

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church 316 N El Dorado Street Stockton, CA 95202 February 2, 2025 – 10:30 Am Morning Prayer Presentation of Iesus in the Temple

A note from the Book of Common Prayer, Page 16: All Sundays of the year are feasts of our Lord Jesus Christ. Only the following feasts, appointed on fixed days, take precedence of a Sunday: The Holy Name (of Jesus), January 1; The Epiphany, January 6; The Presentation (of Jesus in the Temple), February 2; The Transfiguration (of Christ), August 6; All Saints' Day, November 1; Christmas Day, December 25.

What is the Feast of the Presentation, or Candlemas? This feast marks the day when Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem, exactly 40 days after his birth. The Mosaic Law required them to consecrate their firstborn son to God (Exodus 13). Additionally, the law required Mary to submit to ritual purification forty days after childbirth (Leviticus 12:2-8).

This day is widely observed by the Church of England as the last day of the Christmas season, and it is traditional to bless candles, hence Candle Mass (like Christ Mass).

ORGAN PRELUDE My Soul Has a Desire and Longing to Enter the Courts of the Lord (Ps 84) George Oldroyd

George Oldroyc (1886-1956)

### OPENING HYMN I want to walk as a child of the light Houston Hymn 490

Opening Sentence page 76, book of common prayer Confession of Sin page 79, bcp Invitatory and Psalter page 80-83, bcp

#### PSALM 84 I How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \* My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \* by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \* they will always be praising you. 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \* whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \* for the early rains have covered it with pools of water. 6 They will climb from height to height, \* and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion. 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \* hearken, O God of Jacob. 8 Behold our defender, O God; \* and look upon the face of your Anointed. 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \* and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked. 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \* he will give grace and glory; 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold \* from those who walk with integrity. 12 O LORD of hosts, \* happy are they who put their trust in you! 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, MALACHI 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

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, HEBREWS 2:14-18

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks 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 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates Truro Hymn 436

THE GOSPEL, LUKE 2:22-40

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

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY Rev. Stephen Bentley, Deacon

THE APOSTLES' CREED

THE PRAYERS

PAGE 96, BCP PAGE 97, BCP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

AS ANNOUNCED, FROM PAGES 383-393, BCP

TODAY IN OUR DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: St Paul's Episcopal Church in Bakersfield, and their priest, the Rev. Luis Rodriguez and their deacon, the Rev. Cathy Kline.

THE PEACE

OfficiantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

OFFERTORY HYMN Hail to the Lord who comes Old 120th Hymn 259 (Hymn for The Presentation)

## The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

Prayer for Mission	PAGE IOO - IOI, BCP	
The General Thanksgiving	PAGE IOI, BCP	

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom	PAGE IO2, BCP
The Dismissal	PAGE IO2, BCP
ORGAN POSTLUDE Fanfare	C.S. Lang (1891-1971)

#### 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.

The stained glass image on the cover is from Canterbury Cathedral, a photo by Lawrence OP.

### Important Dates to Note

- **Bishop's Committee Meeting**, Next 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

Commemorations This Week

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3: Anskar, Bishop and Missionary, 865.

Tuesday, February 4: Cornelius the Centurion and Manche Masemola, Martyr, 1928. Wednesday, February 5: The Martyrs of Japan, 1597, and Agatha of Sicily, Martyr, c. 251. Saturday, February 8: Bakhita (Josephine Margaret Bakhita), Monastic, 1947. ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

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

Sunday 2 February 2025 – The Presentation of Christ in the Temple **The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia** 

Monday 3 February 2025 The Diocese of London – The Church of England

Tuesday 4 February 2025 The Diocese of Long Island – The Episcopal Church

Wednesday 5 February 2025 The Diocese of Los Angeles – The Episcopal Church

Thursday 6 February 2025 The Diocese of Louisiana – The Episcopal Church

Friday 7 February 2025 The Diocese of Western Louisiana – The Episcopal Church

Saturday 8 February 2025 The Diocese of Luapula – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

**Tell your friends!** 

St. John's is now streaming our live service on YouTube! (Previously, this was only available on Facebook.) Afterwards, the recorded service is also available to watch.

For those who prefer Facebook, the video will be listed there and will automatically link you to YouTube. If you don't already have YouTube on your computer, TV, or cell phone, it is available for free wherever you get your software.

(YouTube link) https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsEpiscopalChurchStockton

(Facebook link) https://www.facebook.com/stjohnstocktonca

The videos are also linked from the church Website by clicking on the "Video Streams" tab.

(Website link) https://www.stjohnsstockton.org/

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

<b>St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church</b>	Church Message Phone: (209) 466-6916 or
316 N El Dorado Street	call the HUB when it's open. See below.
Stockton, CA 95202	<b>The HUB</b>
StJohnsStockton@gmail.com	( <i>Helping Urban Bicyclists</i> ) on Facebook:
Stockton's historic Episcopal Church, founded	www.facebook.com/STOCKTONHUB
in 1850 on land donated by Captain Weber, the	HUB Phone: (209) 663-9955
founder of Stockton.	Tues Wed Thurs 10:00-4:00
<b>Part of the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin</b>	www.stjohnsstockton.org
The Rt. Rev. David C. Rice, Bishop	diosanjoaquin.org
The Rev. Canon Anna Carmichael, PhD	www.anglicancommunion.org
The Rev. Stephen Bentley, Deacon	St. John the Evangelist is on Facebook and
Brother Dunstan Townsend, OSB, Organist	YouTube.