



# St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos ~

## The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 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

(please stand as you are able)

Officiant: Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People: ***Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.***

## ♪ Hymn #416

### "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Blue Hymnal

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu-man love, bro-ther, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For the Church which ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,

1 for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,  
 2 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,  
 3 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,  
 4 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,  
 5 of - fering up on ev - ery shore thy pure sac - ri - fice of love,

*Refrain*

Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

6 For each perfect gift of thine  
 to the world so freely given,  
 faith and hope and love divine,  
 peace on earth and joy in heaven,

*Refrain*

Words: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917), alt. Music: *Lucerna Laudoniae*, David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

## Collect of the Day

Officiant God be with you.

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

Celebrant:: O God, having shown us how far your love goes in saving the lost and forgotten, mercifully grant that we might join you in the work of reuniting with all creatures; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**People:** *Amen*

(please be seated for the readings)

## Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

*Reader: A Reading from the book of Jeremiah*

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse-- a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

"For my people are foolish,  
they do not know me;  
they are stupid children,  
they have no understanding.  
They are skilled in doing evil,  
but do not know how to do good."

I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void;  
and to the heavens, and they had no light.

I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking,  
and all the hills moved to and fro.

I looked, and lo, there was no one at all,  
and all the birds of the air had fled.

I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert,  
and all its cities were laid in ruins  
before the LORD, before his fierce anger.

For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not  
make a full end.

Because of this the earth shall mourn,  
and the heavens above grow black;  
for I have spoken, I have purposed;  
I have not relented nor will I turn back.

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

**People: Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 14

S414

### *Dixit insipiens*

1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*  
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.

- 2 The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, \*  
to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.
- 3 Every one has proved faithless;  
all alike have turned bad; \*  
there is none who does good; no, not one.
- 4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the LORD?
- 5 See how they tremble with fear, \*  
because God is in the company of the righteous.
- 6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
but the LORD is their refuge.
- 7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

## **Our Relationship with Creation**

*Reader: A Reading from The Art of the Commonplace, Wendell Berry*

“What is good for the world will be good for us. That requires that we make the effort to know the world and to learn what is good for it. We must learn to cooperate in its processes, and to yield to its limits. But even more important, we must learn to acknowledge that the creation is full of mystery; we will never entirely understand it.

We must abandon arrogance and stand in awe. We must recover the sense of the majesty of creation, and the ability to be worshipful in its presence. For I do not doubt that it is only on the condition of humility and reverence before the world that our species will be able to remain in it.”

*Reader: Here ends the reading*

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

# ♩ Hymn # 686

## “Come Thou Font of Every Blessing”

Blue Hymnal



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my  
2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



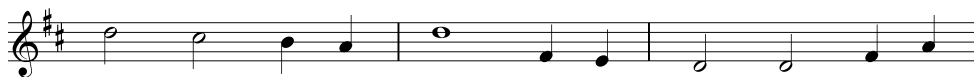
heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er  
by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good  
I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by  
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering  
prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me  
from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from  
leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934).

## **Luke 15:1-10**

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

*People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

*Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ*

*People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Mike Eggleston

[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 believe in God, who creates all things,  
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,  
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.  
We believe in God as the source of all life,  
who baptizes this planet with living water.*

*We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one,  
the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee,  
who loves and cares for this world  
and who suffers with it.*

*And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,  
who came to reconcile and renew this world  
and everything in it.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,  
who moves with God and who moves among  
and with us today.*

*We believe in everlasting life in God.  
And we believe in the hope that one day  
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.*

## **Prayers of the People**

Adapted from Glimpses of Glory by David Adams

Loving God, you come and seek us out,  
you call us and empower us to live to your glory,  
you are our Shepherd and guide, you are our God.  
We pray for all who have strayed from the faith, all who have  
got lost in various ways, especially any whose lives are in danger.  
We pray for shepherds of your flock, for all ministers, pastors,  
bishops, priests, and deacons.

Good and faithful Shepherd,  
**guide us into the ways of life and peace.**

God our protector, we remember before you all who work or live  
in dangerous place or hostile environments, all who are  
suffering at the time from storms and disasters, all who are  
caught up in strife and warfare.  
We pray for all who are seeking peace and well-being for the world.

