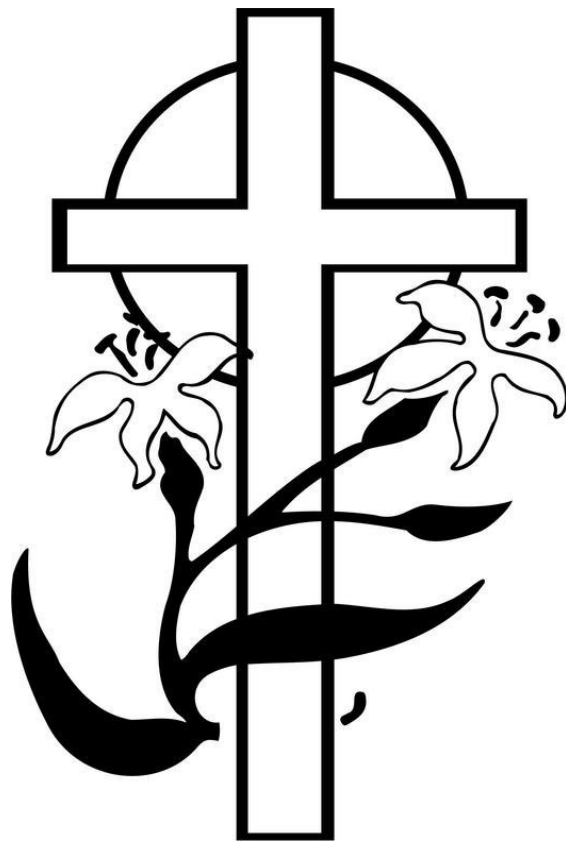


*Welcome to*

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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



**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

April 28, 2024 ☩ 9:30 am

# 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) 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 lifestyles, 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 Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by:**

Joey & Christina Soria in celebration of Christina's birthday on April 30.

*If you would like to donate flowers, please contact the church office at 369-3381.*

---

## **Those Who Serve Today**

*Celebrant/Preacher:* The Rev. Besty McElroy (B)

*Deacon:* The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

*Choir Director:* Steven Weikle

*Pianist/Organist:* Rebecca Nelson

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

*Lectors:* Charlene Martin (B) & Debby Weberski

*Camera Acolyte:* Holly Wilson (GF)

*Crucifer:* Cheryl Nix (C)

*Ushers:* Paula Saubolle & Debby Weberski

*Sound:* Corky Kuykendall

*Altar Guild:* Paula Saubolle & Aleathea Langone

*Vestry Open/Close (Announcements):* Charlene Martin/ Andee Zetterbaum

*Designer Guild:* Ejae Perry & Mandi Sager

*Nursery Care:* None until further notice

*Sunday School:* Peggy Moos

*Coffee Hour:* Carol Foote

*Counters:* Corky Kuykendall & TBA

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)

Copyright: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-706573A

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Prelude

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

arr. by Lloyd Larson

(Copyright 2018 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of The Lorenze Corp. All Rights Reserved. ASCAP Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-706573-A)

**Entrance Hymn** (*Stand as able.*) *O Love, how deep, how broad, how high* Hymnal 448

*(The following is said three times)*

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

BCP 355

*People:* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## The Gloria

*Canticle 20*

Hymnal S278

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles** *All are seated.* Charlene Martin

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. (*Acts 8:26-40*)

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## **Psalm 22:24-30**

Charlene Martin

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*

he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;

my descendants shall serve him; \*

they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*

the saving deeds that he has done.

# A Reading from The First Letter of John

Debby Weberski

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. (1 John 4:7-21)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

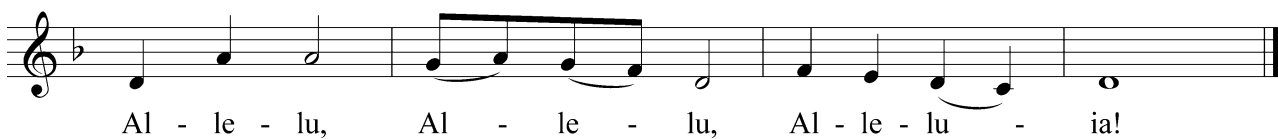
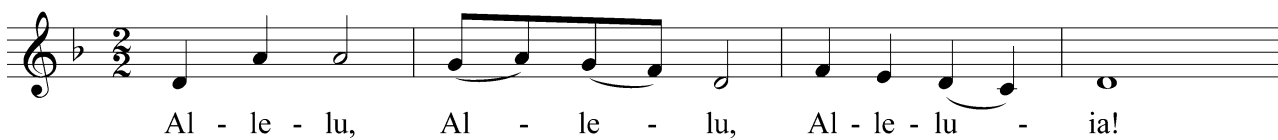
People: Thanks be to God.

