



St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

Tending Mind & Soul in Los Osos, CA

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, **you are welcome here!**

If the customs of the Episcopal Church are unfamiliar to you,
you're invited to simply rest into this sacred time and space,
and let the congregation carry you in worship.

Your presence here today is a blessing!

December 28th, 2025

The First Sunday of Christmas

~ Prelude ~ "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" - arr Carol Tornquist

Welcome

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

♫ Hymn #376

“Joyful, joyful we adore thee”

Blue Hymnal

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, bloom-ing mea-dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di-vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

Presider: Blessed are you, holy, and living One.

People: *You come to your people and set them free.*

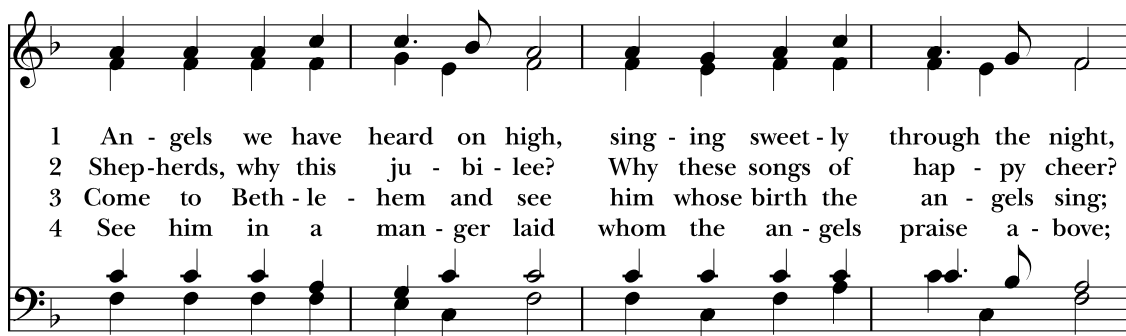
Presider: Let us pray.

All: All-compassionate and most merciful God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

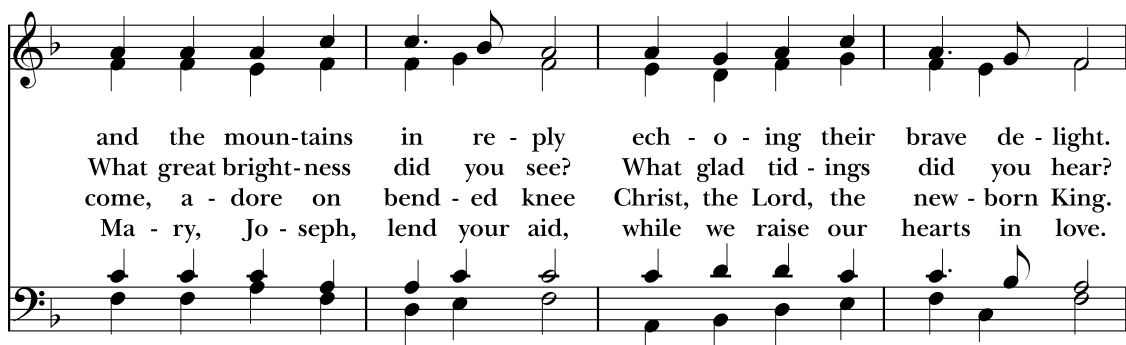
♩ Hymn #96

“Angels we have heard on high”

Blue Hymnal



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain continued on page 4

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Presider: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

People: *Amen*

(please be seated for the readings)

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Reader: A Reading from the book of Isaiah

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

♪ Psalm 147:13-21

Chanted by all on a single note moving to the next note for the bolded word

S410

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



13 Worship the Lord, O Je-**ru**salem; *
praise your God, O **Z**ion;

14 For he has strengthened the bars of
your **g**ates; *
he has blessed your children with-**i**n you.

15 He has established peace on your **b**orders; *
he satisfies you with the finest **w**heat.

16 He sends out his command to the **e**arth, *
and his word runs very **s**wiftly.

17 He gives snow like **w**ool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like **a**shes.

18 He scatters his hail like **b**read crumbs; *
who can stand against his **c**old?

19 He sends forth his word and **m**elts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters **f**low.

20 He declares his word to **J**acob, *
his statutes and his judgments to **I**srael.

repeat the second half of the chant for the final verse

21 He has not done so to any other **n**ation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Halle-**l**ujah!

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Reader: A Reading from Galatians?

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through 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 #98

“Unto us a boy is born” (vs 1, 4 only)

Blue Hymnal



1 Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre -
 2 Cra - dled in a stall was he with sleep - y cows and
 3 He - rod then with fear was filled; “A prince,” he said, “in
 4 Now may Ma - ry’s son, who came so long a - go to
 *5 Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre -



1 a - tion, came he to a world for - lorn, the
 2 ass - es; but the ve - ry beasts could see that
 3 Jew - ry!” All the lit - tle boys he killed at
 4 love us, lead us all with hearts a - flame un -
 5 a - tion, came he to a world for - lorn, the



1 Lord of ev - ery na - - - - - tion.
 2 he all men sur - pass - - - - - es.
 3 Beth - le - hem in his fu - - - - - ry.
 4 to the joys a - bove - - - - - us.
 5 Lord of ev - ery na - - - - - tion.

