

St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos ~

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025 10:30 am

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

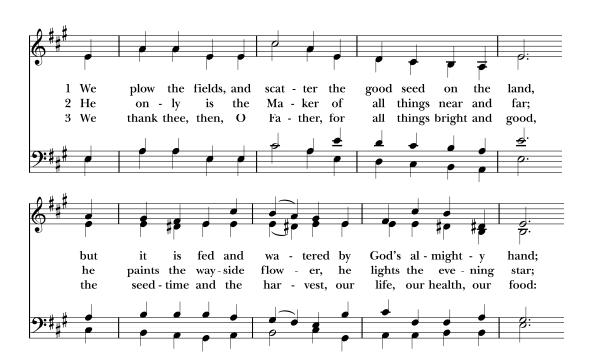
Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are warmly welcome at St. Benedict's! If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Episcopal Church, simply rest into the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship.

Please silence your phones.

~ Prelude ~

Original Improvisation
Paul Burkle

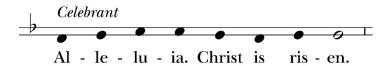
♪ Hymn #291 "We Plow the Fields and Scatter" Blue Hymnal





Words: Matthias Claudius (1740-1815); tr. Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817-1878), alt. Music: Wir Pflugen, Johann Abraham Peter Schulz (1747-1800).

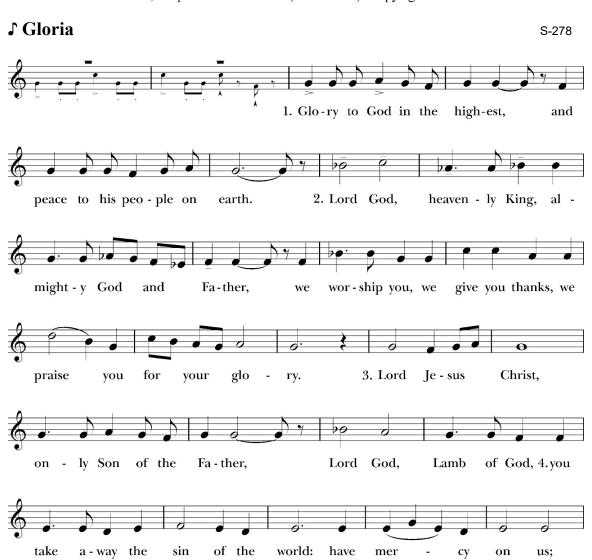
Welcome





The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.





Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen

A prayer for Rogation Sunday

People: Bountiful God of heaven and earth: By your gracious providence give and preserve the harvests of the land and sea for the good of all creatures, that those who receive good things from your hand may always give you thanks and praise; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Acts 16:9-15

Reader: A Reading from the book of Acts

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 67 s-411

Deus misereatur



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

May God be merciful to us and bless **us**, * show us the light of his countenance and **come to us**.

Let your ways be known upon **earth**, * your saving health among all **nations**.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for **joy**, * for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon **earth**.

Let the peoples praise you, O **God**; * let all the peoples praise **you**.

The earth has brought forth her in-**crease**; * may God, our own God, give us his **blessing**.

[rpt the last two bars] May God give us his **blessing**, * and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of **him**.

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Reader: A Reading from the revelation of John

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

People: Thanks be to God



Music: Alleluia 7; Jacques Berthier, © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

John 14:23-29

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

Celebrant: 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 (please stand as you are able)

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 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

from: Honoring God in Creation -2 by the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music TEC Creator of earth, sea, and sky: on this Rogation Sunday, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet. Receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it. Source of all life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed; awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

Adapted from Glimpses of Glory by David Adams and Anne Kelsey

God, as you call us to you,

guide us on our journey.

Loving God, we put our trust in you, and in you is our rest.

We pray for all pilgrim peoples as they journey through this world,

for all seekers, for those who search for truth and integrity.

May we and your whole church live as those traveling into your

love and traveling deeper into your presence.

We pray today for all places of pilgrimage, and all sacred spaces and places,

and for those who act as guides to others on their earthly pilgrimage.

God, as you call us to you,

guide us on our journey.

We remember before you all those who have no home; and we pray for all who have been made refugees by global economics, by the violence of war, and by oppressive regimes.

We pray for all those who have no choice but to sleep on the streets of our cities.

We pray for all those who have no choice but to keep moving,

who are forced to move on to an unknown destination.

We grieve the ongoing loss of indigenous lands across the planet.

God, as you call us to you,

guide us on our journey.

Loving God of comfort and deep peace, give rest to the weary, the worn out, and the fearful; soothe the anxious, the troubled, and the distressed. We pray for all who have lost courage or hope in their journey, and all those whose way seems fraught or threatening. We pray for the troubled in body, mind, and spirit, and for all who are ill.

