

**St. Benedict's
Episcopal Church
Tending Mind & Soul
in Los Osos, CA**

November 1st, 2026

All Saints' Day

&

**The Witnessing and Blessing of
Jane & Sharon's Lifelong Covenant**

~ Prelude ~

Original Improvisation

Paul Burkle

Liturgy of the Word:

*At the sound of the bell, please remain seated as we observe a time of
silence to remember our faithful departed.*

Please remain seated for the Opening Hymn.

♫ Hymn #90 “All Praise to You for Honored Souls” Take Up the Song



1 All praise to you for hon - ored souls and saints who leave no name,
2 All thanks for those of qui - et grace who trust your will and way,
3 Let us, as chil - dren of your love, be proph - ets of your peace
4 May we so walk on earth with you that heav - en's will is done,



who prac - tice jus - tice through their deeds and take no thought for fame.
and, with ex - am - ples Je - sus gives, walk in your will to - day.
from whom the poor can hear good news and cap - tives find re - lease.
and, through your pres - ence, come to know our heav - en has be - gun.

Welcome

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

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

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

Presider: Beloved, let us love one another,

People: **For love is of God.**

Presider: Since God so loves us,

People: **Let us love one another.**

Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Presider: Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. ***Amen.***

Presider: This morning we pray also for our dear friends, Jane and Sharon. Let us all now pray.

All: ***O God, faithful and true,
whose steadfast love endures for ever:
we give you thanks for sustaining Sharon and Jane in the life
they share and for bringing them to this day.
Nurture them and fill them with joy in their life together,
continuing the good work you have begun in them;
and grant us, with them, a dwelling place eternal in the heavens
where all your people will share the joy of perfect love,
and where you, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, live and reign,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

please be seated for the readings

Revelation 7:9-17

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Revelation

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!
Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows."

Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

♪ Psalm 34:1-10,22

S413

1 I will bless the LORD at **all times**; *
his praise shall ever be in my
mouth.



2 I will glory in the LORD; *
let the humble hear and re-**joice**.

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; *
let us exalt his Name to-**gether**.

4 I sought the LORD, and he **answered me** *
and delivered me out of all my **terror**.

5 Look upon him and be **radiant**, *
and let not your faces be a-**shamed**.

6 I called in my affliction and the LORD **heard me** *
and saved me from all my **troubles**.

7 The angel of the LORD encompasses those who **fear him**, *
and he will de-**liver them**.

8 Taste and see that the LORD is **good**; *
happy are they who trust in **him**!

9 Fear the LORD, you that are his **saints**, *
for those who fear him lack **nothing**.

10 The young lions lack and suffer **hunger**, *
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is **good**.

repeat the second half of the chant for the last verse

22 The LORD ransoms the life of his **servants**, *
and none will be punished who trust in **him**.

1 John 3:1-3

Reader: A Reading from the first Letter of John

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed.

What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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 #637 "How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord" (verse 1) Blue Hymnal

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
1 is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
1 to you that for refuge to Je - sus have fled?

Matthew 5:1-12

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

People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to You, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker

A time of silence & stillness is observed.

The Witnessing of the Vows and the Blessing of the Covenant

- Presider: Who presents Jane and Sharon, as they seek the blessing of God and the Church on their love and life together?
- Presenters: We do.
- Presider: Will you love, respect, and pray for Jane and Sharon, and do all in your power to stand with them in the life they share?
- Presenters: We will.

The Presider then addresses the couple, saying:

Sharon and Jane, you have come before God and the Church to exchange solemn vows with one another and to ask God's blessing.

The Presider addresses one member of the couple, saying:

- Presider: Sharon, do you freely and unreservedly offer yourself to Jane?
- Answer: I do.
- Presider: Will you continue to live together in faithfulness and holiness of life as long as you both shall live?
- Answer: I will, with God's help.

The Presider addresses the other member of the couple, saying:

- Presider: Jane, do you freely and unreservedly offer yourself to Sharon?
- Answer: I do.
- Presider: Will you continue to live together in faithfulness and holiness of life as long as you both shall live?
- Answer: I will, with God's help.

