



St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

March 11, 2018 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

Together in Sorrow

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

I Need Thee Every Hour
Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Emma Lou Diemer
Emma Lou Diemer
(1927-)

OPENING HYMN

#671 in *The Hymnal* (blue book)
Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

New Britain

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

The Word of God

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

TRISAGION (*Thrice Holy, The Hymnal* S 102)

Please sing three times.

Ho- - - ly God, Ho- - ly and Might- y,
Ho- ly Im- mor- tal One, Have mer- cy up- on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The people sit.

Old Testament: Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone

who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Confitemini Domino

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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 #620 in *The Hymnal* (blue book)
Jerusalem, my happy home, when shall I come to thee? *Land of Rest*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

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

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the

light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed, page 358 in *The Book of Common Prayer*

The Prayers of the People

Deacon We pray for those killed and injured by gun violence, those who have witnessed the tragedies, and for our nation as we continue to recover and mourn. Gracious God, thank you for watching over us and granting us your healing grace.

People **O Lord, hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.
O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.**

Deacon We remember also the persons responsible for this violence that has taken the lives of so many of our community members, injured many others, and scarred all of our hearts. It seems life was agonizing for them, and we know their families also suffer immense grief. We hold them up, Lord, to your healing light.

People **O Lord, hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.
O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.**

Deacon We remember the children and staff members killed in school shootings, and especially the children killed at Cleveland School here in Stockton, as well as the thousands of others who are victims of gun violence. Forgive our culture of violence. Teach us a better way. Give us the will and the power to change.

People **O Lord, hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.
O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.**

Deacon We and our friends and families grieve also for a variety of other reasons. Today we pray, too, for those who have lost their loved ones - grandparents, parents, sisters, brothers, children or other family members or dear friends. God, we ask you to bless all those who are in sorrow or grief and help us to comfort them.

People **O Lord, hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.
O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.**

Deacon We hold up to you, compassionate God, all hearts that ache because they are far from home, or because relationships are strained or have ended. Receive our tears, our sadness, our anger, shame or fear, and be with us as we are.

People **O Lord, hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.
O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.**

Deacon As our human hearts are broken, we see also the pervasive suffering of the earth. God of all life, we bring before you the losses in the environment which you have entrusted to our care, recognizing that it too needs your love and healing grace. We have lost many beautiful creatures, forests and the mysterious wildlife that find shelter there, lush vegetation, countless species of animals, both on land and

in the vastness of the oceans, and many lakes, rivers and streams. Help us and guide us, Gracious Lord, to work together to prevent further environmental losses.

People **O Lord, hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.
O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.**

Deacon We each carry our own stories of heart-break and grief. You are invited to use this time to speak aloud or hold silently in your heart whatever sorrow you bear.

People **O Lord, hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.
O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin, page 360 in *The Book of Common Prayer*

The Peace, the people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated

Announcements, Birthday, and Anniversary Blessings

OFFERTORY HYMN #328 in *The Hymnal* (blue book) *Song 46*
Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord

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

Doxology (*sung*) *Old 100th*
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A, page 361 in *The Book of Common Prayer*

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD *Sanctus* *Richard Proulx*
The music is found in *The Hymnal*, in the front section with "S" numbers, S 125.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The service then continues on page 362 in The Book of Common Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

In Lent, Alleluia is omitted.

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.

Post Communion Prayer, page 365 in *The Book of Common Prayer*

CLOSING HYMN #690 in *The Hymnal* (blue book) *Cwm Rhondda*
Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

The Dismissal

Deacon

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O Lamm Gottes unschuldig (*O innocent Lamb of God*)

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)

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.

Stations of the Cross

During the season of Lent, after enjoying some coffee and fellowship, you may return to the church to join in the Lenten devotion of *Stations of the Cross*. Stations of the Cross refers to a series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers. The object of the stations is to help Christians make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ. A series of 14 images are arranged in numbered order around the church, and we travel from image to image, in order, stopping at each station to say selected prayers and reflections. This will last about 15 minutes.

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.


Holy Week 2018

- Palm Sunday, March 25, 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- Maundy Thursday, March 29
- Good Friday, March 30
- Easter Sunday, April 1, 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Seder Supper, Monday, April 2, 5:30 PM

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, O.S.B., Organist</p>	<p>Church Message Phone: (209) 466-6916, or call the HUB when it's open. See below.</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> <p>www.stjohnsstockton.org diosanjoaquin.org www.anglicancommunion.org</p> <p>St. John the Evangelist on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnstocktonca</p>
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	<p>Called to Be... A Safe Place for All of God's People!</p>
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