

Religious Life Sunday

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

316 N EL DORADO STREET STOCKTON, CA 95202 JANUARY 26, 2025 – 10:30 AM

MORNING PRAYER

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Organ Prelude The Good Shepherd Dom Paul Benoit, OSB

(1893-1979)

OPENING HYMN Christ for the world we sing! Moscow

Hymn 537

OPENING SENTENCE PAGE 76, BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

CONFESSION OF SIN PAGE 79, BCP

INVITATORY AND PSALTER PAGE 80-83, BCP

PSALM 19 Caeli enarrant

I The heavens declare the glory of God, * and the firmament shows his handiwork.

2 One day tells its tale to another, * and one night imparts knowledge to another.

3 Although they have no words or language, * and their voices are not heard,

4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, * and their message to the ends of the world.

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; * nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; * the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; * the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; * the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, * sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, * and in keeping them there is great reward. 12 Who can tell how often he offends? * cleanse me from my secret faults. 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; * then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense. 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *

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		
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THE OLD TESTAMENT, NEHEMIAH 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

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

THE FIRST CANTICLE

FROM PAGE 85-95, BCP

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

THE NEW TESTAMENT, I CORINTHIANS 12:12-31A

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

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

THE SECOND CANTICLE

FROM PAGE 85-95, BCP

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

GRADUAL HYMN O Christ, the Word Incarnate Hymn 632

Munich

THE GOSPEL, LUKE 4:14-21

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY Rev. Stephen Bentley, Deacon

THE APOSTLES' CREED

PAGE 96, BCP

THE PRAYERS

PAGE 97, BCP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As announced, from pages 383-393, BCP

Today in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Ridgecrest, and their priest, the Rev. Jorge Pallares and their deacon, the Rev. Cathy Kline.

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

OFFERTORY HYMN Hail to the Lord's Anointed Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein Hymn 616

Offering placed in the basket will go towards our monthly collection for Oaxaca.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE WEEK OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, as you and he are one: Grant that your Church, being bound together in love and obedience to you, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FROM THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons who it would be easy for us to forget: those who are homeless and destitute, those who are old and those who are sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE HYMN OF ST. BENEDICT - by Br. Michael Anicetus McCabe, Obl/OSB

Holy Father Benedict, leader and our guide. Lead us on the narrow road to heights of holiness. Run the way of the Lord, together seek his face.

Faithful to the Holy rule, steadfast in this path. With the hope that we may share the suffering of Christ. This will lead to our home, where souls in heaven rest.

You will learn to fear the Lord; following His way. With the Gospel as our guide, our hearts will speak the truth. See the love of the Lord, shows us the way of life.

Holy Father Benedict, leader and our guide. Lead us on the narrow road to heights of holiness.

PRAYER FOR MISSION PAGE 100 - 101, BCP

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING PAGE 101, BCP

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom page 102, BCP

THE DISMISSAL PAGE 102, BCP

ORGAN POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune Br. Michael Anicetus McCabe, Obl-OSB

Dedicated to Br. Dunstan Townsend, OSB

All are welcome at the Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall after the service.

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church is a community church in an urban setting. Some of our neighbors are unhoused individuals, and those experiencing mental health or addiction issues. On occasion, someone may enter the church during a service and cause a distraction. We consider this an opportunity to share God's love for all people. Everyone is welcome at St. John's, and we offer whatever assistance we can provide.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

- Candlemas (The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple), Next Sunday, February 2.
- **Bishop's Committee Meeting**, Sunday, February 9. The committee meets on the second Sunday of the month.
- **Bishop and Canon Visitation** (Holy Eucharist on the Third Sunday this month), Sunday, February 16. Also filling of the "Yellow Bags."
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, March 4. Mark the date! More info to follow.

• **Ash Wednesday**, March 5 (The beginning of Lent). Liturgy of Ash Wednesday with imposition of ashes, 5:30 PM in the church. There will also be Ashes to Go offered on Janet Leigh Plaza (in front of the movie theatres).

Visit our Tithe.ly site to make online donations to St. John's. Scan this code with your phone or tablet, or enter the following in your browser. https://bit.ly/3mswoLS

Religious Life Sunday

The 80th General Convention in July, 2022, approved a resolution naming the third Sunday after The Epiphany as Religious Life Sunday in an effort to highlight and affirm the Episcopal monastic and Christian communities that offer spiritual growth practices, retreats, and hospitality, as well as welcome new members.

Religious communities in The Episcopal Church include monastic communities—whose members live together under a rule of life and vows such as poverty, chastity, and obedience—and dispersed Christian communities, whose members have jobs and live in their own homes, but who also live under religious vows.

