



St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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 7 and 8 only

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Morning Prayer: Rite II

*Today's service begins with one of the Advent sentences on page 75 in *The Book of Common Prayer* (red book).*

Morning Prayer has a number of options, but the service will generally continue forward in the book. An exception is the Prayers of the People that are later in the book, following which we return to Morning Prayer.

CONFESSION OF SIN

*Page 79 in *The Book of Common Prayer*.*

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*Page 80 in *The Book of Common Prayer*.*

THE ANTIPHON FOR ADVENT

Officiant Our King and Savior now draws near:
People **Come let us adore him.**

VENITE or JUBILATE as announced

*Page 82 in *The Book of Common Prayer*, read by all.*

THE ANTIPHON FOR ADVENT IS REPEATED

All **Our King and Savior now draws near: Come let us adore him.**

THE PSALM

Canticle 3

Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *

and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *

and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; *
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen

THE LESSONS

The people sit.

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

CANTICLE *The Canticle will be announced, please stand as you are able, then be seated for the reading.*

Romans 16: 25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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

CANTICLE *The Canticle will be announced, please stand as you are able until after the Gospel.*

GRADUAL HYMN #265 in *The Hymnal* (blue book)
The angel Gabriel from heaven came

Gabriel's Message

Luke 1:26-38

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born

will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed *Page 96 in The Book of Common Prayer*

THE PRAYERS *Page 97 in The Book of Common Prayer*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Prayers of the People, *the page number in The Book of Common Prayer will be announced*

The Peace

Deacon The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you**

Announcements, Birthday, and Anniversary Blessings

OFFERTORY HYMN #65 in *The Hymnal* (blue book)
Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! *Bereden väg för Herran*

Pledgers, please place your offering in an envelope and write your name on it so the treasurer can easily identify your giving. Thank you.

The General Thanksgiving

Page 101 in The Book of Common Prayer.

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending Wilbur Held
(1914-2015)

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

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

316 N El Dorado Street
Stockton, CA 95202

Stockton's historic Episcopal Church, founded in 1850 on land donated by Captain Weber, the founder of Stockton.

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

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The HUB (*Helping Urban Bicyclists*) on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/STOCKTONHUB
HUB Phone: (209) 663-9955
Tues & Thurs 10:00-4:00, Wed 1:00-4:00

Christmas Service

At 5:00 PM today, 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.