Good and faithful Shepherd,  
**guide us into the ways of life and peace.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for all who have sought us out in times of

troubles, who have been a strength and a joy to us.  
We pray that you will guide all who teach and influence others.  
Let us know your presence in our communities and with our loved ones.  
Guide us in our choices and in our friendships.

Good and faithful Shepherd,  
**guide us into the ways of life and peace.**

We ask you to be with all who find themselves in a hard place:  
may your love and light protect the depressed and despairing;  
may your strength and hope be known to the discouraged.  
We ask you blessing upon all who are ill at home or in the hospital.



We remember especially all those who are 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]

Good and faithful Shepherd,  
**guide us into the ways of life and peace.**

We pray for all who are entering the shadow of death, and for their loved ones  
in their time of anxiety and sorrow.  
Bless all those who are in hospice, and all who take care of the terminally ill.  
We pray for all who have passed through death and entered life eternal.

Good and faithful Shepherd,  
**guide us into the ways of life and peace.**

Concluding collect:  
God, our Guide and Protector,  
we rejoice in your care,  
we know you will seek us out and save us:  
lead us, O God, and keep us in the ways that lead to peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



## Confession of Sin

Merciful and sustaining God,  
*we have sinned against you.*  
*We confess our lack of gratitude*  
*for the beauty and bounty of your creation:*  
*teach us to see that your earth sustains us*  
*and all that lives.*  
*We confess that we have misused your earth:*  
*grant us amendment of life.*  
*We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites:*  
*strengthen us in self-control.*  
*We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world*  
*for granted: make us urgent now for its protection.*  
*Forgive and renew us through our Savior Jesus Christ,*  
*by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live*  
*and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Officiant: May the All-Compassionate God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us 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](http://www.stbenslososos.org) at any time.*

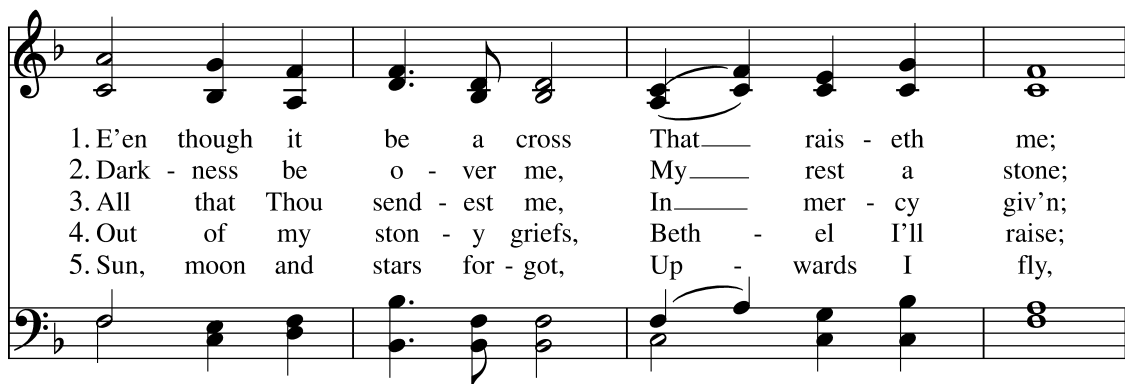
### ♪ Hymn

#### "Nearer my God to Thee"

LEVAS 54



1. Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee!  
2. Though like the wan - der - er, The sun goes down,  
3. There let the way ap - pear, Steps un - to heav'n;  
4. Then, with my wak - ing thoughts, Bright with Thy praise,  
5. Or if on joy - ful wing, Cleav - ing the sky,



1. E'en though it be a cross That — rais - eth me;  
2. Dark - ness be o - ver me, My — rest a stone;  
3. All that Thou send - est me, In — mer - cy giv'n;  
4. Out of my ston - y griefs, Beth - el I'll raise;  
5. Sun, moon and stars for - got, Up - wards I fly,

1. Still all my song would be  
 2. Yet in my dreams I'd be  
 3. An - gels to beck - on me Near - er, my God, to Thee,  
 4. So by my woes to be  
 5. Still all my song shall be

Near - er my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee.