Words: Latin carol, 15th cent., tr. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936), alt. Music: *Puer nobis nascitur*, melody from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; harm. Geoffrey Turton Shaw (1879-1943).

John 1:1-18

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

People: ***Glory to You, Lord Christ.***

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Presider: *The Gospel of Christ.*

People: ***Praise to You, Lord Christ.***

[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

In peace, we pray to you, Creator God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who
are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and those in need.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and *Lucinda* our Bishop; and
for all bishops and all other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation

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

Hear us, O God;
For your mercy is great.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in
your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Holy One, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Presider: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and
earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and
strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.*

Presider: 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

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

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

"Peace on Earth"

Errollyn Wallen

Brian Spolarich and Alan Kiste, soloists

(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

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

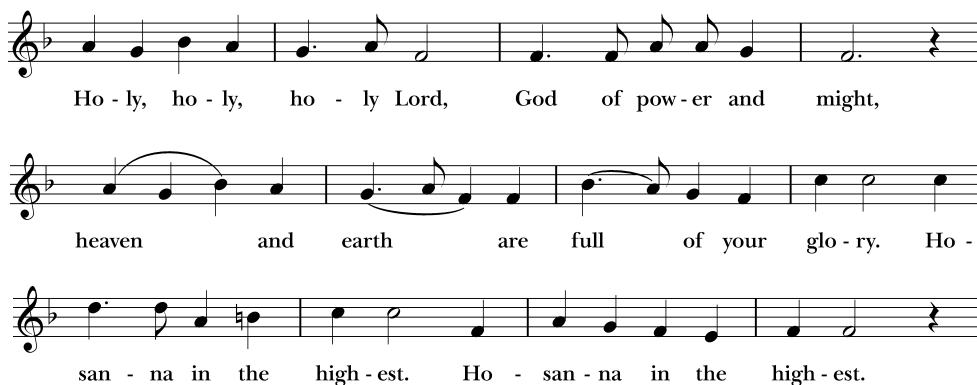
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Presider: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant.
From before time you made ready the creation.
Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being:
sun, moon, and stars;
earth, winds, and waters;
and every living thing.
You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.
But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;
and yet, as a parent cares for their children,
you would not forget us.
Time and again you called us
to live in the fullness of your love.

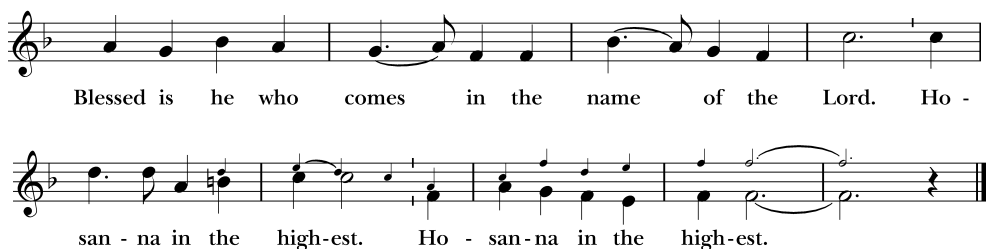
And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,
lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

♪ Sanctus

S125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death
and to reveal the riches of your grace,
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,
that she might conceive and bear a son,
Jesus the holy child of God.
Living among us, Jesus loved us.
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.
He yearned to draw all the world to himself
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
the sacrifice of his life,
and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

“Take, eat:

This is my Body, which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
with Benedict and all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

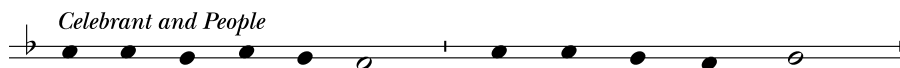
All: ***Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.***

♪ The Lord's Prayer

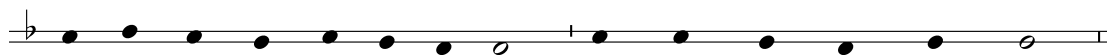
S148



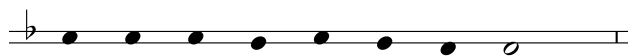
As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,



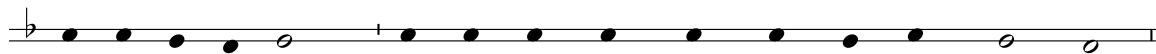
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



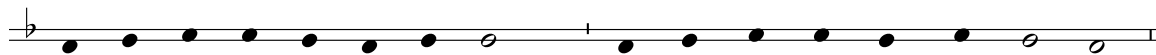
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



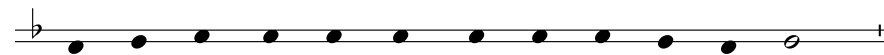
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



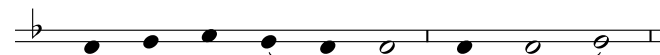
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,



now and for ev - er. A - men.

