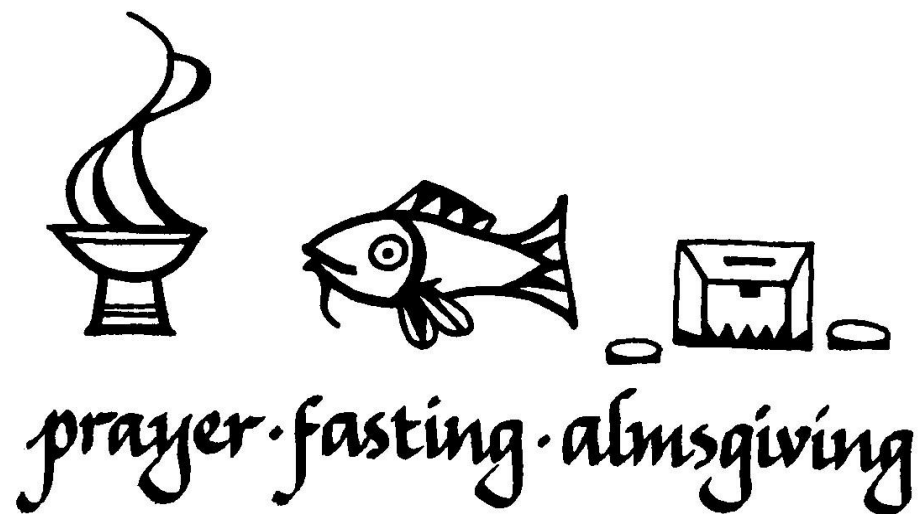


Welcome to
**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

*Committed to living a faith journey that is
sacred, intentional, compassionate and inclusive*



The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024 ☩ 9:30 a.m.

The Rev. Betsy McElroy, Rector
Worship: Sundays 9:30 a.m.
Church Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday
1055 S. Lower Sacramento Road, Lodi, California 95242
stjohnslodi@sbcglobal.net † www.stjohnsoflodi.org † 209.369.3381 (voice)

Welcome to the Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist!

This bulletin will guide you through the liturgy (worship service). The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), *Enriching Our Worship* and *The Hymnal 1982* are used throughout this service.

We are a school for transformation, as we seek to become a more diverse community of people, a kaleidoscope of different life styles, ages, ethnic and religious backgrounds, sexual orientations, financial circumstances and more. We invite all who seek God and wish to explore being part of a Christian congregation to our table and into our fellowship. We welcome those seeking a safe place for the expression of personal spiritual practices, ideas, politics, questions, doubts -- and faith. We also confess that as a community we are not perfected in love. However we seek to become more fully loving and to accept all who wish to join this journey.

Today's Sanctuary Light is given to the glory of God by:

In honor of the Greg Wilson Men's BBQ Group.

If you would like to donate for the Lent Sanctuary Light, please contact the church office at 369-3381

Those Who Serve Today

Celebrant: The Rev. Betsy McElroy (B)

Deacon/Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson (B)

Choir Director: Steven Weikle

Pianist/Organist: Rebecca Nelson

MC (Minister of Ceremonies): Anne Reeve (C)

Lectors: Christina Soria & Carol Foote

Camera Acolyte: Fran Bott (GF)

Crucifer: Beth Elwood (C)

Ushers: Paula James & Debby Weberski

Sound: Stephanie Pilcher

Altar Guild: Start Krengel & Jim Reeve

Vestry Open/Close (Announcements): Beth Elwood & Christina Soria

Designer Guild: None

Nursery Care: None until further notice

Sunday School: Ruth Diekman

Coffee Hour: Creation Care Team

Counters: Eric Goossens & Stuart Krengel

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Music Notes: (RHM) Women's History Month has been observed since the 1980s in the United States and throughout the world, usually in the month of March. The American Guild of Organists, the Society of Women Organists, and the Royal College of Organists are celebrating Women Composers on this day.

Kate Loder (1825-1904) was from Surrey, England. She taught at the Royal Academy of Music in London. As a gifted young pianist she met Felix Mendelssohn and was also friends with Clara Schumann. Upon her marriage in 1851 to Sir Henry Thompson she retired from performing, perhaps due to an illness, according to one source.

Elizabeth Stirling Bridge (1819-1895) was born in London. Her "Largo" was published in 1857. She was quite accomplished and held several church positions. Regretfully, she was unable to study at Oxford University due to their restrictions at the time on eligibility for women.

The Liturgy of the Word

Welcome

Prelude

"Andante"

by Kate Loder

Entrance Hymn *(Standing)* Come thou font of every blessing

Hymnal 686

Opening Acclamation

Hymnal S82

Celebrant

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People

His mercy en - dures for ev - er.

