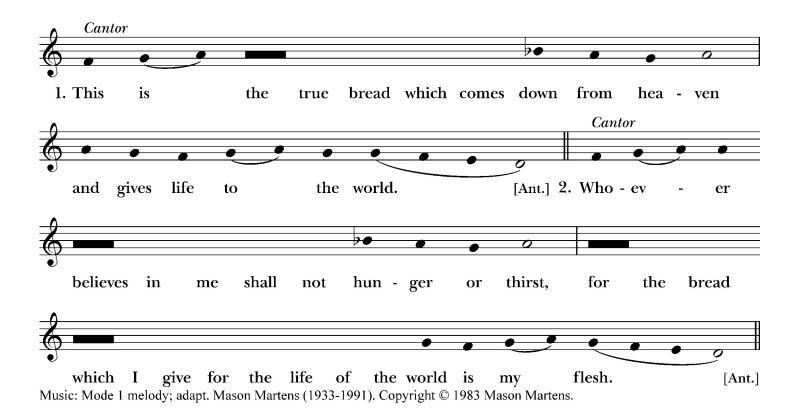
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Holy Communion

The celebrant continues:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

"Shenandoah" Traditional.

Setting by Paul Doktor

"Ashokan Farewell" by Jan Ungar. Arranged by David Blackwell

J Choir Anthem

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Setting by Donald Moore

Silence

Sending of the Eucharistic Visitor

If no visitation is to be made, prayer is not said.

When the Eucharist is brought to people at any place outside our walls, we say the following to send our Lay Eucharistic Visitors or other Ministry team members out with care and blessings.

Celebrant: In the name of this parish family, I send you forth, bearing these holy gifts, to _____. Together, we share in the body and blood of Christ. And we who are many are one Body because we share one Bread and one Cup.

All: We who are many are one Body, because we share one Bread and one Cup. Amen.

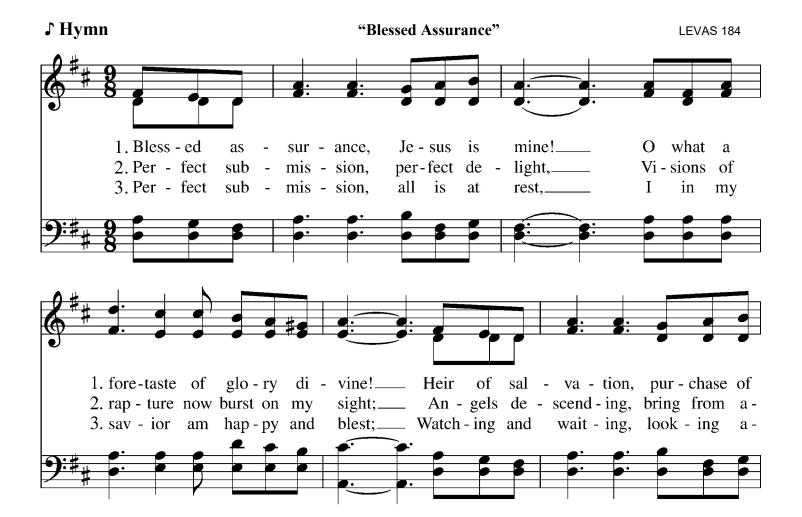
Prayer

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

Solemn Prayer over the Assembly

Celebrant: Let us bow down before God.

Celebrant: Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. Amen.





Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915). Music: Phoebe P. Knapp (1839-1908).

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.* (no Alleluias during Lent)

J Postlude

Original Improvisation
Paul Burkle

Eucharist Liturgy Adapted from Enriching Our Worship
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Ministers of the Service

Celebrant: Rev. Linzi Stahlecker Preacher: Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

Eucharistic Minister: Michael Lucas
Altar Guild: Pat Stoneman
Lector: Ann Lucas

Ushers: Lisa Gonzalez & Connie Weldon

Intercessor: Lisa Gonzalez

Music: Paul Burkle

Viola: Bryson McKelvey

Online Host: Don Maruska

Tellers: Dianna Hammerlund & Steve Cake

Technical: Hannah Matthews

This Week at St Ben's

Monday Apr 7

8:30a Morning Prayer (Zoom)

Tuesday Apr 8

8:30a Morning Prayer

9:45a Prayers of the Morning (Zoom)
10:30a Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)

Wednesday Apr 9

8:30a Morning Prayer (Zoom)

Thursday Apr 10

8:30a Morning Prayer (Zoom)

6:00p Choir Practice

Friday Apr 11

8:30a Morning Prayer (Zoom)

Sunday Apr 13—Palm Sunday 10:30a Eucharist Service

Holy Week at St. Ben's

April 13 Palm Sunday

April 17 Agape Meal

Maundy Thursday

April 18 Good Friday

April 19 Easter Vigil

April 20 Easter Sunday

Announcements

Lenten Morning Prayer Rev. Linzi will offer Morning Prayer each weekday morning (Monday - Friday) through Lent at 8:30am. Bring your BCP and Bible or follow along with "*Venite*" either via their website or their downloadable app. The zoom link is on the calendar listing on the website.

Stations of the Cross are now installed in the sanctuary. The church will be open every Tuesday in the Lenten season from 2-5 pm for personal prayer and devotions. [Please know that the church won't be heated, so please do dress for comfort while in the space.]

Tuesday Morning Spiritual Conversation During Lent the Spiritual Conversation group will be reading from *Living Well Through Lent* by Living Compass. The pamphlet is available for free as a PDF file or contact Roz Malone. You do not have to do the reading to participate, all are welcome. Join on Zoom.

Coffee Hour hospitality is such an important ministry of the church, it creates a warm welcome for all, and a time and space for community-building. If you'd like to know more about what's involved hosting Coffee Hour, please reach out to Barbara Hirahara, who can fill you in on what's involved many hands make light work!

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge with gratitude the yak tityu tityu yak tiłhini (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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