



# **St. Benedict's Episcopal Church**

**Tending Mind & Soul in Los Osos, CA**

## **Christmas Day**

**~ Prelude ~**

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

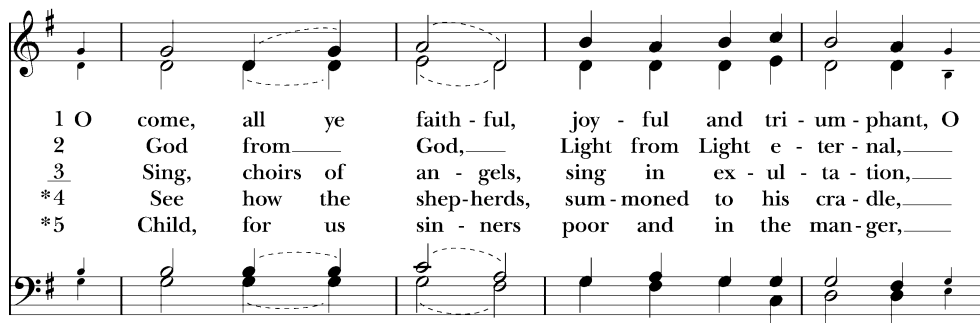
**Welcome**

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

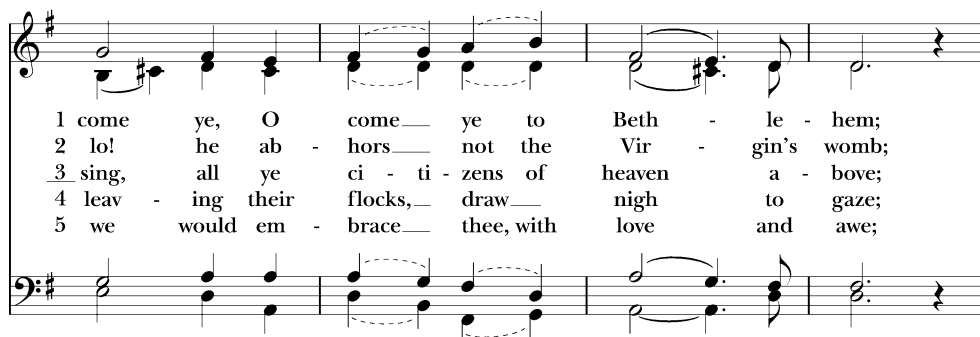
# ♫ Hymn #83

## “O Come All Ye Faithful” (v.1-3, 6 only)

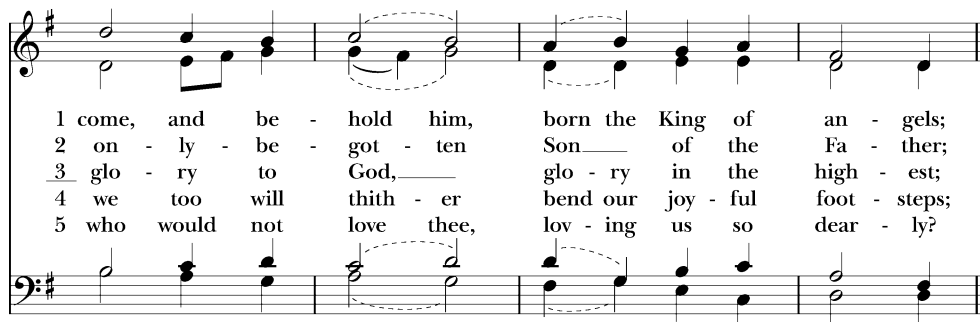
Blue Hymnal



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2 God from — God, — Light from Light e - ter - nal, —  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —  
 \*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle, —  
 \*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger, —



1 come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 2 lo! he ab - hors — not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
 4 leav - ing their flocks, — draw — nigh to gaze;  
 5 we would em - brace — thee, with love and awe;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son — of the Fa - ther;  
 3 glo - ry to God, — glo - ry in the high - est;  
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -



6      Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
              born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
 Word of the Father,  
              now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. The *English Hymnal*, 1906.