The assembly stands, the couple faces the People, and the Presider addresses them, saying:

- Presider: Will all of you gathered to witness these vows do all in your power to uphold and honor this couple in the covenant they make?
- People: We will.**
- Presider: Will you pray for them, especially in times of trouble, and celebrate with them in times of joy?
- People: We will.**

The Presider then introduces the prayers

Leader: For Sharon and Jane, seeking your blessing and the blessing of your holy people;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For a spirit of loving-kindness to shelter them all their days;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For friends to support them and communities to enfold them;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For peace in their home and love in their family;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the honesty to acknowledge when they hurt each other, and the humility to seek each other's forgiveness and yours;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the outpouring of your love through their work and witness;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the strength to keep the vows each of us has made;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who have been reborn and made new in the waters of Baptism;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For those who lead and serve in communities of faith;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For those who seek justice, peace, and concord among nations;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For those who are sick or suffering, unhoused or in poverty;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For victims of violence and those who inflict it;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need, especially for those in our Bidding Book:

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

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For communion with all who have died, especially all those whom we
remember
this day;

Loving God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Presider:

Giver of every gift, source of all goodness,
hear the prayers we bring before you,
especially the prayers we bring before you for Jane and
Sharon, who seek your blessing this day.
Strengthen them as they share in the saving work of Jesus,
and bring about for them and for all you have created
the fullness of life he promised,
who now lives and reigns for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The congregation is seated.

The Commitment

Presider: Sharon and Jane, I invite you now, illumined by the Word of God and strengthened by the prayer of this community, to make your covenant before God and the Church.

The couple, in turn, takes the right hand of the other and makes their vow

In the name of God,
I, Sharon, give myself to you, Jane, and take you to myself.
I will support and care for you by the grace of God:
in times of sickness, in times of health.
I will hold and cherish you in the love of Christ:
in times of plenty, in times of want.
I will honor and keep you with the Spirit's help:
in times of anguish, in times of joy,
forsaking all others, as long as we both shall live.
This is my solemn vow.

In the name of God,
I, Jane, give myself to you, Sharon, and take you to myself.
I will support and care for you by the grace of God:
in times of sickness, in times of health.
I will hold and cherish you in the love of Christ:
in times of plenty, in times of want.
I will honor and keep you with the Spirit's help:
in times of anguish, in times of joy,
forsaking all others, as long as we both shall live.
This is my solemn vow.

Presider: Let us pray.
By the rings which they have worn, faithful God,
Jane and Sharon have shown to one another and the world
their love and faithfulness.
Bless now these rings,
that from this day forward
they may be signs of the vows Sharon and Jane have
exchanged in your presence and in the communion of your
Church, through Christ our Savior. ***Amen.***

Pronouncement

The Presider joins the right hands and says:

Now that Sharon and Jane have exchanged vows of love and fidelity
in the presence of God and the Church,
I now pronounce that they are bound to one another
as long as they both shall live. **Amen.**

Blessing of the Couple

As the couple stands, the Presider invokes God's blessing upon them, saying:

Let us pray.
Most gracious God,
we praise you for the tender mercy and unfailing care
revealed to us in Jesus the Christ
and for the great joy and comfort bestowed upon us
in the gift of human love.
We give you thanks for Jane and Sharon,
And the covenant of faithfulness they have made.
Pour out the abundance of your Holy Spirit upon them.
Keep them in your steadfast love;
protect them from all danger;
fill them with your wisdom and peace;
lead them in holy service to each other and the world.

God, the holy and undivided Trinity,
bless, preserve, and keep you,
and mercifully grant you rich and boundless grace,
that you may please God in body and soul.

God make you a sign of the loving-kindness and steadfast
fidelity manifest in the life, death, and resurrection of our
Savior, and bring you at last to the delight of the heavenly
banquet, where he lives and reigns 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

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 #516

“Come down, O love divine”

Blue Hymnal



1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

♫ 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

Eucharistic Prayer B

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Presider and the People, with the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff is for the Presider and the People, with the lyrics 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff is for the Presider, 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.'

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.

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

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

♪ Sanctus

WLP 858

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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 he 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, according to his command, O Father,

All: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

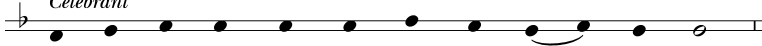
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Benedict and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

♪ The Lord's Prayer

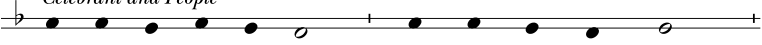
S148

Celebrant

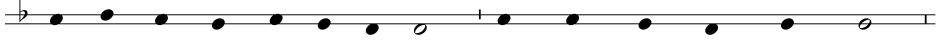


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

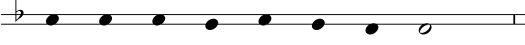
Celebrant and People



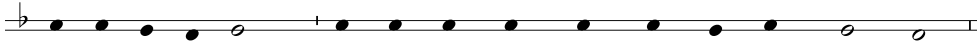
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



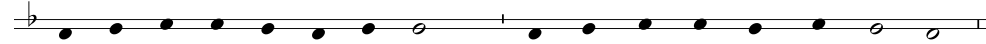
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



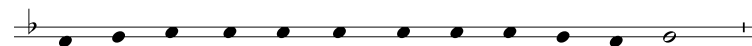
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



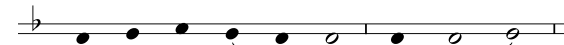
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



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.

