



St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

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

September 20th, 2026 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

~ Prelude ~

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

Welcome

The Rev. Linzi

Stahlecker

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

People: ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

Presider: Let us pray.

**Almighty 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.***



1 Praise the Spi - rit in cre - a - tion, breath of God, life's
 2 Praise the Spi - rit, close com - pan - ion of our in - most
 3 Praise the Spi - rit, who en - light - ened priests and pro - phets
 4 Tell of how the a - scend - ed Je - sus armed a peo - ple
 5 Pray we then, O Lord the Spi - rit, on our lives de -
 6 Praise, O praise the Ho - ly Spi - rit, praise the Fa - ther,



1 or - i - gin: Spi - rit, mov - ing on the wa - ters,
 2 thoughts and ways; who, in show - ing us God's won - ders,
 3 with the word; his the truth be - hind the wis - doms
 4 for his own; how a hun - dred men and wo - men
 5 scend in might; let your flame break out with - in us,
 6 praise the Word, Source, and Truth, and In - spi - ra - tion,



1 quick - ening worlds to life with - in, source of breath to
 2 is him - self the power to gaze; and God's will, to
 3 which as yet know not our Lord; by whose love and
 4 turned the known world up - side down, to its dark and
 5 fire our hearts and clear our sight, till, white - hot in
 6 Trin - i - ty in deep ac - cord: through your voice which



1 all things breath - ing, life in whom all lives be - gin.
 2 those who lis - ten by a still small voice con - veys.
 3 power, in Je - sus God him - self was seen and heard.
 4 fur - thest cor - ners by the wind of hea - ven blown.
 5 your pos - ses - sion, we, too, set the world a - light.
 6 speaks with - in us we, your crea - tures, call you Lord.

The Creation Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Presider: Grant us, Lord, your vision of a renewed earth in which heaven comes to rest; and even now, while we too often despair of healing and wholeness, to hold fast to your promise and commit again to active hope; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Exodus 16:2-15

Reader: A Reading from the book of Exodus

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

The Psalm is chanted by all on a single note, moving to the next note with the word in bold



- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his **Name**; *
make known his deeds among the **peoples**.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises **to him**, *
and speak of all his marvelous **works**.
- 3 Glory in his holy **Name**; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord re-**joice**.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his **strength**; *
continually seek his **face**.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has **done**, *
his wonders and the judgments of his **mouth**,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his **servant**, *
O children of Jacob his **chosen**.
- 37 He led out his people with silver and **gold**; *
in all their tribes there was not one that **stumbled**.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their **going**, *
because they were afraid **of them**.
- 39 He spread out a cloud for a **covering** *
and a fire to give light in the night **season**.

- 40 They asked, and quails ap-**peared**, *
and he satisfied them with bread from **heaven**.
- 41 He opened the rock, and water **flowed**, *
so the river ran in the dry **places**.
- 42 For God remembered his holy **word** *
and Abraham his **servant**.
- 43 So he led forth his people with **gladness**, *
his chosen with shouts of **joy**.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the **nations**, *
and they took the fruit of others' **toil**,

repeat the second half of the chant for the last verse

- 45 That they might keep his **statutes** *
and observe his laws.
Halle-lujah!

A Reading from *To Live Is to Love*, by Ernesto Cardenal

All animals who lift their voices at dawn sing to God. The volcanoes and the clouds and the trees cry to us about God. The whole creation cries to us penetratingly with a great joy about the existence and the beauty and the love of God. The music roars it into our ears, the landscape calls it into our eyes. In all of nature we find God's initials, and all God's creatures are God's love letters to us.

All of nature burns with love created through love to light love in us. Nature is like a shadow of God, a reflection of God's beauty. The still, blue lake is a reflection of God. In every atom lives an image of the trinity, a figure of the trinitarian God. And also my own body is created to love God. Each of my cells is a hymn about the Creator and an ongoing declaration of love.

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

♫ Hymn #148

“Creator of the earth and skies” (vs. 1 and 5 only)

Blue Hymnal



1 Cre - a - tor of the earth and skies, to whom the
 2 We have not known you: to the skies our mon - u -
 3 We have not loved you: far and wide the wreck - age
 4 For this, our fool - ish con - fi - dence, our pride of
 5 Teach us to know and love you, Lord, and hum - bly



1 words of life be - long, grant us your truth to make us
 2 ments of fol - ly soar, and all our self - wrought mis - er -
 3 of our ha - tred spreads, and e - vils wrought by hu - man
 4 know-ledge and our sin, we come to you in pen - i -
 5 fol - low in your way. Speak to our souls the quick - ening



1 wise; grant us your power to make us strong.
 2 ies have made us trust our - selves the more.
 3 pride re - coil on un - re - pent - ant heads.
 4 tence; in us the work of grace be - gin.
 5 word, and turn our dark - ness in - to day.