Confession of Sin *Deacon or Celebrant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

Minister and 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.**

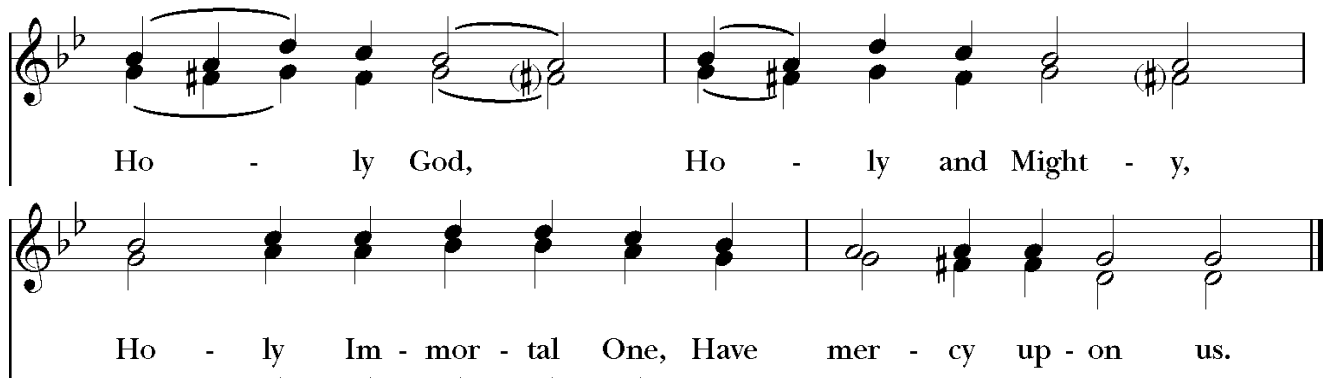
Celebrant continues,

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

The Trisagion

Holy God (Sung 3 Times)

Hymnal S102



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated

A Reading from the Book of Numbers

Christina Soria

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live. (*Numbers 21:4-9*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

Christina Soria

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Carol Foote

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.
(*Ephesians 2:1-10*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

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

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

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God." (*John 3:14-21*)

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

Silence

Nicene Creed *All stand as able.*

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People *Form I*

Anne Reeve

BCP p. 383

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying,
“Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our
souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity
of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to
the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, Lodi, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us
pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For (from the prayer list), let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of St. John the Baptist and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries Blessings *All together,*

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Sentence

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Anthem *As panting deer desire the water books* WLAP 727

The Doxology *Praise to God* (vs. 3 only) Hymnal 380

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A (*Standing*) Hymnal S120

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the

fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Sanctus (*Celebrant and People*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S124


The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

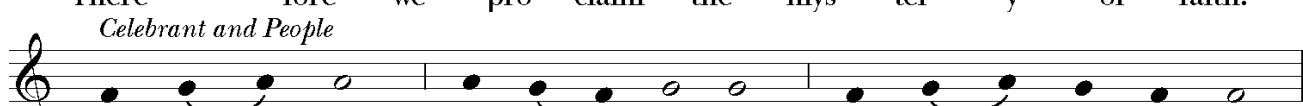
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant



There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

Celebrant and People



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *(traditional)*

BCP p. 364

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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 Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal S153

Celebrant: Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People: There - fore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion of the People

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please form two lines in the center aisle. There are two standing stations. Please come forward immediately to receive communion. Gluten free hosts are available. You may receive just the bread or the wine or both. We offer the chalice to drink from, but due to practical considerations, do not allow intinction (dipping) of the bread in the wine. Thank you for your understanding. Please place hands crossed over your heart if you wish to receive communion in one kind, or a blessing.



Bless the Lord my soul, and bless his ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord my soul, he res - cues me from death.

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Sending Eucharistic Visitors *All together*

In the name of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

Postcommunion Prayer *(standing)*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God,
 we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
 that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
 And now, Father, send us out
 to do the work you have given us to do,
 to love and serve you
 as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Bow down before the Lord.

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to prepare for the Pascal Feast

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude*“Largo”*

by Elizabeth Stirling

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You can also give through GIVELIFY app. If you go to our website:

www.stjohnsoflodi.org On the right side of the page you can click on GIVELIFY. Put in Episcopal church of St. John the Baptist and indicate the amount of your gift and what is for, i.e. pledge, rector/deacon discretionary, other, etc.). Givelify App is available at: [the “App Store”](#) or [“Google Play”](#) Or scan this code:

**Announcements****Sunday, March 10 – Beginning of “Daylight Savings Time” Spring Forward!**

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

5:00 pm, Men’s & Women’s BBQ, Narthex & Kitchen

Monday, March 11

4:15 pm, Salvation Army Dinner Service, Hope Harbor

Tuesday, March 12

10:00 am, Staff Meeting, Church

4:15 pm, Salvation Army Dinner Service, Hope Harbor

6:00 pm, Vestry Monthly Meeting, Hospitality Room

Wednesday, March 13

12:00 noon, Noon-Day Prayer, Historical Chapel

5:00 pm, Soup Supper, Narthex

6:00 pm, Lenten Study (Chapter 6 & 7), Hospitality Room

7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal, Church

Sunday, March 17

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

Greg Wilson Men's BBQ – Today! Sunday, March 10 – See you here at 5:00 pm!