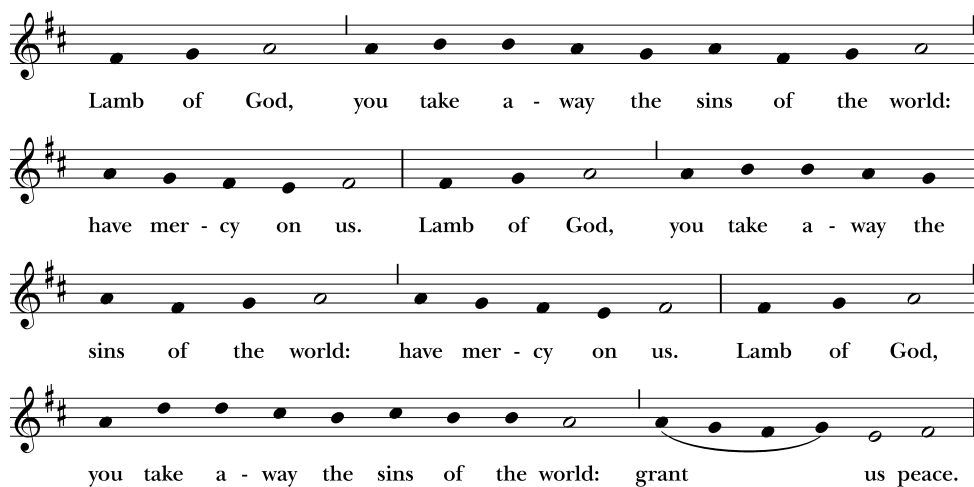
Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the Bread

♪ Fraction Anthem

S161



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainson*; 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.

♪ Solo

"O love" by Elaine Hagenberg

Soloist: Alan Kiste

A time of silence and stillness is observed

(please stand as you are able)

Prayer

*God our strength and joy,
we thank you for the communion of our life together,
and for the Sacrament of the Body and Blood
of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that it may renew our hope
and nourish us for the work you set before us
to witness to the presence of Christ in the world,
through the power of your Spirit,
and to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Blessing

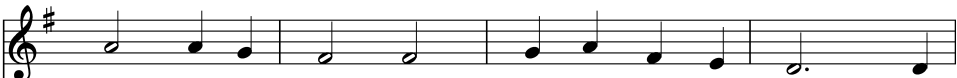
♪ Hymn #775

“Give thanks for life”

WLP



1. Give thanks for life, the meas - ure of our days,
2. Give thanks for those who made their life a light
3. And for our own, our liv - ing and our dead,
4. Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain



mor - tal, we pass through beau - ty that de - cays, yet
caught from the Christ flame burst - ing through the night, who
thanks for the love by which our life is fed, a
ly - ing in dark - ness does its life re - tain, in



sing to God our hope, our love, our — praise, }
touched the truth, who burned for what is right, } Al -
love not changed by time or death or dread, }
res - ur - rec - tion to grow green a - gain.



le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

The congregation is invited to be seated for the Choir Anthem

♪ Choir Anthem
"Swingin' With the Saints"
arr. Mark Hayes

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Ministers of the Service

Presider:	Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Preacher:	Rev. Linzi Stahlecker
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Sharon Dalrymple
Altar Guild:	Rev. Dr. Caro Hall
Eucharistic Minister:	Helen Schnieders
Chalice:	Jane Wu
Lectors:	Bob Pelfrey, Maureen Titus
Flowers:	Sharon Porter
Usher:	Barbara Schippers
Usher:	Ron Thompson
Music:	Paul Burkle
Intercessor:	Lisa Gonzalez
Tellers:	Alice Welchert, Steve Cake
Online Host:	Elaine Beckham
Technical:	Hannah-Jaye Matthews
Coffee Hour Host:	Potluck

This Week at St. Ben's

Monday	Nov 2
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
Tuesday	Nov 3
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
9:45 a	Prayers for the Morning (Zoom)
10:30 a	Spiritual Conversation (Zoom)
11:30p	Bible Study
Wednesday	Nov 4
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
3:00 p	Earthcare
Thursday	Nov 5
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
6:00 p	Choir Practice
Friday	Nov 6
8:30 a	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
Saturday	Nov 7
3:00 p	Readers Theater Performance
Sunday	Nov 8
10:30 a	Bishop's Visit

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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