Matthew 20:1-16

Deacon: *The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ According to Matthew*

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

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them,

‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them,

‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Presider: The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

A moment of silence to contemplate the sermon

Profession of Faith

from Gurukul Lutheran Theological College
and Research Institute (a seminary in South India), adapted by Keld B. Hansen.

All: **We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one,
the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.
We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

Prayers of the People

We pray for Christians in all parts of the world where they are persecuted,
we pray for those who face cynicism in this country, at home or at work,
we pray for all who are afraid to confess their faith.

Christ, in your mercy
help us to love.

Bless all employers with a spirit of fairness and grace.

We remember all who are ready and able to work but cannot find employment.

We pray for all who are unemployed and underemployed,
for those on low incomes,
those struggling on low, fixed incomes,
for those who cannot get work because of prejudice or discrimination.

May all who prosper be generous and willing to share from their own resources.

Christ, in your mercy
help us to love.

We give thanks for all who supply us with the things we need.
We remember all those who will go hungry today,
all those who are in great debt,
all those who do not have housing.

Christ, in your mercy
help us to love.

We remember all who are unable to work due to chronic illness or disability,
and we pray for all who cannot be employed because they are the caregiver for a loved one,
we remember, also, those who must rely on others to provide for their needs.

We pray for all those in need, and we remember before you 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]

Christ, in your mercy
help us to love.

We give thanks for all who have labored in this life and now know your eternal rest; may we, with them, rejoice in your love and generosity in your everlasting kingdom.

Christ, in your mercy
help us to love.

Presider: Holy One, teach us to live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.
Let us not be intimidated by opposition or criticism.
Keep us firm in the faith you have set before us;
through Christ, who has triumphed and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit
for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Confession

**Holy and merciful God,
we confess that we have failed to honor you
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.
We have walked heavily on your earth,
overused and wasted its resources,
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,
holding future generations hostage to our greed.
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.
Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as
you desire and intend,
with grateful and compassionate hearts,
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Absolution

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

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 for travel, may come forward. Prayers can be found on the card in your pew.

The Offertory

You are invited to make a thank offering. If you cannot 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 #778

“We all are one in mission”

WLP



1. We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,
 2. We all are called for ser-vice to wit-ness in God's name.
 3. We all be - hold one vi - sion, a stark re - al - i - ty;
 4. Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent, our pur - pose is the same:
 the stew - ard of sal - va - tion was nailed up - on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,
 Yet res - ur - rect - ed Jus - tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo - ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.
 free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

♫ 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

Holy Eucharist

EOW Prayer 2

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 Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notes are simple, using quarter and half notes, with some beamed eighth notes for emphasis.

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 mother cares for her 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

S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and

might, hea - ven 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._____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

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.

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

by Martha Blacklock, Mother Thunder
Mission, "Honoring God in Creation,"

Presider: As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

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

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the Bread

♪ Fraction Anthem

S 166



Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

Presider: This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

People: **All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.**

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

♪ Hymn #157

"God in His Love for Us"

Take Up the Song

Si

1 God in his love for us lent us this plan-et, gave it a
2 Thanks be to God for its boun-ty and beau-ty, life that sus-
3 Long have our hu-man wars ruin-ed its har-vest; long has earth
4 Earth is the Lord's: it is ours to en-joy it, ours, as his

pur- pose in time and in space; small as a spark from the
tains us in bod-y and mind; plen-ty for all if we
bowed to the ter-ror of force; long have we wast-ed what
stew- ards, to farm and de-fend. From its pol-lu-tion, mis-

fire of cre-a-tion, cra-dle of life and the home of our race.
learn how to share it, rich-es un-dreamed of to fath-om and find.
oth-ers have need of, poi-soned the foun-tain of life at its source.
use, and des-truc-tion, good Lord, de-liv-er us, world with-out end.