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

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

Celebrant: 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 #102

## “Once in Royal David’s City” (v. 1,2,4 only)

Blue Hymnal



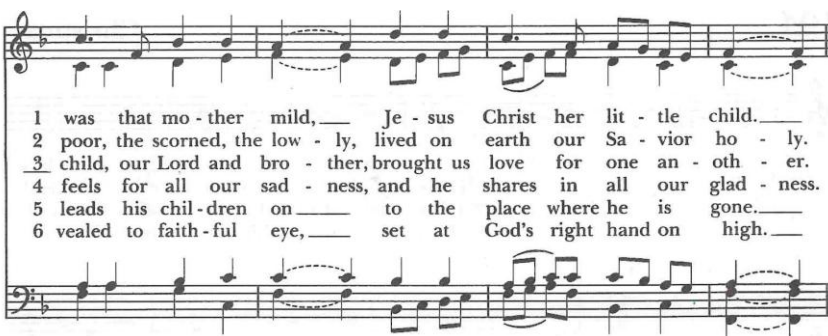
1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a  
 2 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is  
 \*3 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a  
 4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,  
 \*5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his  
 6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the



1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her  
 2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a  
 3 sta - ble should dis - play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre -  
 4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -  
 5 own re - deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so  
 6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in



1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry  
 2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the  
 3 a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas Day, yet this  
 4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he  
 5 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he  
 6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -



1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —  
 2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.  
 3 child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.  
 4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 5 leads his chil - dren on — to the place where he is gone. —  
 6 vealed to faith - ful eye, — set at God's right hand on high. —

## Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: *Amen*

(please be seated for the readings)

## Isaiah 52:7-10

Reader: *A Reading from the book of Isaiah*

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

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

*People: Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 98

S410

The words of the Psalm are sung by the congregation to the first reciting note, moving to the next note for the word in bold.

Robert Knox Kennedy  
(b. 1945)



Sing to the Lord a **new song**, \*  
for he has done marvelous **things**.

With his right hand and his holy **arm** \*  
has he won for himself the **victory**.

The Lord has made known his **victory**; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the **nations**.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of **Israel**, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our **God**.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you **lands**; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and **sing**.

Sing to the Lord with the **harp**, \*  
with the harp and the voice of **song**.

With trumpets and the sound of the **horn** \*  
shout with joy before the King, the **Lord**.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is **in it**, \*  
the lands and those who dwell there-**in**.

Let the rivers clap their **hands**, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the **earth**.

In righteousness shall he judge the **world** \*  
and the peoples with **equity**.

## Hebrews 1:1-4

*Reader: A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

*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 #99

“Go tell it on the mountain”

Blue Hymnal

*Refrain*

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

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves, a treble staff and a bass staff, both in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes. The refrain is marked with a repeat sign at the beginning of the first line of music.

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

*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.



## **John 1:1-14**

*Gospeller: 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.

*Gospeller: 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

adapted from Prayers for the Church Year: Clouds and Glory by David Adam

Jesus, Son of Mary, you have come among us, to be one of us.

We welcome you into our homes, we welcome you into our hearts, we welcome you into our lives. Let all who come to your church worship with the shepherds, and adore you with the wise men. We pray for the time when the whole world may know your love and saving power. Empower your church to show forth your glory.

Prince of peace,  
**reveal to us your glory.**

The peace of your presence be upon your troubled world, the power of your presence protect us from evil, the light of your presence scatter the darkness from before us. Give peace on earth, peace among the nations and peace in each land.

Prince of peace,  
**reveal to us your glory.**

Fill us with wonder and awe, fill us with joy and thanksgiving, that our lives may proclaim your grace and your glory. Be known in our homes, in our lives, and in all our dealings.

Prince of peace,  
**reveal to us your glory.**

You could find no room at the inn. We remember before you all who are unhoused and can find no place of rest. We pray for all who are lonely and feel neglected this Christmas, for those who will spend Christmas in hospital, for all those who are ill.

