



EVENING PRAYER

**WEDNESDAY following
FIRST SUNDAY after the EPIPHANY**

January 14, 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 lights a lamp to put it under a bucket, but on a lamp-stand where it gives light for everyone in the house. And you, like the lamp, must shed light among your fellow men, 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. — *Psalm 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 12 • *Salvum me fac*

- 1 Help me, LORD, for there is no godly one left; *
the faithful have vanished from among us.
- 2 Everyone speaks falsely with his neighbor; *
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.
- 3 Oh, that the LORD would cut off all smooth tongues, *
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!
- 4 Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail; *
our lips are our own; who is LORD over us?"
- 5 Because the needy are oppressed, and the poor cry out in misery, *
I will rise up, says the LORD, and give them the help they long for.
- 6 The words of the LORD are pure words, *
like silver refined from ore and purified seven times in the fire.

7 O LORD, watch over us *
and save us from this generation for ever.

8 The wicked prowl on every side, *
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.

Psalm 13 • Usquequo, Domine?

1 How long, O LORD? will you forget me for ever? *
how long will you hide your face from me?

2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
and grief in my heart, day after day? *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?

3 Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God; *
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;

4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," *
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.

5 But I put my trust in your mercy; *
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.

6 I will sing to the LORD, for he has dealt with me richly; *
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

Psalm 14 • Dixit insipiens

1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." *
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts; there is none who does any good.

2 The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, *
to see if there is any who is wise,
if there is one who seeks after God.

3 Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; *
there is none who does good; no, not one.

4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers *
who eat up my people like bread
and do not call upon the Lord?

5 See how they tremble with fear, *
because God is in the company of the righteous.

6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, *
but the LORD is their refuge.

7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! *
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

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 2:11-18

For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he 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.

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 1:29-42

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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 B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before
the great judgment seat of Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of Saint John
the Baptist and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

The Collect of the Day

First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord

Presider Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **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 Diocese of Central Solomons – The Anglican Church of Melanesia. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: St. Timothy, Chehalis; St. Stephen's, Longview; St. Peter's, Seaview.

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