We pray especially for:

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

God, as you call us to you, guide us on our journey.

We give thanks for all who have come to their journey's end on earth:
may they find rest and peace and life in you.
We pray for the day when we will all be one, sharing in the life eternal.
God, as you call us to you,
guide us on our journey.

Silence

Celebrant:

God of love and rest, accept 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.*

Confession and Absolution

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.

Celebrant: May the All-Compassionate God have mercy on you, forgive you all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen*.

The Peace

Officiant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please greet one another in the chat.

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Those wanting a special prayer for a birthday, anniversary, or any special concerns, may 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.

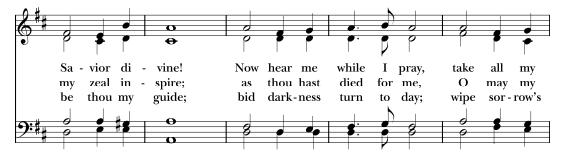
The Offertory

You can contribute at our website www.stbenslososos.org at any time.

J Hymn #691 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" Blue Hymnal My faith looks to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va up faint - ing heart, thy rich grace im - part strength to round me spread, While life's dark tread, and griefs a



Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887). Music: Olivet, Lowell Mason (1792-1872).



♪ Doxology: [Hymn tune #400]

[sung] Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise God the Source of all our gifts
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Holy Eucharist lona

Celebrant:

The table of bread and wine is now made ready.

It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him.

It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself.

It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;

you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; Come.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

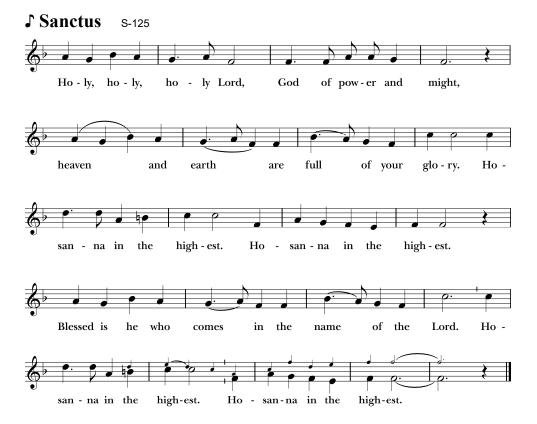
Celebrant: May Christ be with you,

All *And also with you.*Celebrant: Lift up your hearts,

All *We lift them up to God.*Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God,

All It is right to give both thanks and praise.

Celebrant: We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high, for in the communion of your love Christ comes close to us and we come close to Christ. Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us, with earth, sea and sky, we sing to you. With the angels of light who envelop us, with the host of heaven, with all the saints before and beside us, with siblings east and west, north and south, we sing to you. And with our loved ones, separate from us now, who yet in this mystery are close to us, we join in the song of your unending greatness:



Blessed is our brother Jesus,

who walks with us the road of our world's suffering, and who is known to us in the breaking of bread. On the night of his arrest Jesus took bread and having blessed it he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,

This is my body, given to you.

In the same way he took wine and having given thanks for it he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying,

This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take this and share it.

I shall drink wine with you next in the coming Kingdom of God.

All: Loving God,

through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made.

May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread,

So that we may know your touch in all bread, all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.

Hear us, O Christ, and breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine.

May they become for us your body, vibrant with your life,

healing, renewing and making us whole.

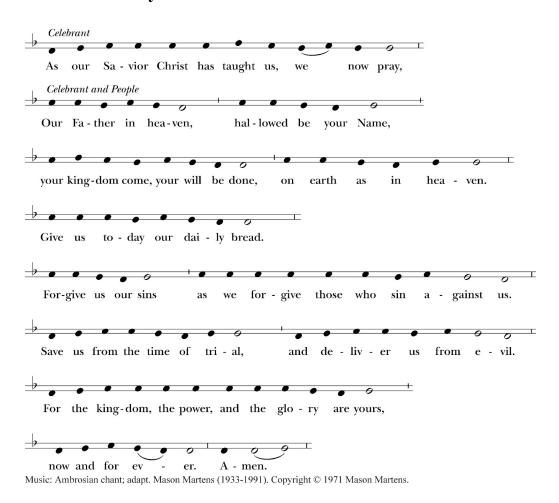
And as the bread and wine which we now eat and drink are changed into us, may we be changed again into you,

bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh,

loving and caring in the world.

All: Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, All-Compassionate God, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. AMEN

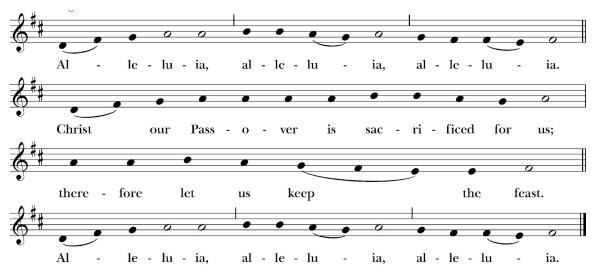
The Lord's Prayer



The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

The cantor will sing the alleluia, which is then repeated by all. The cantor sings the verse; all join for the concluding alleluia.