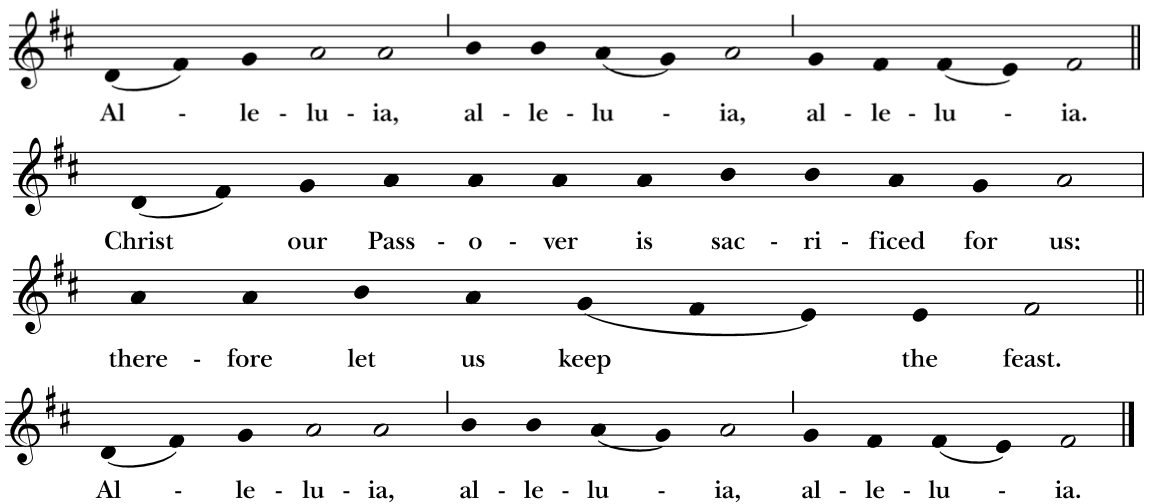
Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the Bread

♪ Fraction Anthem

S154



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

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

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

Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland (Now Come Savior of the Gentiles) J.S. Bach, arr Ferruccio Busoni
Ann Lucas

♩ Hymn #115

“What child is this”

Blue Hymnal

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in, such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here, the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

Refrain continues on next page

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to
bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: *Greensleeves*, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871.

Silence

(please stand as you are able)

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

♩ Hymn #99


“Go tell it on the mountain”

Blue Hymnal

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

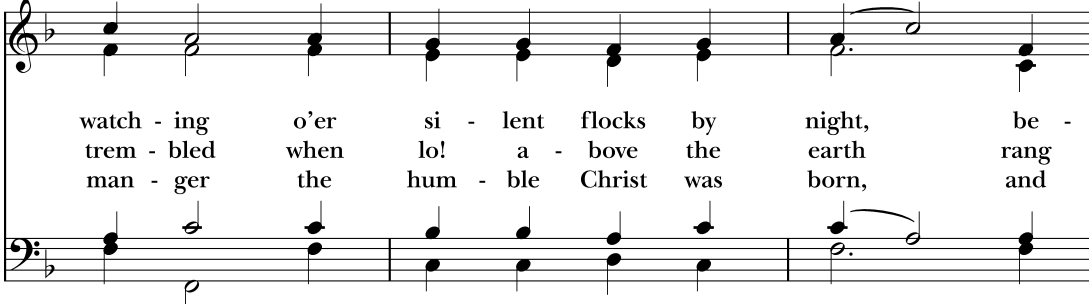


ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that



Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their
2 The shep - herds feared and
3 Down in a low - ly



watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Continues on next page

Repeat Refrain

hold, through-out the hea-vens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Words: African-American spiritual 19th cent.; adapt. John W. Work (1901-1967). Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent.; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Arrangement, Copyright © 1984, Horace Clarence Boyer.

Dismissal

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

All: *Thanks be to God.*

♪ Postlude

O Come All Ye Faithful arr David Willcox

Ann Lucas

Eucharist Liturgy Adapted from Enriching Our Worship
© 1988 Church Publishing Incorporated Used with permission
Music reproduced and broadcast under OneLicense #A706314

Ministers of the Service

Presider:	Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	Lisa Gonzalez
Altar Guild:	Diana Hammerlund
Eucharistic Minister:	Helen Schnieders
Chalice:	Maureen Titus
Lector:	John Horsely
Flowers:	Sharon Porter
Usher:	Marueen Titus
Usher:	Jim Malone
Music:	Ann Lucas
Online Host:	Elaine Beckham
Tellers:	Alice Welchert, Steve Cake
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews

This Week at St. Ben's

Monday	Dec 29
8:30 a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
Tuesday	Dec 30
8:30 a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
9:45 a	Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
10:30 a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
Wednesday	Dec 31
8:30 a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
11:00 a	Laundry Love
4:00 p	Laundry Love
Thursday	Jan 1
8:30 a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
	NO CHOIR
Friday	Jan 2
8:30 a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
Sunday	Jan 4
12:30 p	Potluck

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