We pray for 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]

Prince of peace,  
**reveal to us your glory.**

We rejoice that you became human that we might share in the Divine; you came down to

lift us into your kingdom. We pray for all our loved ones departed and that we may share with them in a vision of your glory.

Prince of peace,  
**reveal to us your glory.**

Celebrant: Christ Jesus, may we come to worship you with the shepherds, proclaim you with the angels, seek you with the wise men, offer ourselves to you with Joseph and Mary, and rejoice in your love, Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.  
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.

## **The Offertory**

You are invited to make a thank offering. If you are not able contribute financially today please give thanks for God's blessing as the plate is passed.



# ♪ Hymn

## “Ding Dong Merrily on High”



1,4. Ding dong! mer - ri - ly on high in  
 Ding dong! ver - i - ly the sky is  
 2. E'en so here be - low, be - low, let  
 And i - o, i - o, i - o, by  
 3. Pray you, du - ti - ful - ly prime your  
 May you beau - ti - ful - ly rime your



1,4. heav'n the bells are ring - ing:  
 riv'n with An - gel sing - ing.  
 2. stee - ple bells be swung - en,  
 priest and peo - ple sung - en.  
 3. Mat - in chime, ye ring - ers;  
 Eve - time Song, ye sing - ers:



1-4. Glo - - - -



1-4. - - - ri - a, Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis!

Text: George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1848–1934.

Music: melody fr. *Orchésographie*, 1588, by Thoinot Arbeau, 1519–1595.

(please stand as you are able)

## ♪ Doxology:

[Hymn tune #400]

*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*

*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.

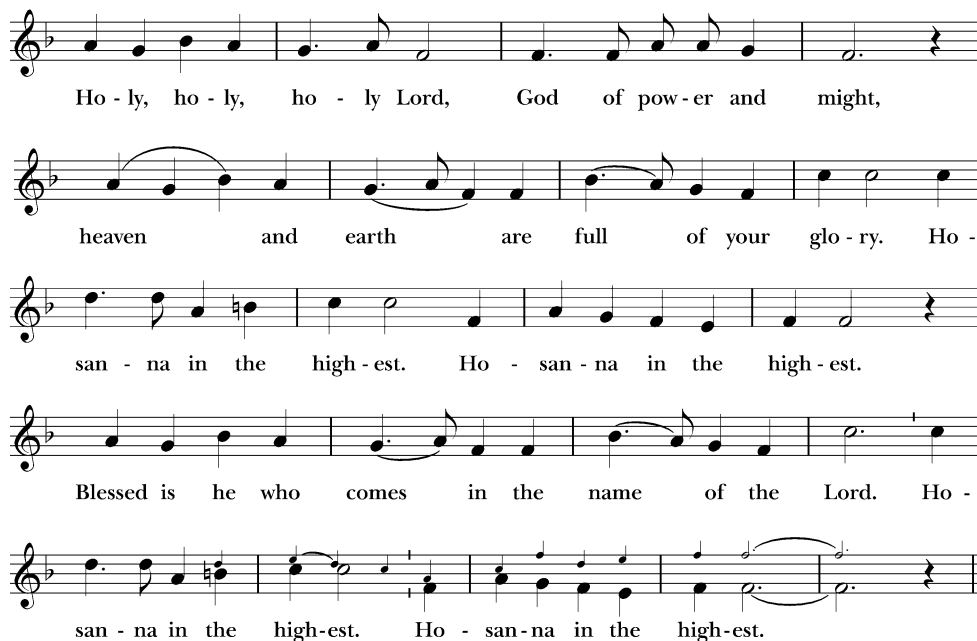
Celebrant

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.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. 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 Celebrant 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.