(please stand as you are able)

Prayer

Post communion prayer 4 from "Prayers of Intercession for
Creation Time 2012," prepared by Sister Catherine Brennan SSL and
Sister Ann Concannon SSL for Churches Together in Britain and
Ireland (CTBI)

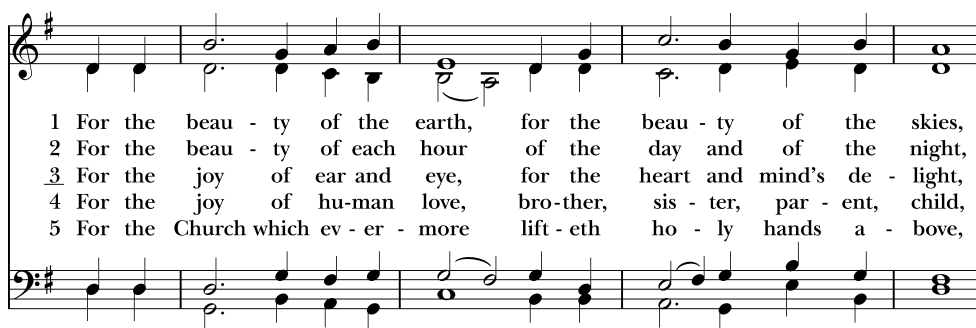
All: **Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God,
that the gifts of your Spirit may work
in us and renew the face of the earth.
May we be one with you
so that our work is yours
and your work is ours.
Lead us to transform our lives
to reflect your glory in Creation;
through Jesus Christ our Savior
who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing

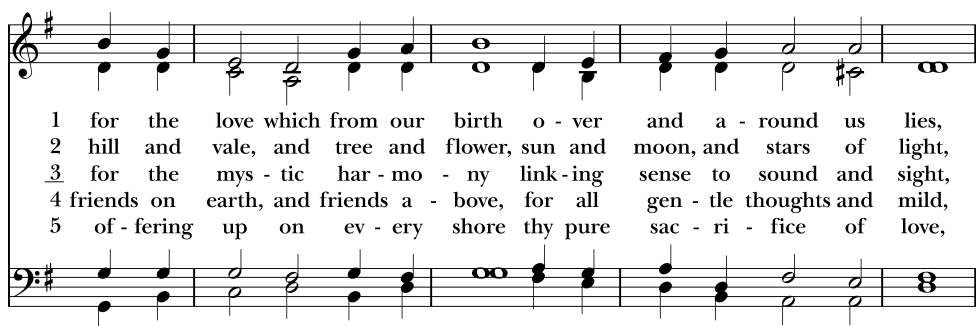
♩ Hymn #416

“For the beauty of the earth” (vs. 1, 2 and 6 only)

Blue Hymnal

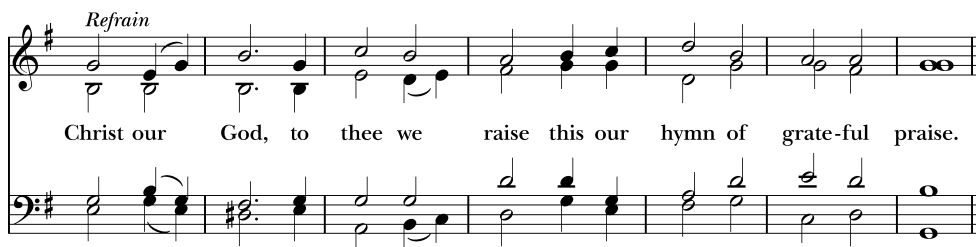


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
 2 For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, bro-ther, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For the Church which ev - er -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



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

Refrain



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

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

Refrain

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

Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

♪ Postlude *Original Improvisation*

Paul Burkle

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Ministers of the Service

Presider:	The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Sharon
Dalrymple	
Altar Guild:	Lisa Gonzalez
Eucharistic Minister:	Maureen Titus
Chalice:	The Rev. Deacon Sharon
Dalrymple	
Lectors:	Ed Valentine, Michael
Eggleston	
Flowers:	Elaine Beckham
Usher:	Brian Spolarich
Usher:	Connie Weldon
Music:	Paul Burkle
Intercessor:	Louisa Beeler
Tellers:	Diana Hammerlund
Online Host:	Elaine Beckham
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews
Coffee Hour Host:	Pamela Bleisch-Strawn, Connie Weldon

This Week at St. Ben's

Monday	Sep 21
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
Tuesday	Sep 22
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
9:45 a	Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
10:30 a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
11:30 a	Bible Study
5:30 p	Centering Prayer (in-person only)
5:30 p	Parish Council
Wednesday	Sep 23
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
3:00 p	Earthcare Meeting
5:30 p	Engaging Questions Workshop
Thursday	Sep 24
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
6:00 p	Choir Practice
Friday	Sep 25
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)

Land Acknowledgment

St. Benedict's acknowledges 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 the people of this parish 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 invites spiritual growth through joyful sacramental worship, loving service, creative expression, thoughtful inquiry, and commitment to social justice.

Our Inclusivity Statement

St. Benedict's strives to welcome all, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic condition, or physical or mental ability.



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