Music: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Holy Communion

Celebrant: 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

Original Improvisation
Paul Burkle

♪ Choir Anthem

"Jubilate Deo"

By Mary Lynn Lightfoot

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.

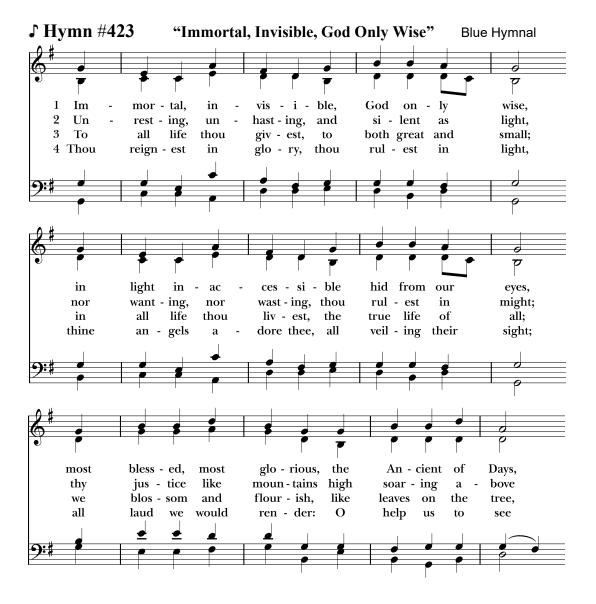
Celebrant: In the name of this parish family, I send you forth, bearing these holy gifts, to ______. Together, we share in the body and blood of Christ. And we who are many are one Body because we share one Bread and one Cup.

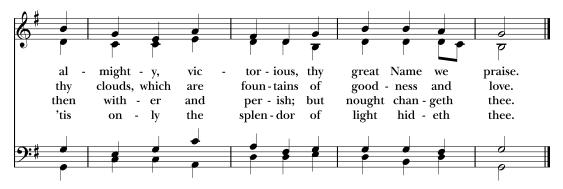
All: We who are many are one Body, because we share one Bread and one Cup. Amen

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

Blessing





Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

Dismissal





♪ Postlude

Original Improvisation
Paul Burkle

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

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Ministers of the Service

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

Eucharistic Minister: Brian Spolarich **Eucharistic Minister:** Sandy Fisher Bryson McKelvey Lector: Flowers: Sarah Chesebro

Alan Kiste & Michael Lucas Ushers:

Sandy Fisher Intercessor: Paul Burkle Music:

Altar Guild: Diana Hammerlund Online Host: Don Maruska

Tellers: Alice Welchert & Diana Hammerlund

Technical: Hannah Matthews

Coffee Hour Host:

This Week at St Ben's

Tuesday May 27

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

Wednesday May 28

11:00a Laundry Love 4:00p Laundry Love

Thursday May 29

6:00p **Choir Practice**

Sunday Jun 1

10:30a **Eucharist Service**

Announcements

Ascension Day is a principal feast of the church, and is always observed on the Thursday that's the 40th day after Easter which is Thursday, May 29. Ascension Day marks the end of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances to his disciples, and marks the ultimate transformation of his human nature to divine glory and the near presence of God. On this day, St. Benedict's will offer a Contemplative Eucharist and shared homily, with time during the liturgy for reflection and conversation. Come, explore what this all might mean for us, and how this might influence our thoughts about theology and spirituality. All are welcome! Thursday, May 29 at 7pm.

PRIDE in the Plaza: St. Ben's Discovery Team will have a table at Pride in the Plaza Saturday, May 31. It's an all-day event and we would like to have folks volunteer to be part of the St. Benedict's team at PRIDE for an hour or two during the day. Please reach out to Barbara Hirahara or Sandy Fischer to join the crew!

Morning Prayer continues! All are welcome, 8:30am each weekday morning (Monday-Friday), on zoom. The liturgy is approximately 30 minutes. No prior experience with Morning Prayer is needed or expected! Bring your Book of Common Prayer and Bible or follow along with "*Venite*" either via their website or their downloadable app. Join Morning Prayer by clicking through here: zoom link. The link is also below in "The Week Ahead" and on the website under "Worship.

Tuesday Morning Prayers & Spiritual Conversation: The Spiritual Conversation group will discussing ideas from the book My Life with the Saints by James Martin. Martin's inspiring, witty, and always fascinating memoir encompasses saints from the whole of Christian history. This rich, vibrant, stirring narrative shows how the saints can help all of us find our way in the world. You do not have to read the book to participate.10:30 on Zoom.

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.

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 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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