"My godmother, the late Sister Althea Augustine, was a member of the Sisters of the Transfiguration, one of our religious communities in The Episcopal Church," Bishop Michael Curry said. "Her impact on my life and that of many others is reflective of the

impact of Episcopal sisters, brothers, monks, nuns, oblates, and others who are part of religious communities."

Sr. Monica Clare, an Episcopal nun in New Jersey shares "This is our attempt to raise awareness that we exist—there are brothers and sisters in The Episcopal Church; there are also dispersed communities ... many different ways to explore a religious vocation," she said. "We're also going to help people learn about what religious orders can offer the world in terms of helping people with their prayer lives, providing a safe space to come for retreat and spiritual refreshment, and many, many other ministries that we do every single day."

THE COMPANIONS OF ST. LUKE, ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT https://csl-osb.org/

The Companions of St. Luke, OSB (CSL) is a recognized religious community within The Episcopal Church. We are a community of men and women who are committed to following our savior, Jesus Christ by living into the Rule and the Vows of St. Benedict. We are a dispersed community with members living throughout the United States, Canada, and Brazil, who are tied together by our love of Christ. We pray and meditate in our homes and sometimes at work, we study the Rule and scriptures, and we work in the world and in our churches. The struggle for balance in our lives is the same challenge all Benedictines have struggled with through the ages.

The Companions of St. Luke, OSB exists to express Religious life under the Rule of St. Benedict and to witness, through traditional and contemporary expressions, the values of Religious life within The Episcopal Church in the United States of America. Professed members are Baptized and in good standing with The Episcopal Church or churches that are in communion with the See of Canterbury.

The members of The Companions of St. Luke, OSB work hard to be what St. Benedict conceived when he created his Rule – A School for the Lord's Service. Our careers are our work which is balanced with prayer, meditation, and study. We have tools and resources that help us to live in this school and to link each of us together as a community, even though each of us live in different places.

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Monday, January 27: **John Chrysostom**, Bishop and Theologian, 407.

Tuesday, January 28: Thomas Aquinas, Friar and Theologian, 1274.

Wednesday, January 29 (Transferred): **Timothy and Titus**, Companions of Saint Paul.

Friday, January 31: Marcella of Rome, Monastic and Scholar, 410.

Saturday, February I: Brigid of Kildare, Monastic, c. 523.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Praying for the 855 dioceses and 42 provinces of the Anglican Communion September 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026.

Sunday 26 January 2025, 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

The Épiscopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

Monday 27 January 2025

The Diocese of Liverpool - The Church of England

Tuesday 28 January 2025

The Diocese of Liwolo - Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Wednesday 29 January 2025 **The Diocese of Llandaff - The Church in Wales**

Thursday 30 January 2025

Missionary Area of Lodwar - The Anglican Church of Kenya

Friday 31 January 2025

The Diocese of Lokoja - The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Saturday 1 February 2025

The Diocese of Lomega - Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

WEEKLY MINISTRIES OF ST. JOHN'S

The HUB, (Helping Urban Bicyclists) Tuesday to Thursday, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

The HUB sponsors the **Mercy Pedalers.** A ministry of presence based on the Works of Mercy and powered by people who pedal three-wheel bicycles through the streets of Stockton connecting with people who are experiencing homelessness, sharing with them hot coffee, socks, hats, gloves, and toiletries. See Deacon Steve for additional information on this ministry.

UPLIFT ALL FOUNDATION: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

In the parking lot from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Mon-Fri, first come, first served, no charge.

- Loads of Hope Laundry Service
- Splash of Hope Showers & Restrooms
- Hope Connection Mobile Office
- Haircuts on Tuesday
- Hope Medical on Wednesday, ECM Provider HPSJ
- Prescription Pick-up, 2:30-5:00 on Wednesday
- San Joaquin County Services, Every 2nd Wednesday and 3rd Friday
- Food and Clothing
- Classes, Events and Festivals as announced

Charities where donations may be made for world relief:

Episcopal Relief and Development The United Nations Refugee Agency The United Nations Children's Fund World Central Kitchen https://www.episcopalrelief.org/ https://www.unhcr.org/ https://www.unicef.org/ https://wck.org/

CONTACT INFORMATION

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

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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. Canon Anna Carmichael, PhD The Rev. Stephen Bentley, Deacon Brother Dunstan Townsend, OSB, Organist Church Message Phone: (209) 466-6916 or call the HUB when it's open. See below.

The HUB

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

www.stjohnsstockton.org diosanjoaquin.org www.anglicancommunion.org St. John the Evangelist is on Facebook and YouTube.