

St Benedict's Episcopal Church

~ Tending Mind and Soul in Los Osos ~

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 26, 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)

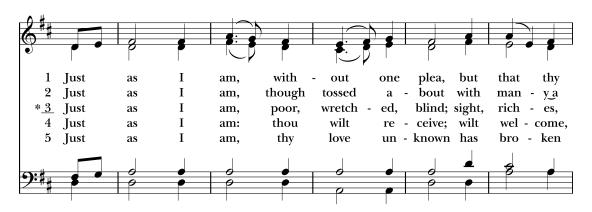
Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

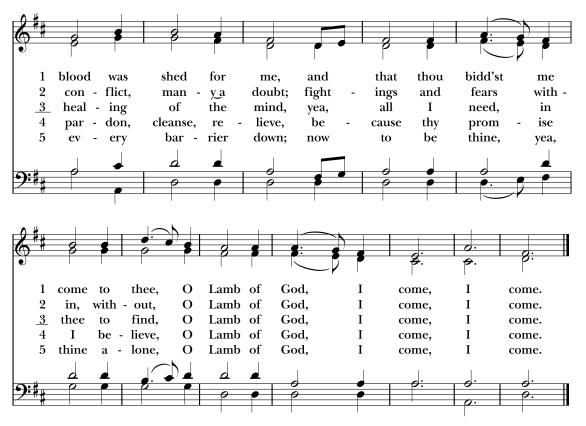
People: Glory to god for ever and ever.

J Hymn # 693

"Just as I am" (v. 1,2,4-6)

Blue Hymnal





6 Just as I am, of thy great love the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove, here for a season, then above: O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871). Music: Woodworth, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868).

Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith,

hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one

God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(please be seated for the readings)

Joel 2:23-32

Reader: A Reading from the book of the Prophet Joel

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God;

For he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.

And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

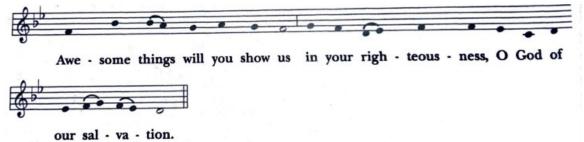
I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65

The Cantor will chant the Antiphon, it is then repeated by all. The Cantor will chant the Psalm, with all joining for the Antiphon.



Antiphon

1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; * to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, * because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, * but you will blot them out.
- 4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! * they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple. ANTIPHON
- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, *
 O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.
- 6 You make fast the mountains by your power; * they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas, * the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
- 8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
 you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy. ANTIPHON
- 9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; * the river of God is full of water.
- 10 You prepare the grain, * for so you provide for the earth.
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; * with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 You crown the year with your goodness, * and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, * and the hills be clothed with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; * let them shout for joy and sing. ANTIPHON

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

Reader: A reading from the second letter to Timothy

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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)



Luke 18:9-14

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

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Presider: 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

We give you thanks for the beauty, mystery, and wonder of creation; teach us to love the world with the great love that *you* have for the world. We pray that all within the church may show respect for the earth, that we will all be deeply involved in conversation and caring for the planet. At the same time, may we know that we are pilgrims on the earth. We pray for all who are seekers, all who look for purpose and meaning, all who teach and guide others in the way.

Loving God, restore your people. Guide us into the ways of peace.

We remember all who have become lost in their journey through life, all who struggle with substance abuse, all who are caught up in crime.

We pray for leaders of nations and people, for a right use of the wealth and resources of the earth.

We remember all who are suffering because of floods or famine, for all where the land is exhausted and crops are failing.

Loving God, restore your people. Guide us into the ways of peace.

We give thanks for our loved ones and all who have cared for us. We pray for all who have taught us to value our lives and each other. We pray for all who have lost vision or hope and have little support. We pray for our families and friends and those among whom we work.

Loving God, restore your people. Guide us into the ways of peace.

God of all power, we ask you to support all who are down: We pray for the exhausted, the weary and the worn, those who have run out of energy and all who can no longer cope on their own. We ask your blessing on all who are suffering from mental health issues. We pray for friends and loved ones who are ill.

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

Loving God, restore your people. Guide us into the ways of peace.

We think of all those who have run the race, finished the course and kept the faith:

We give thanks for your saints and all holy men and women.

