



St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ *Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos* ~

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 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

Welcome

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

(please stand as you are able)

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: *Glory to God for ever and ever.*

♪ Hymn #616

“Hail to the Lord's Anointed”

Blue Hymnal

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

People: *Amen*

(please be seated for the readings)

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Reader: A Reading from the book of Jeremiah

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me,
and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, "Where is the LORD
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land,
and made my heritage an abomination.

The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?"
Those who handle the law did not know me;

the rulers transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal,
and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD,
and I accuse your children's children.

Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.

Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.

Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
be shocked, be utterly desolate,

says the LORD,

for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,

the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,

cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.

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

People: *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

S415

Exultate Deo

The chant setting will be played once through, then all chant the Psalm together, changing tone for the bolded word

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



Sing with joy to God our **strength** *
and raise a loud shout to the God of **Jacob**.

I am the LORD your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and **said**, *
"Open your mouth wide, and I will **fill it**."

And yet my people did not hear my **voice**, *
and Israel would not o-**bey me**.

So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their **hearts**, *
to follow their own de-**vices**.

Oh, that my people would listen **to me**! *
that Israel would walk in my **ways**!

I should soon subdue their **enemies** *
and turn my hand against their **foes**.

Those who hate the LORD would cringe be-**fore him**, *
and their punishment would last for **ever**.

But Israel would I feed with the finest **wheat** *
and satisfy him with honey from the **rock**.

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Reader: A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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)

♪ **Hymn #536** (vs 1-2)

“Open Your Ears”

Blue Hymnal

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Berkeley Johnson

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

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

Adapted from Glimpses of Glory by David Adams

Holy One, it is you and your call that gives us life; without you we would be nothing, we would not even exist. Forgive our false pride and those times we jockey for position or belittle others.

Give your church true humility and a sense of hospitality to all.

We pray for those who preach and evangelize, and for all who face animosity for their faith. We remember all who have lost their way and are no longer living their vocation.

Gracious God, as you call us,

make us worthy of your calling.

We give thanks for all who care for those who are unhoused:

we pray for social workers, case managers, and care workers, and all who work to help others in need.

We remember the world's relief agencies, and the World Health Organization, the work of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent, and all who care for refugees and those caught up in the violence of war.

Gracious God, as you call us,

make us worthy of your calling.

We give thanks for all who have welcomed us into a community, or their home, all who have been hospitable, all who have shown us love.

We pray for all expressions of family life.

We remember all who are suffering from a breakdown in their relationships.

We ask that we may learn contentment and avoid greed.

Gracious God, as you call us,

make us worthy of your calling.

We remember all who have been diminished by others,

all who have little confidence, or have had their confidence eroded.

We ask your blessing upon all who live in hostile areas, in places of oppression, control, or abuse.

We remember all who are ill or suffering today. We remember all those named in our bidding book..

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

Gracious God, as you call us,
make us worthy of your calling.

We give thanks that you invite us into your kingdom,
that you have triumphed over death and offer us life eternal.
We pray today for loved ones and friends in your eternal presence.

Gracious God, as you call us,
make us worthy of your calling.

Silence

Celebrant: Gracious God, you are always more ready to hear us than we are to pray, and you give us more than we either desire or deserve. May we remember that all our gifts, abilities and life come from you, and grant that we may use them to your glory and to the benefit of others; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who is alive, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

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 our 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.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

The congregation may greet one another in the name of Christ.

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

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

The Offertory

You are invited to make a thank offering, but if you do not contribute financially today please give thanks for God's blessing as the plate is passed. You can contribute at our website www.stbenslososos.org at any time.



♪ Hymn #691

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Blue Hymnal

(please stand as you are able)

♪ 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

EOW Prayer 3

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant. The fourth staff is for the People.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: All thanks and praise
are yours at all times and in all places,
our true and loving God;
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,
the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.
You laid the foundations of the world;
you brought forth all creatures of the earth
and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
And so as the morning stars sing your praises
we join the heavenly beings and all creation
as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

WLP 785

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
 heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Words: Variation on a traditional liturgical text. Music: Composer of melody unknown; arr. based on a two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (b. 1933).

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:

“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:
“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for
you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and
ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your
earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All: *Dying, you destroyed our death.*
 Rising, you restored our life.
 Christ Jesus, come in glory!