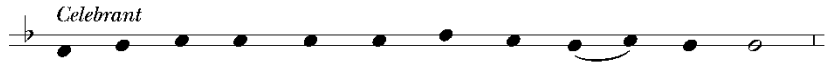
In the fullness of time bring us,  
with Benedict and all your saints,  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

*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.*



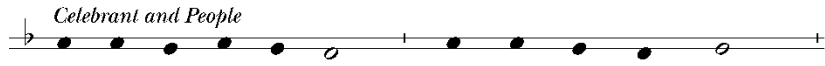
# The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant*

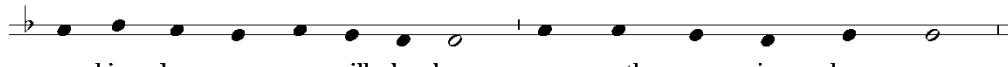


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

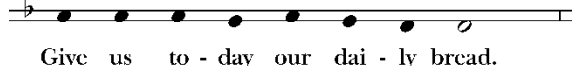
*Celebrant and People*



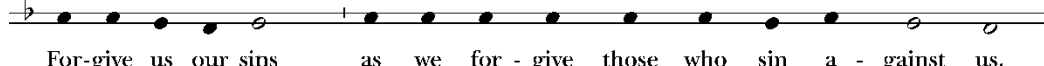
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



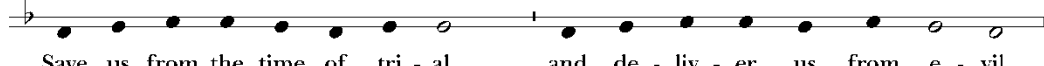
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



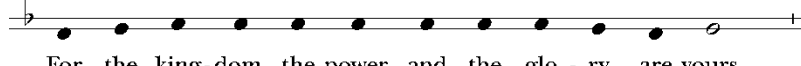
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



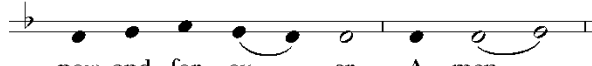
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



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.

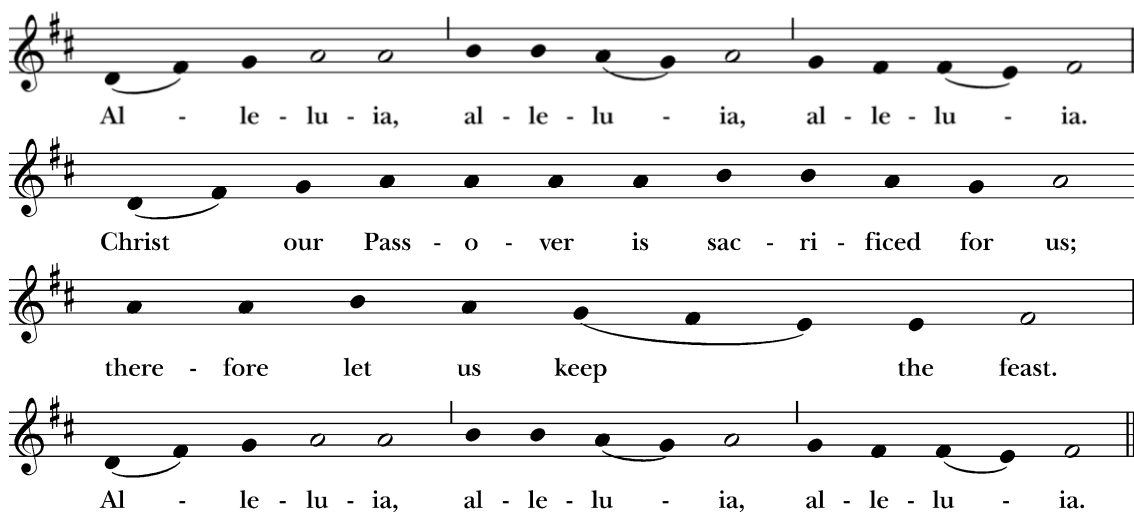
Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

## The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant 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) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff contains the first line of the anthem, the second and third staves contain the second line, and the fourth staff contains the third line. The music is written in a single voice part.