Words: Sarah F. Adams (1805-1948). Music: *Bethany*, Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

(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***

## 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 ourselves 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.*

## The Lord's Prayer

**Officiant** As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,  
Holy One, our only Home,  
*hallowed be your name.*  
*May your day dawn,  
your will be done,  
here as in heaven.*  
*Feed us today,  
and forgive us as we forgive each other.*  
*Do not forsake us at the test,  
but deliver us from evil.*  
*For the glory, the power,  
and the mercy are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer written by Martha Blacklock, Mother Thunder Mission, "Honoring God in Creation"

# Blessing

Officiant: *May God light in us a holy fire, Light a fire that is worthy of our ancestors. Light a fire that is worthy of our children. Light a fire that is worthy of God. Now let us go in peace, lighting a holy fire wherever we go. Amen.*

## ♪ Hymn #397

## “Now thank we all our God”

Blue Hymnal

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voice - es,  
 2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us!  
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,

who won - drous things hath done, in whom his world re - joic - es;  
 With ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;  
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven,

who from our mo - ther's arms hath blessed us on our way  
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,  
 e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven a - dore;

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

Words: Martin Rinkart (1586-1649); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Nun danket alle Gott*, melody Johann Cruger (1598-1662); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), after Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1947).

## Dismissal

Officiant Tend the earth,  
 care for God's good Creation;  
 as you have received freely,  
 so give freely.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

## ♪ Postlude

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

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## **Ministers of the Service**

Preacher:	The Rev. Mike Eggleston
Liturgy Assistant:	Helen Schnieders
Lector:	Joe Morris
Flowers:	Brian Spolarich
Usher:	Maureen Titus
Usher:	Michael Lucas
Music:	Paul Burkle
Altar Guild:	Sarah Chesebro
Online Host:	Jane Wu
Teller:	Steve Cake
Teller:	Bryson McKelvey
Technical:	Hannah Matthews
Coffee Hour Host:	Connie Weldon

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

Tuesday	Sep 16
9:45 a	Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
10:30 a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	Sep 17
3:00 p	Earthcare Meeting (Zoom)
Saturday	Sep 20
9:00 a	Men's Breakfast
Sunday	Sep 21
10:30 a	Eucharist Service
12:15 p	Parish Council Meeting

## The Season of Creation

Today at 2pm, St. Ben's Earthcare is co-sponsoring, with the Sierra Club, a very special event for the Season of Creation! On a **one-mile guided stroll in SLO**, peek into the hidden lives of trees! We will walk past a dozen species notable for their age or uniqueness and pass several "*Heritage Trees*," chosen by SLO for their part in the city's history. Learn too some basic facts about tree ecology. John Ashbaugh, former city council member, will describe the Heritage Trees program. Meet at the corner of Buchon and Toro Streets. Call Leader: Joe Morris, 805-549-0355, for further information. If you'd like to join this event, we'd appreciate an RSVP to know who to expect, please RSVP via the link in the Benediction Weekly.

On **Saturday, 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.



## 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 next **Deanery Meeting** will be on Tuesday, September 16, at 6:30pm. This is the annual budget and resolution review meeting in preparation for diocesan convention on November 1. The meeting will be on Zoom only, and the links can be found on the diocesan website ([realepiscopal.org](http://realepiscopal.org)).

**The Feast of All Saints falls each year on November 1**, but it's a feast day which can be moved to Sunday, so this year we'll observe this major feast day on Sunday, November 2. All Saints' is the day on which we remember the exemplary lives of the saints of the church, known and unknown, who lived remarkable lives of holiness and faith; during this liturgy we give thanks for their witness to the Gospel, and all the ways their lives continue to serve as an inspiration for our own.

**All Souls' Day** is November 2, the day after All Saints'. This year we'll be celebrating the Feast of All Saints at our morning service on November 2, and so we will observe All Souls' later that same day (on 11/2), at 5pm, with a candlelit service. All Souls' is a powerful time of remembrance of all those we love but see no longer, all those who have died in the faith, our beloveds, those whose memories we cherish, all the 'ordinary' believers. There will be more to come about this service, in the meantime, please mark your calendars and let friends and loved ones who might be interested know that everyone is invited and welcome.

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 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](mailto:office@stbenslososos.org)**

**[www.stbenslososos.org](http://www.stbenslososos.org)**