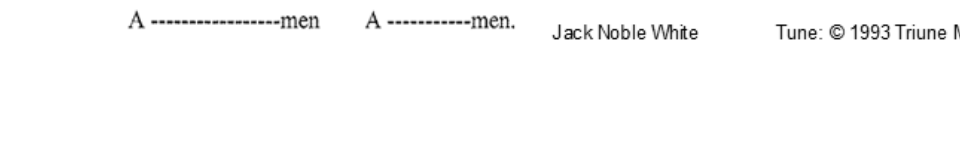
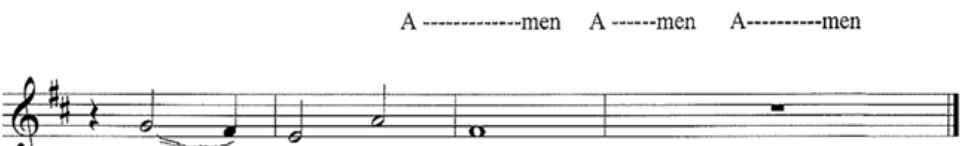
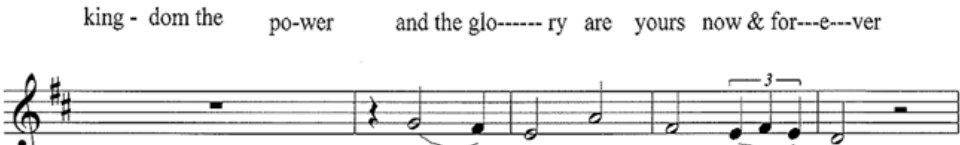
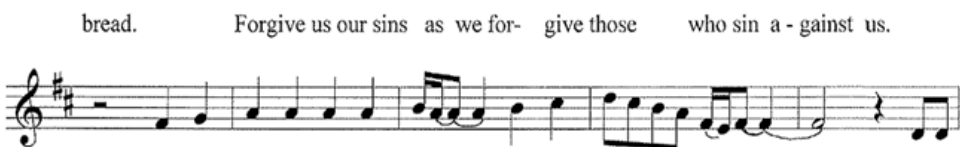
Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be
to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s
power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the
Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Benedict, the patron of
this house, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and
with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our
God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

The Lord’s Prayer

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



Our Fa-----ther in



Jack Noble White

Tune: © 1993 Triune Music,

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the Bread

Fraction

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

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

Celebrant: 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.

Holy Communion

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.

♪ Communion Music

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

♪ Hymn #487

“Come My Way”

Blue Hymnal

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***

(please stand as you are able)

Prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

♪ Hymn #450

“All Hail the Power”

Blue Hymnal

Dismissal

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

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

♪ Postlude

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

Today's Liturgy
is from the outline in the Book of Common Prayer.
Music reproduced and broadcast under OneLicense #A706314

Ministers of the Service

Presider:	The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	Berkeley Johnson
Eucharistic Minister:	Barbara Hirahara
Chalice:	Maureen Titus
Lector:	Bob Pelfrey
Flowers:	Sharon Porter
Ushers:	Maureen Titus & Sandy Fisher
Music:	Paul Burkle
Altar Guild:	Pat Stoneman
Online Host:	Don Maruska
Tellers:	Alice Welchert and Sandy Fisher
Technical:	Hannah Matthews
Coffee hour:	Jane Wu and Sharon Porter

This Week at St Ben's

Tuesday	Sep 2
9:45 a	Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
10:30 a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	Sep 3
4:00p	Community Dinner
Sunday	Sep 7
10:30a	Eucharist Service

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.

Announcements

Tuesday Morning Prayers & Spiritual Conversation: The Spiritual Conversation group is reading Pema Chödrön's book *When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times*. "The beautiful practicality of her teaching has made Pema Chödrön one of the most beloved of contemporary American spiritual authors among Buddhists and non-Buddhists alike. The book is a treasury of wisdom for going on living when we are overcome by pain and difficulties."

The Season of Creation begins in September: an international, ecumenical time of prayer, reflection, and action, it begins on September 1 with the World Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends on October 4, the Feast Day of St. Francis. The central theme for this year is "Peace with Creation," inspired by Isaiah 32:14-18:

Then justice will dwell in the wilderness
and righteousness abide in the fruitful field.
The effect of righteousness will be peace,
and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.
My people will abide in a peaceful habitation,
in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

Foundations of Creation Care and Creation Justice: On September 20, the diocesan Social Justice Committee is hosting a conference, *Spiritual Foundations of Creation Care and Creation Justice*, this is a one-day, in-person conference, and will be held at Church of the Good Shepherd, in Salinas. Folks from St. Ben's Earthcare are planning on driving up, if you'd like to coordinate a ride please reach out to the group. There is a link in the Benediction Weekly.

Blessing of the Animals will be in the yard at the Abundance Shop, on Saturday, October 4. We will have a short prayer service at 3pm, during which we'll bless those animals present, and offer prayers for all those companion animals we love. We could use some help planning and coming out on the day for this, so if you can help support this event, an important way St. Benedict's brings the love of God out into the community, please let Rev. Linzi know via email.



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

PO Box 6877

2220 Snowy Egret Lane

Los Osos, CA 93402

805-528-0654

office@stbenslososos.org

www.stbenslososos.org

