



**St. Benedict's
Episcopal Church**

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

**March 22nd, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent**

~ **Prelude** ~

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

Welcome

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

Presider: Blessed be the God of our salvation:

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

The Decalogue

BCP Pg.350

Presider: Hear the commandments of God to God's people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.

People: *Amen. God have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. God have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. God have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. God have mercy.

Honor those who gave you life.

Amen. God have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. God have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. God have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. God have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. God have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. God have mercy.

Presider:

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Confession of Sin

Presider: Let us confess our sins to God.

All: *God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.*

Absolution

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.

Trisagion

Sung three times

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first system consists of two staves: a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The vocal line has lyrics 'Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords. The second system also has two staves. The vocal line has lyrics 'Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.' and ends with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and ends with a double bar line.

Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Presider: Let us pray

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

please be seated for the readings

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reader: A Reading from the book of Ezekiel

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act,” says the LORD.

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

People: Thanks be to God

♪ Psalm 130

s411

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)

1 Out of the depths have I called to
you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my **voice**; *
let your ears consider well the
voice of my supp-**lication**.



2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done a-**miss**, *
O Lord, who could **stand**?

3 For there is forgiveness **with you**; *
therefore you shall be **feared**.

4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for **him**; *
in his word is my **hope**.

5 My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the **morning**, *
more than watchmen for the **morning**.

6 O Israel, wait for the **Lord**, *
for with the Lord there is **mercy**;

repeat the second half of the chant for the last verse

7 With him there is plenteous re-**demption**, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their **sins**.

Romans 8:6-11

Reader: *A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans*

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

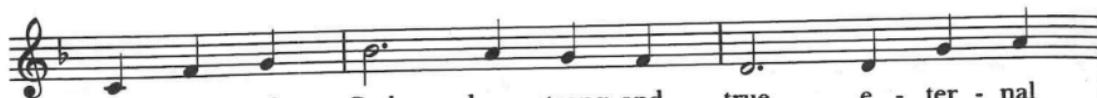
If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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 #455** "O love of God how strong and true" vs 1 & 4 only Blue Hymnal



1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal
2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee
3 We read thee best in him who came to bear for
4 We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the



and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -
in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -
us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on
dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion



bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.
low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.
high, our life to live, our death to die.
light we read the full - ness of thy might.

John 11:1-45

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

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

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Gospeller: *The Gospel of Christ*

People: *Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

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

Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

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

Come, Holy God, like the wind, move us, direct us.

Come as the breath, fill us, refresh us.

Come to your church, which without you is dull and dry, and fill us with your Spirit.

Call us out of death and darkness into life and light.

We pray for the renewal of your church in its devotion and mission,
for all who proclaim your life-giving power and share in your redeeming
love.

Come, Holy God, restore, renew,
revive your people.

We pray for all who feel all hope is lost, who feel cut off from life.
We pray for all whose lives have been hard to live by others, especially for
refugees and displaced peoples,
all who flee from oppression and tyranny and war,
for all who have been made homeless,
for all who have suffered abuse or violence.

Come, Holy God, restore, renew,
revive your people.

We pray for all who live in spaces and places where communities have
broken down.

And we pray for friends and loved ones who are worn out, we pray for all
who are in relationships that are struggling to survive.

Come, Holy God, restore, renew,
revive your people.

We pray for our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in
authority, that they may bring about an end to all wars, and strive always
for a just peace.

We pray for all who are ill,
and for all who are feeling weak and are navigating health issues of all
kinds.

We pray for all who are bereaved.

We remember before you all who are at risk of giving up on life.

We pray for all who are suffering today.

We pray for 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]

Come, Holy God, restore, renew,
revive your people.

We give you thanks for all who have been an example for us of love, and who have now entered your greater glory.
May we be inspired by their lives
and seek to live for your praise and glory.

Come, Holy God, restore, renew,
revive your people.

Concluding collect:

Almighty God, you have challenged the powers of death and darkness through your Son, and have committed your church to share in your redeeming works. Grant that we, who bear witness to your saving power, may do so in our own lives; through him who died for us and rose again, Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit is one God for ever and ever. *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

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

The Offertory

You are invited to make a thank offering. If you do not contribute financially today please give thanks for God's blessing as the plate is passed. You can also contribute by scanning the QR Code or at our website www.stbenslososos.org



♪ Hymn #707

“Take my life”

Blue Hymnal

1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;

take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

Take my hands, and let them move at the im-pulse of thy love;
 Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.

take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
 Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), alt. Music: *Hollingside*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

please stand as you are able

♪ Doxology:

Hymn tune #377

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Holy Eucharist

BCP Eucharistic Prayer A (expansive language)

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

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

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

Presider
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Presider It is truly right, and good and a joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

♪ Sanctus

S131



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

The Presider continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: ***Christ has died.***
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Presider We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ: By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the Bread

♪ Fraction Anthem

S 166



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on
us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, re-deem - er of the world: give us your peace.

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.

♪ Communion Music *Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

♪ Choir Anthem

“Instrument of Peace”

Greg Gilpin

Silence

Prayer

*Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.*

*And now send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

Solemn Prayer Over the Assembly

Presider: Let us bow down before God,

*All bow their heads and remain bowed as the Presider prays over the assembly.
At the conclusion of the prayer, all respond Amen.*

Presider: Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your peoples; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

♪ Hymn #508

“Breathe of me, Breath of God”

Blue Hymnal

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die;

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do or to en - dure.
till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889), alt. Music: *Nova Vita*, Lister R. Peace (1885-1969).

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: *Thanks be to God. (no Alleluias during Lent)*

♪ Postlude

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

Ministers of the Service

Presider:	The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Eucharistic Minister:	Diana Hammerlund
Chalice:	Maureen Titus
Lector:	Ed Valentine
Lector:	Connie Weldon
Music:	Paul Burkle
Ushers:	Jim Malone & Maureen Titus
Intercessor:	Sandy Fisher
Altar Guild:	Lisa Gonzalez
Tellers:	Bryson McKelvey, Diana Hammerlund
Online Host:	Don Maruska
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews
Coffee Hour Host:	Christa & Keith Matthews

This Week at St Ben's

Monday	March 23
8:30a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
8:30p	Compline (Zoom)
Tuesday	March 24
8:30a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
9:45a	Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
10:30a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
8:30p	Compline (Zoom)
Wednesday	March 25
8:30a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
8:30p	Compline (Zoom)
11:00a	Laundry Love
4:00p	Laundry Love
Thursday	March 26
8:30a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
6:00p	Choir Practice
8:30p	Compline (Zoom)
Friday	March 27
8:30a	Morning Prayers (Zoom)
8:30p	Compline (Zoom)

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.



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