## Sequence Hymn

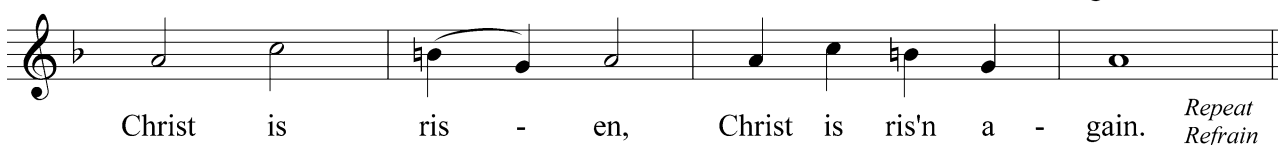
Alleluia 1

Kristopher E. Lindquist

Refrain



Verse



## 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 to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." (*John 15:1-8*)

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

The Rev. Betsy McElroy

## The Baptismal Covenant

BCP p. 304

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* **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.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **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.**

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

## **Easter Reflection**

Carol Bower Foote

## **Prayers of the People** *Form III*

Anne Reeve

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

***That we all may be one.***

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

*There is no confession of sin today, for Christ has died and is now risen, setting us free from the power of sin and death. Thanks be to God!*

## **The Peace**

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

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

*The Peace is exchanged.*

## **Announcements**

## **Birthday's and Anniversary's**

## **Offertory Sentence**



# The Liturgy of the Table

**Offertory Anthem**

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life*

Hymnal 487

**The Doxology**

*Praise to God (vs. 3 only)*

Hymnal 380

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer C (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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
*Glory to you for ever and ever.*

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
*By your will they were created and have their being.*

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
*Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.  
*By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.*

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*(Celebrant and People)*

## **Sanctus**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Hymnal S-128

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.*

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*(traditional)*

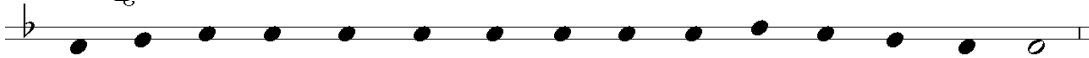
BCP p. 364

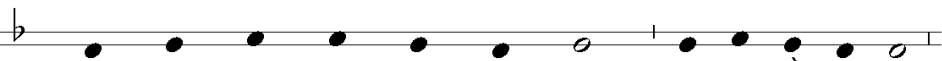
*Celebrant:* And now as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

*Celebrant:*  Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

*People:*  There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

*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.

## The 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 Hymn

*Alleluia 7*

*Taize*

*Light and lively* ♩ = 116



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## **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.

## **Post communion Prayer** *Standing*

EOW

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*The Celebrant blesses the people.*

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn**

*Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing*

Hymnal 344

## **The Dismissal**

*Deacon:* Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## **Postlude**

*Fughetta in C*

by D. Duxtehude

(Public Domain, arrangement copyright Oxford University Press 1972. All Rights Reserved. ASCAP Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-706573-A)

**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

**April 26 - May 1: The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson is Out-Of-Town**

**Tuesday, April 16 - Friday, April 26: The Rev. Betsy McElroy Out-Of-Town**

**Tuesday, April 23**

10:00 am, Staff Meeting, Church Office

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

**Wednesday, April 24**

12 Noon, Noon-Day Prayer, Historical Chapel

6:30 pm, Choir Practice, Hospitality Room

**Friday, April 26**

5:30 pm, Soul Kitchen Dinner, Church Narthex, Doors Open at 5:00 pm

**Saturday, April 27 - Love Lodi Event**

**Sunday, May 5 - Rogation Sunday**

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

10:45 am, Creation Care Potluck Picnic, Narthex & Outside.