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

## Holy Communion

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

*If God is calling you, you are welcome 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 #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

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

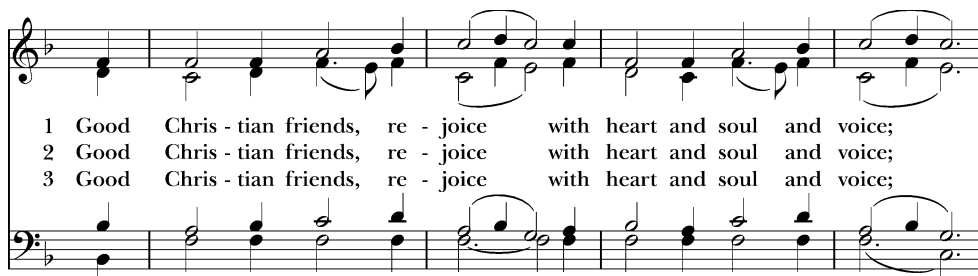
***God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen***

## Blessing

# ♫ Hymn #107

## “Good Christian friend”

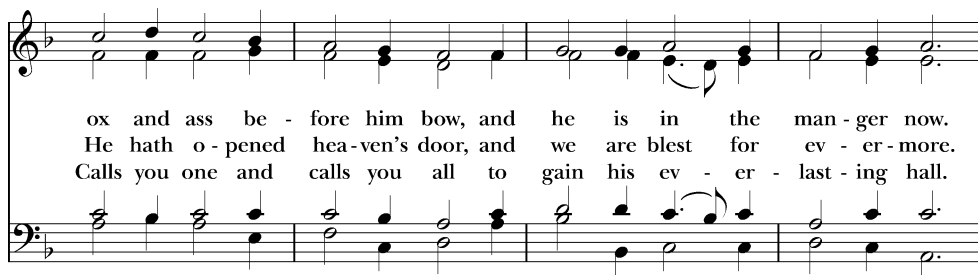
Blue Hymnal



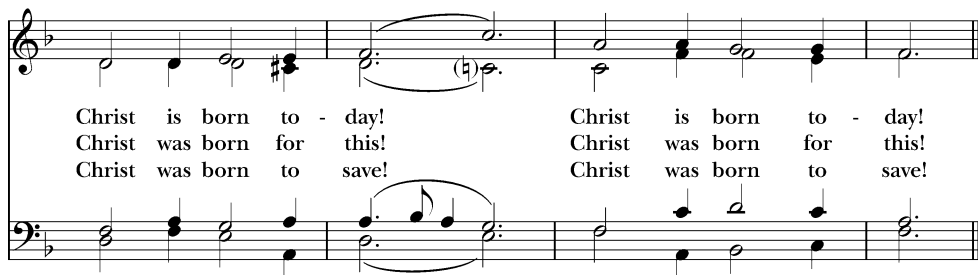
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

## Dismissal

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

*All: Thanks be to God.*

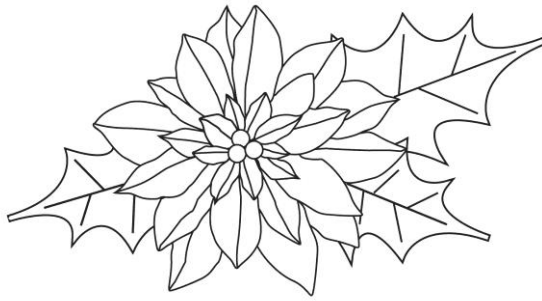
## ♪ Postlude

*Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

## **Ministers of the Service**

Celebrant:	Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Altar Guild:	Diana Hammerlund
Eucharistic Minister:	Michael Lucas
Lector:	Roz Malone
Flowers:	Sharon Porter, Elaine Beckham
Usher:	Jim Malone
Music:	Paul Burkle
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews



## **Poinsettia Flowers**

### **In Memory Of:**

Dale George  
Kevin Cadigan  
Norma Knowles Hall  
Anna Louise Brennan  
Dorothy & Harry Richards  
Bob Gilchrist  
Bill West  
Rhoda Parker  
Kathy Burgoz  
Wil & Roberta Tufford

### **In Honor Of:**

Brian Spolarich & Alan Kiste's Mothers

### **In Thanksgiving For:**

Marianne Higdon's children & grandchildren  
The St. Benedict's Community



## **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

Los Osos, CA 93402

805-528-0654

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

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