SOUL KITCHEN SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENT! Mark you calendars that Soul Kitchen will take place on *Friday, March 22*. Doors open at 5:00 pm and dinner served at 5:30 pm. This was changed due to the Good Friday Schedule.

The People of Faith Study Group at St. John's, prior to Noon Day Prayer in the Chapel. The current plan to meet on alternate Wednesdays at 10:30 am. March meetings are planned for the 6th and 20th. Our times together will provide opportunities to reflect on the prior week's readings. We have agreed to a goal of reading through the bible in a year. We have adapted a plan outlined in the NIV Women's Study Bible, New International Version, but we do not intend to be rigid. Other versions or plans may work equally well. This goal sets a pace that will keep us busy reading, reflecting, pondering, etc. New participants are welcome to join the group as they are able. All are welcome. Ruth Diekman - Coordinator

Back By Popular Demand! Ladies High Tea Event- *Save the date of Saturday, June 8* at 12:00 noon for our popular Ladies High Tea!. We are looking for items for raffle prizes and baskets. If you can donate, please drop off the item in the office. Keep an eye out for more information in our newsletters, bulletins and the Ministry Table.

Updating Our Active Membership Directory!- On the Ministry Table you will find a copy of our current Active Membership Directory. Please review your information in this directory for accuracy. Please write in the "Red" pen provided any changes that are needed. If you are not in the directory, please fill out the Yellow Membership Form and turn it into the basket provided and we will get you added! If you would like your birthday listed at the back of the printed directory, please add your birthday to your entry also.

Looking forward to Lenten Activities – Mark Your Calendars!

Lenten Soup Suppers and Classes

*Per our tradition, we will have Wednesday night Lenten Soup Suppers with a Lenten Study on The Rev. Stephanie Spellers' book "*The Church Cracked Open.*" Books are available for sale in the office. Choir practice will follow.

*Please plan on signing up to assist! We will need a kitchen coordinator, soup makers, set up and clean up help, help with salads and bread!

*Keep an eye on the announcements, flyers, and sign-up sheets on the Ministry Table.

*Lenten Study Reading Assignments:

March 13: Read Chapters 6 & 7

March 20: Read Chapter 8 and the Conclusion

Diocesan Calendar Information

March 23 – Deanery Day on Zoom at 10:00 am; this will focus on planned giving; open to all. To sign up, please call Episcopal Church Foundation at 800-697-2858.

March 26 - Chrism Mass at 11:00 am, St. James Cathedral. An opportunity for clergy to review their ordination vows witnessed by the laity of the diocese; open to all.

Holy Week – March 24 – 31, 2024

Sunday, March 24

9:30 am

Palm & Passion Sunday

Procession & Passion Reading

Tuesday, March 26

11:00 am

Chrism Mass

St. James Cathedral, Fresno

Wednesday, March 27

12:00 Noon

Noon-Day Prayer

Historical Chapel

Thursday, March 28

6:00 pm

7:00 pm to Midnight

Maundy Thursday Foot washing

Eucharist, Stripping of Altar

Garden of Gethsemane Watch

Friday, March 29

12 Noon

Good Friday

Passion & Prayers

Saturday, March 30

7:00 pm

Easter Vigil

Baptism

Historical Chapel

Sunday, March 31

9:30 am

Easter Sunday

Holy Eucharist, Reception

& Children's Egg Hunt

Eggs & Toys Needed for Easter Egg Hunt on March 31! - Our annual Easter Egg Hunt for elementary school age children and younger will be held on the West lawn after the 9:30 am service on Easter Sunday, March 31st. The office would appreciate donations of plastic eggs, small toys and wrapped candy for the hunt. Thank you!

Garden of Gethsemane Watch Thursday, March 28 from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. - After the Maundy Thursday Eucharist, the church will be open all night for prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane created by the Designer Guild in the narthex. People are invited to sign up to pray one hour, reminiscent of Jesus' invitation to "watch and pray."

Flowers at Easter - Our Easter liturgies are adorned with memorial flowers. If you remembered loved ones and blessings last year at this time and would like to repeat your memorial message, please initial the list on the ministry table and put your donation of \$25 or more in the plate during the offering. See ministry table for details.

2024 Vestry Members

Margaret Meyers, Senior Warden

Kelly Olds, Junior Warden

Fran Bott, Clerk

Stacey Bagnasco

Beth Elwood

Bob Gorczyca

Charlene Martin

Christina Soria

Debby Weberski

Andee Zetterbaum