12 Noon, Rogation Procession, Following Church Service

**Love Lodi - Saturday, April 27:** This year Love Lodi is on April 27th. As in past years, we are recruiting a team from St. John's to join in! To learn more about Love Lodi, see <https://lovelodi.org/>. We are encouraging folks to sign up for the library-related projects. If you have registered online, please sign up on the Ministry Table to let us know you are attending.

**The Creation Care Team** is planning a potluck picnic for Rogation Sunday, May 5th at the church after worship. Tables and chairs will be set up on the patio for "al fresco" dining. Please bring your favorite dishes. To help ensure that we have a variety, we invite you to follow this plan (not mandatory): last name A-F: desserts; G-P: main dishes; Q-Z: sides and salads. Please see the flyer and sign up sheet at the Ministry Table.

**Calling All Gardeners!:** If you would like to tend a plot behind the church, contact our head of Buildings and Grounds, Aleathea Langone at 209-366-3410. Weather permitting, she plans to be at the church on Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00 and would love to have company.

---

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist  
Presents...



Saturday, May 11, 2024

12:00 noon to 4:00 pm

Tickets are \$20.00 per person which includes:

12:00 noon: Doors Open

12:00 noon to 1:00 pm: Luncheon

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm: 10 Bingo Games  
2 Bingo Cards

**Space is limited, reservations are suggested**

**Please RSVP by calling**

Mary Ellen at 209-369-4240 or

St. John's Church at 209-369-3381 or

Sign Up at the Ministry Table at Church

1055 S. Lower Sacramento Road

Lodi, Ca 95242

---

**Buy Your High Tea Tickets Today!** Tickets for the High Tea are on sale after the church service. See the table in the Narthex near the ministry table. See the flyer on page 16 for all details!

**Confirmation / Episcopalian 101 Classes** Are you interested in being confirmed in the Episcopal Church? Were you confirmed in another denomination, but would like to be received into the Episcopal Church? Would you like to reaffirm your commitment to the Episcopal Church? Do you wonder what these words mean? Or, are you just interested in learning about what it means to be an Episcopalian? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, please reach out to Rev. Betsy or Deacon Tom or add your name to the sign-up sheet on the ministry table. We will be hosting a series of classes soon to all who are open to a deeper connection to God through our particular faith expression. These classes will be in preparation for the Rt. Rev. David Rice’s visitation on September 8.

**Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed!** Don’t Bake? No worries! Coffee is provided. It’s a wonderful way to meet members and lean into your baptismal covenant of fellowship.

**Please Take Note:** If you have household items that you no longer need or want, we ask that you donate to charities such as The Lodi House, Salvation Army, Animal Friends (PALS) to name a few. Please do **NOT** bring any items that you no longer want or need to the church. If you are unsure, then please contact the committee head.

**Living Into Resurrected Life** – At the back of the church on the West Doors, you will find poster paper and markers. Please take a moment to add how you live into your baptismal promises (with your name or anonymously). Here are a few prompts to guide you in your personal reflection:

- How does Jesus continue his ministry through your life?
- Are you inspired to find additional ways after spending time in prayer and self-reflection over Lent? If so, in what way?
- If Jesus stood before you today, what would he ask you to do?

**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

# High Tea

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

SAT | JUNE 8TH | 12-3PM

HIGH TEA, SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE

\$35 PER PERSON

\$15 FOR YOUTH AGES 10-15

\$200 FOR TABLE OF 6

LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS AVAILABLE  
FROM THE GIVELIFY APP OR THE CHURCH OFFICE.

\*IN THE GIVELIFY APP: AFTER YOU'VE CHOSEN THE  
AMOUNT OF PAYMENT, SELECT "OTHER",  
AND ADD IN THE MESSAGE BOX "FOR TEA."

ADDRESS: 1055 S. LOWER SACRAMENTO RD  
LODI, CA 95242

PHONE: PENNY WILSON - 209-369-3381

EMAIL: STJOHNSLODI@SBCGLOBAL.NET

WEB: STJOHNSOFLODI.ORG

