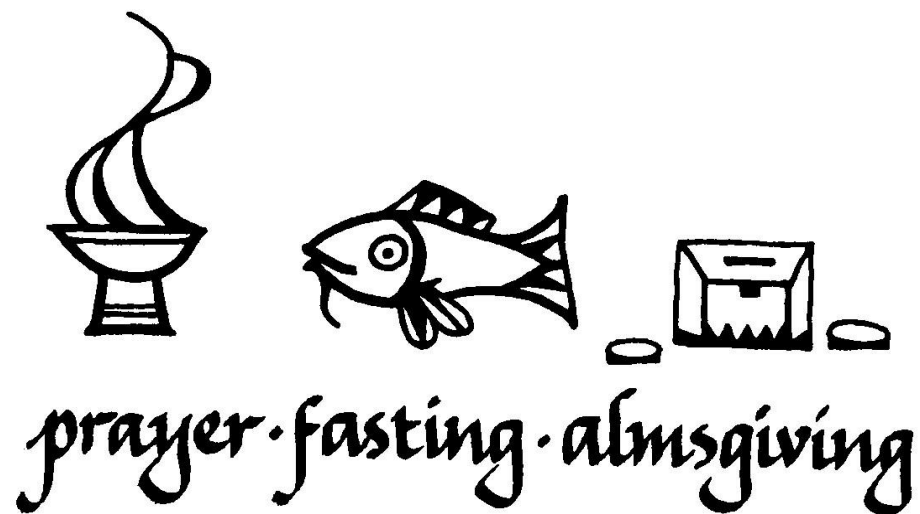


*Welcome to*  
**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

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



**The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

March 17, 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.

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

Patricia Fehling in loving memory of her husband Don.

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

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## **Those Who Serve Today**

*Celebrant:* The Rev. Betsy McElroy (B)

*Deacon:* The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson (B)

*Preacher:* Charlene Martin

*Choir Director:* Steven Weikle

*Pianist/Organist:* Rebecca Nelson

*MC (Minister of Ceremonies):* Margaret Meyers (C)

*Lectors:* Debby Weberski & Anne Reeve

*Camera Acolyte:* Beth Elwood (GF)

*Crucifer:* Cheryl Nix (C)

*Ushers:* Debby Weberski & TBA

*Sound:* Steve Augusto

*Altar Guild:* Bunmi Olowoyeye

*Vestry Open/Close (Announcements):* Debby Weberski & Andee Zetterbaum

*Designer Guild:* None

*Nursery Care:* None until further notice

*Sunday School:* Peggy Moos

*Coffee Hour:* Beth Elwood & Rosemary Cress

*Counters:* Sharon Farnsworth & Tom Gundershaug

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Welcome

### Prelude

*Be Thou My Vision*

Arranged by Lloyd Larson

**Entrance Hymn** *(Standing)* *Hail, thou once despised Jesus!*

Hymnal 495

### 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 image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 Jeremiah

Debby Weberski

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

*(Jeremiah 31:31-34)*

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 51:1-13

Debby Weberski

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

## A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Anne Reeve

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place,  
“You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through

what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. (*Hebrews 5:5-10*)

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Hymn

*What wondrous love is this*

Hymnal 439

## 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.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. (*John 12:20-33*)

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

Charlene Martin

*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.**

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**



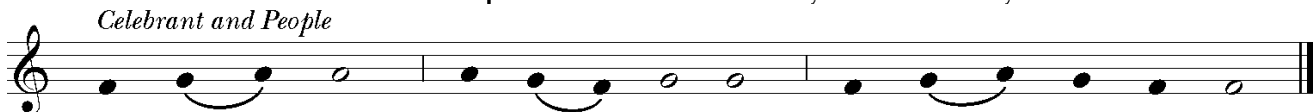
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*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)*

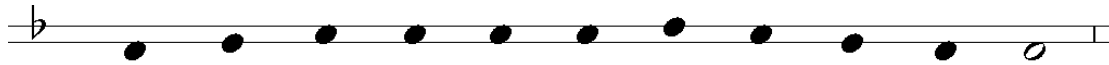
BCP p. 364

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

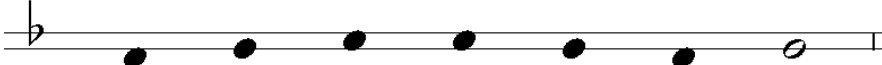
**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy Name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
 but 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.*

## Communion Music

Bless the Lord My Soul

Taizé Volume II



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 with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Recessional Hymn**

*O love, how deep, how broad, how high*

Hymnal 448

## **The Dismissal**

Deacon: Go in peace to prepare for the Pascal Feast

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Arranged by Healey Willan

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**You can also give through GIVELIFY app.** If you go to our website: [www.stjohnsoflodi.org](http://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

### **Tuesday, March 19**

10:00 am, Staff Meeting, Church

### **Wednesday, March 20**

10:45 am, People of Faith Bible Study, Hospitality Room

11:30 am, Egg Stuffing Party!, Kitchen

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

2:00 pm, High Tea Meeting, Hospitality Room

5:00 pm, Soup Supper, Narthex

6:00 pm, Lenten Study (Chapter 8 and Conclusion), Hospitality Room

7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal, Church

### **Friday, March 22**

5:30 pm, Soul Kitchen Dinner, Narthex and Kitchen

### **Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday**

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

**Toys and Candy Needed for Easter Eggs!** – We have lots of plastic eggs, please provide small toys and candies for stuffing.

**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 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

\*As done in past years, Friday's Collection will go to the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem.

**Saturday, March 30**

7:00 pm

**Easter Vigil**

Baptism

Historical Chapel

**Sunday, March 31**

9:30 am

**Easter Sunday**

Holy Eucharist, Children's Sermon, Reception & Children's Egg Hunt

**Monday, April 1**

**Office Closed**

**Tuesday, April 2**

**Rev. Betsy & Dcn. Tom - Day Off**

**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