O God, bless all our loved ones who are departed from us and keep them in life eternal.

Loving God, restore your people. Guide us into the ways of peace.

Presider: Almighty God, you hear the prayers of us all, and forgive the

sins of all who are penitent:

grant us a glimpse of your glory, a humility in our approach to you,

and a deep awareness of your presence and love;

through Jesus Christ our Savior,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Adapted from Glimpses of Glory by David Adam

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

AII:

Presider: 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 concerns, 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.



↑ Choir Anthem

"God So Loved the World"

Lloyd Larson

(please stand as you are able)

J 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

Iona

Presider:

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.

Presider: May Christ be with you,

All: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts,

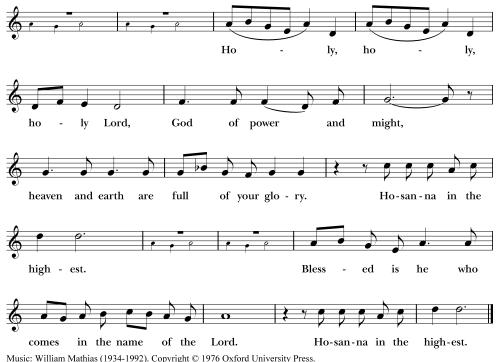
All: We lift them up to God.

Presider: Let us give thanks to God,

All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

Presider: 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:

∫ Sanctus s 128



o oxiora om versity i ress.

Presider 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 the bread 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.

Presider: 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

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

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

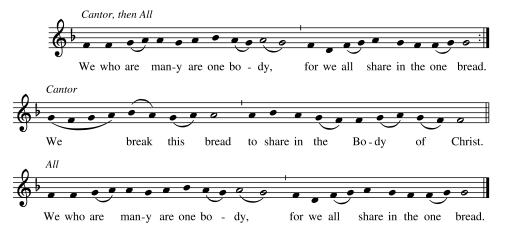
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.

Amen.

from A New Zealand Prayer Book

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the Bread



Setting: Mode 6, based on *Ubi caritas*, adapt. David Hurd © 1998 David Hurd. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Holy Communion

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

↑ Communion Music

Original Improvisation
Paul Burkle

♪ Hymn # 645"The King of love my shepherd is" (1,2,5,6) Blue Hymnal



Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: St. Columba, Irish melody, harm. Hymnal 1982.

Silence

(please stand as you are able)

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.

Presider: 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.

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

(please stand as you are able)

J Hymn # 439

1 What

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To

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"What wonderous love is this"

Blue Hymnal

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Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835. Music: Wondrous Love, from The Southern Harmony, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b. 1926).

Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God.

♪ Postlude

Original Improvisation Paul Burkle

Eucharist Liturgy Adapted from The Iona Abbey Worship Book
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Ministers of the Service

Presider: Rev. Linzi Stahlecker Preacher: Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

Altar Guild: Lisa Gonzalez
Eucharistic Minister: Alan Kiste
Chalice: Brian Spolarich

Lector: Jane Wu Flowers: Sharon Porter

Ushers: Brian Spolarich & Barbara Schippers

Intercessor: Sandy Fisher Music: Paul Burkle

Tellers: Bryson McKelvey & Alice Welchert

Technical: Hannah Matthews

Coffee Hour Host: Kathy West

This Week at St Ben's

Monday Oct 27

8:30 a Morning Prayers (Zoom)

Tuesday Oct 28

8:30 a Morning Prayers (Zoom)

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

Wednesday Oct 29

8:30 a Morning Prayers (Zoom)

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

Thursday Oct 30

8:30 a Morning Prayers (Zoom)

6:00 p Choir Practice

Friday Oct 31

8:30 a Morning Prayers (Zoom)

Sunday Nov 2

10:30 a All Saints' Sunday Service

12:15 p Potluck

5:00 p All Souls' Service

Announcements

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 (https://www.venite.app/)

or their downloadable app. Join Morning Prayer by finding the link on the website Calendar Page or Worship Page.

Tuesday Morning Prayers & Spiritual Conversation: The Tuesday Morning Prayer and the Spiritual Conversation groups have resumed meeting. The Spiritual Conversation is reading and discussing 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 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.

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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