



St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

Called to Be... A Safe Place for All of God's People!

All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at God's Table. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the Bread or Wine, you are welcome. Come forward and simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate your preference.

PRELUDE Prepare the Royal Highway

Wilbur Held
(1914-2015)

Please stand as you are able until the Lessons.

OPENING HYMN #56 in *The Hymnal* (blue book)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Please sing stanzas 3 and 4 only

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II begins on page 355 in The Book of Common Prayer (red book).

The Word of God

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE THREE-FOLD KYRIE

Priest Lord, have mercy.
People *Christ, have mercy.*
Priest Lord, have mercy.

Priest Lord, have mercy.
People *Christ, have mercy.*
Priest Lord, have mercy.

Priest Lord, have mercy.
People *Christ, have mercy.*
Priest Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The people sit.

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like

the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Benedixisti, Domine

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
 you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
 and blotted out all their sins.
8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
 for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
 and to those who turn their hearts to him.
9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
 that his glory may dwell in our land.
10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
 righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
 and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
 and our land will yield its increase.
13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
 and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Epistle: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able for the hymn and the Gospel.

GRADUAL HYMN #65 in *The Hymnal* (blue book)
 Prepare the way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark.

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
 who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join in the coffee hour after the service in the Parish Hall. Exit the door on the front left of the church, the Parish Hall is the next building over.

HUB (*Helping Urban Bicyclists*)

The HUB could use your financial support. Checks marked "HUB" may be mailed to the church office, 316 N El Dorado St., Stockton, CA 95202.

CONTACT INFORMATION

<p>St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church 316 N El Dorado Street Stockton, CA 95202</p> <p>Stockton's historic Episcopal Church, founded in 1850 on land donated by Captain Weber, the founder of Stockton.</p> <p>Part of the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin The Rt. Rev. David C. Rice, Bishop The Rev. Linda Huggard, Priest The Rev. Steve Bentley, Deacon Brother Dunstan Townsend, OSB, Organist</p>	<p>Church Office: (209) 466-6916 episcopalangel@outlook.com www.stjohnsstockton.org diosanjoaquin.org www.anglicancommunion.org</p> <p>St. John the Evangelist on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnstocktonca</p> <p>The HUB (<i>Helping Urban Bicyclists</i>) on Facebook: www.facebook.com/STOCKTONHUB HUB Phone: (209) 663-9955 Tues & Thurs 10:00-4:00, Wed 1:00-4:00</p>
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Coming Events

Christmas Handbell Concert

TODAY, beginning at 2:00 PM.
Presented by the San Joaquin Ringers Community Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Br. Dunstan.
No admission charge.

Note

Sunday, December 24th, at 10:30 AM we will offer Morning Prayer for the Fourth Sunday in Advent.

Christmas Service

At 5:00 PM on the 24th, we will celebrate the Holy Eucharist of Christmas Eve. Come early to join in singing carols. There will not be a service on Christmas Day.

