



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

316 N EL DORADO STREET

STOCKTON, CA 95202

MARCH 23, 2025 – 10:30 AM

MORNING PRAYER

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

ORGAN PRELUDE *Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott* Johann Sebastian Bach
(Have mercy on me, O Lord God) (1685-1750)

OPENING HYMN **Lord, who throughout these forty days** *St. Flavian*
Hymn 142

OPENING SENTENCE PAGE 76, BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

CONFESSION OF SIN PAGE 79, BCP

INVITATORY AND PSALTER PAGE 80-83, BCP

PSALM 63:1-8 *Deus, Deus meus*

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

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 OLD TESTAMENT, EXODUS 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

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 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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 **If thou but trust in God to guide thee** *Wer nur den lieben Gott*
Hymn 635

THE GOSPEL, LUKE 13:1-9

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

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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

Today in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Merced, their lay leaders and supply priest, the Rev. Kathie Galicia.

Deacon Gentle people of God, our God is faithful. Let us offer our prayers to God saying, "God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself; we bless you and we praise you."

O God, you are our God; eagerly we seek you; our souls thirst for you, our flesh faints for you, as in a parched and barren land. Refresh your Church, revive your Church with living water.

The congregation is invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

Faithful God, be the comfort and strength of innocent victims and their families. We pray for all those who die suddenly and unprepared.

Silence

God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

Great Mountain God, open our eyes to your presence in the world around us. Set the fire of your presence before us and lead our feet to holy ground.

Silence

God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

We pray, O God for victims of sexual violence and abuse. Deliver them; heal their wounds and scars; restore innocence and the ability to trust. Purify our own hearts that we may honor and respect each other.

Silence

God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

O God, you are our helper; you hide us under the mighty shadow of your wings. Defend your children from all adversities which may happen to the body or soul.

The congregation is invited to add their petitions, followed by silence

God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God of our fathers and mothers, feed us with spiritual food; refresh us with spiritual drink. Preserve us, with all your saints, forever.

Silence

God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

O God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, fill our world, and fill the universe. We ask this for your own Name's sake. **Amen.**

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

What wondrous love is this
Hymn 439

Wondrous Love

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECTS

PAGE 98-100, BCP

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

PAGE 101, BCP

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

PAGE 102, BCP

THE DISMISSAL

PAGE 102, BCP

ORGAN POSTLUDE

My Song Is Love Unknown

Christopher Uehlein, OSB
(1931-2019)

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

- **Palm Sunday**, April 13, 10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist with Rev. Kathie Galicia
- **Bishop's Committee Meeting**, April 13
- **Maundy Thursday**, Service at 5:30 PM – Including the Washing of Feet, and the Stripping of the Altar.
- **Good Friday**, Service at 12:10 PM – The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday, which includes reading the Passion story from the Gospel of John, and ends with Stations of the Cross.
- **Easter Sunday**, April 20, 10:30 AM



Visit our Tithely 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>

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 24: **Óscar Romero**, Archbishop and Martyr, 1980, **and the Martyrs of El Salvador.**

TUESDAY, MARCH 25: **The Annunciation of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26: **Harriet Monsell**, Monastic, 1883.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27: **Charles Henry Brent**, Bishop, 1929.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28: **James Solomon Russell**, Priest, 1935.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29: **John Keble**, Priest and Poet, 1866.

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

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

Sunday 23 March 2025, 3rd Sunday in Lent

Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

Monday 24 March 2025

The Diocese of Maper – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Tuesday 25 March 2025 - The Annunciation

The Diocese of Mara – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Wednesday 26 March 2025

The Diocese of Maralal – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Thursday 27 March 2025

The Diocese of Marathwada – The Church of North India (United)

Friday 28 March 2025

The Diocese of Maridi – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Saturday 29 March 2025

The Diocese of Marsabit – The Anglican Church of Kenya

ST. JOHN'S SERVICES ARE ON YOUTUBE!

<https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsEpiscopalChurchStockton>

Take a look, and Subscribe!

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

316 N El Dorado Street
Stockton, CA 95202
StJohnsStockton@gmail.com

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
Skylar Carlson, PhD, Senior Warden

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.