



EVENING PRAYER

WEDNESDAY following
FOURTH SUNDAY after the EPIPHANY

February 4, 2026

6:30 P.M.



St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church
in the Admiral District of West Seattle

*We acknowledge that we are on the unceded traditional land of the Coast Salish people,
including the Duwamish and Suquamish People past and present.*

We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish and Suquamish tribes.

Please know, that wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at St. John's.

EVENING PRAYER: RITE II

If you wish to make online donations to the ministry of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, please visit:
<https://sjbwestseattle.org/give>

Year Two

Service of Light

You are encouraged to dim your room lighting during the Service of Light.

Presider Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Opening Sentence of Scripture

One of the following may then be read.

Presider Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." — *Matthew 5:14-16*

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation — the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. — *1 Corinthians 4:5-6b*

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. — *Psalms 139:10-11*

Prayer for Light

One of the following may then be read.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Grant us, Lord, the lamp of charity which never fails, that it may burn in us and shed its light on those around us, and that by its brightness we may have a vision of that holy City, where dwells the true and never-failing Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord God Almighty, as you have taught us to call the evening, the morning, and the noonday one day; and have made the sun to know its going down: Dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by your brightness we may know you to be the true God and eternal light, living and reigning for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Confession

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory

Presider O God, make speed to save us.

People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**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.
Alleluia.**

Hymn

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

**O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

The Psalter

Psalm 119:73-80 Yodh • *Manus tuæ fecerunt me*

73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me, *
give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.

74 Those who fear you will be glad when they see me, *
because I trusted in your word.

75 I know, O LORD, that your judgments are right *
and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

76 Let your loving-kindness be my comfort, *
as you have promised to your servant.

77 Let your compassion come to me, that I may live, *
for your law is my delight.

78 Let the arrogant be put to shame, for they wrong me with lies; *
but I will meditate on your commandments.

79 Let those who fear you turn to me, *
and also those who know your decrees.

80 **Let my heart be sound in your statutes, ***
that I may not be put to shame.

Psalm 119:81-88 Kaph • Defecit in salutare

81 My soul has longed for your salvation; *
I have put my hope in your word.

82 **My eyes have failed from watching for your promise, ***
and I say, "When will you comfort me?"

83 I have become like a leather flask in the smoke, *
but I have not forgotten your statutes.

84 **How much longer must I wait? ***
when will you give judgment against those who persecute me?

85 The proud have dug pits for me; *
they do not keep your law.

86 **All your commandments are true; ***
help me, for they persecute me with lies.

87 They had almost made an end of me on earth, *
but I have not forsaken your commandments.

88 **In your loving-kindness, revive me, ***
that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.

Psalm 119:89-96 Lamedh • In æternum, Domine

89 O LORD, your word is everlasting; *
it stands firm in the heavens.

90 **Your faithfulness remains from one generation to another; ***
you established the earth, and it abides.

91 By your decree these continue to this day, *
for all things are your servants.

92 **If my delight had not been in your law, ***
I should have perished in my affliction.

93 I will never forget your commandments, *
because by them you give me life.

94 **I am yours; oh, that you would save me! ***
for I study your commandments.

95 Though the wicked lie in wait for me to destroy me, *
I will apply my mind to your decrees.

96 **I see that all things come to an end, ***
but your commandment has no bounds.

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.

Reading

Hebrews 11:23-31

By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger; for he persevered as though he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle

The Song of Mary • *Magnificat*: Luke 1:46-55

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.

Reading

John 6:52–59

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle

The Song of Simeon • *Nunc dimittis*: Luke 2:29–32

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.
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.

Reflection

Silence may be kept.

The Apostles' Creed

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

People **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Suffrages

Set A

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Presider Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth:
Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Choose one or more of the following Collects.

A Collect for Peace

Presider Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

A Collect for Aid Against Perils

Presider Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Collect for Protection

Presider O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Presence of Christ

Presider Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

Prayer for Mission

People **Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Presider For the light and redemption of God, made known in Jesus Christ, we come with thankful and humble hearts, praying together, "hear our prayer."

Silence may be kept.

Presider Christ the Bridegroom, we pray for the universal church. Make us a people who love one another with wisdom and gentleness. Bring healing where there is division. May we seek to follow you more closely. Renew and enliven the global church by the power of your Holy Spirit.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Church of England, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer for Resurrection, St. Margaret's, and Holy Apostles, Bellevue.

Lord of Light,

People **hear our prayer.**

Presider Christ the King, who came to earth in humility, we pray for our country and all those in authority; for those at all levels of government who lead our nation. We ask for your wisdom to guide those in places of power and influence.

Lord of Light,

People **hear our prayer.**

Presider Christ the Redeemer, we ask for your healing hand on our suffering world. Bring peace and restoration to this good earth. We pray for our brothers and sisters suffering from poverty, war, starvation, natural disasters, and oppression.

Lord of Light,

People **hear our prayer.**

Presider Christ our Savior, we pray for our neighbors without shelter, for the addicted, and the mentally ill. Bring an end to racism, bigotry, violence, and rancor. We ask that all would experience the light of your presence and the reality of your love. May we be your hands and feet in loving our neighbors who need us.

Lord of Light,

People **hear our prayer.**

Presider Christ our Shepherd, we bring you our heartfelt prayers for those in need; those dealing with grief, or experiencing illness or any kind of hardship, especially _____, and those we now name either silently or aloud _____.

Silence may be kept.

Lord of Light,
People **hear our prayer.**

Presider Christ our Protector, we thank you for all the blessings of this life, for family and friends, and the loving care that surrounds us, especially _____, and I invite your thanksgivings either silently or aloud _____.

Silence may be kept.

Lord of Light,
People **hear our prayer.**

Presider Christ our eternal Lord, we pray for those who have died and are now in your beautiful dwelling place, especially _____, and those we now name either silently or aloud _____.

Silence may be kept.

Lord of Light,
People **hear our prayer.**

Presider O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

One or both of the following may be used.

A General Thanksgiving

People **Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

People **Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

The Blessing

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

Presider Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

— *Ephesians 3:20-21*