

*Welcome to*

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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



## Children's Liturgy for Christmas Eve and Holy Eucharist

December 24, 2024 ☩

3:30 p.m. - Carols

4:00 pm - Service

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

A warm welcome to all who are worshiping with us today.

**Let us get to know you:** We love to welcome and visit with our guests. If you would like, you may also fill out a newcomer information card, found in the pew rack or on the Ministry Table. There are also cards in the pew rack which you may fill out and place in the offering plate.

St. John's wishes to acknowledge and honor the Yokut and Miwok people[s] upon whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as the resilience and strength of all our indigenous siblings around the world.

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See page 10 - 12 for a list of Christmas Flowers

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*Ushers will be handing out candles at the entrance of the church.*

## *Those Who Serve Today*

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

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

*Choir Director:* Steven Weikle

*Pianist/Organist:* Michael Tompkins

*Guest Musicians:* Raphael Pazo & Barbara Krengel

*Eucharistic Minister:* Anne Reeve (CW)

*Lectors:* Candice Gale, Charlene Martin (CJ) & Hennie Van Konynenburg

*Camera Acolyte:* Fran Bott (GF)

*Crucifer:* Candice Gale (CW)

*Ushers:* Sharon Farnsworth & Andee Zetterbaum

*Sound:* Steve Augusto

*Altar Guild:* Anne & Jim Reeve

*Vestry Open/Close (Announcements):* Debby Weberski/Charlene Martin

*Designer Guild:* All Flower Guild Members

*Nursery Care:* None

*Sunday School:* None

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The Rev. Betsy McElroy, Rector

Worship: Sundays 9:30 a.m.

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday

1055 S. Lower Sacramento Road, Lodi, California 95242

209.369.3381 (voice) † stjohnslodi.org † stjohnslodi@sbcglobal.net

# A CHILDREN'S LITURGY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND HOLY EUCHARIST

*Please place cell phones in the silent mode.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### 3:30 pm Carols

*Bagpipes – Outside Greeting*  
*Good Christian friends, rejoice*  
*It came upon the midnight clear*  
*The First Nowell the angel did say*  
*Go, tell it on the mountain*  
*Soft Bagpipes Inside*

Raphael Pazo  
Hymnal 107  
Hymnal 89  
Hymnal 109  
Hymnal 99  
Raphael Pazo

### Prelude

*Evening Noel*

by Jaque Berthier

### Entrance Hymn:

*(Please stand)*

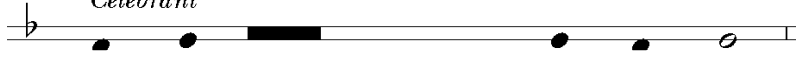
*Hark! The herald angels sing*

Hymnal 87

### Opening Acclamation

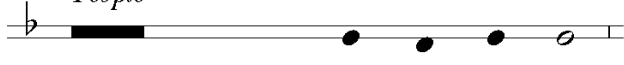
Hymnal S80

*Celebrant*



Christ the Lord is born this night

*People*



O come, let us adore him

*(All remain standing.)*

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **and also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

### The Gloria

*Canticle 20*

Hymnal S278

# On the Way to Bethlehem

*(The congregation is seated)*

## **Narrator 1 – Mary and Joseph Go to Bethlehem**

Deacon Tom

*O little town of Bethlehem*

*(verses 1-3)*

Hymnal 79

## **Narrator 2 – The Angels Arrive**

Candice Gale

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Hymnal 96

## **Narrator 3 – The Angels tell the shepherds**

Charlene Martin

*Away in the Manger*

Hymnal 101

## **Narrator 4 – Surprised by Joy**

Hennie Van Konynenburg

*O come, all ye faithful*

Hymnal 83

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad every year as we remember the birth of the Child Jesus, the Savior of the world. Grant that, like the shepherds and angels, we too may know him on earth; and grant that his spirit of peace may fill our hearts, our families, and our world, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Children's Sermon**

The Rev. Betsy McElroy

**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.**

## **The Peace**

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

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

*The Peace is exchanged.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

## Offertory Anthem

*He is Born!*

Arr. Philip Kern

*Offering envelopes for your Christmas giving may be found in the pew.*

## Presentation Hymn

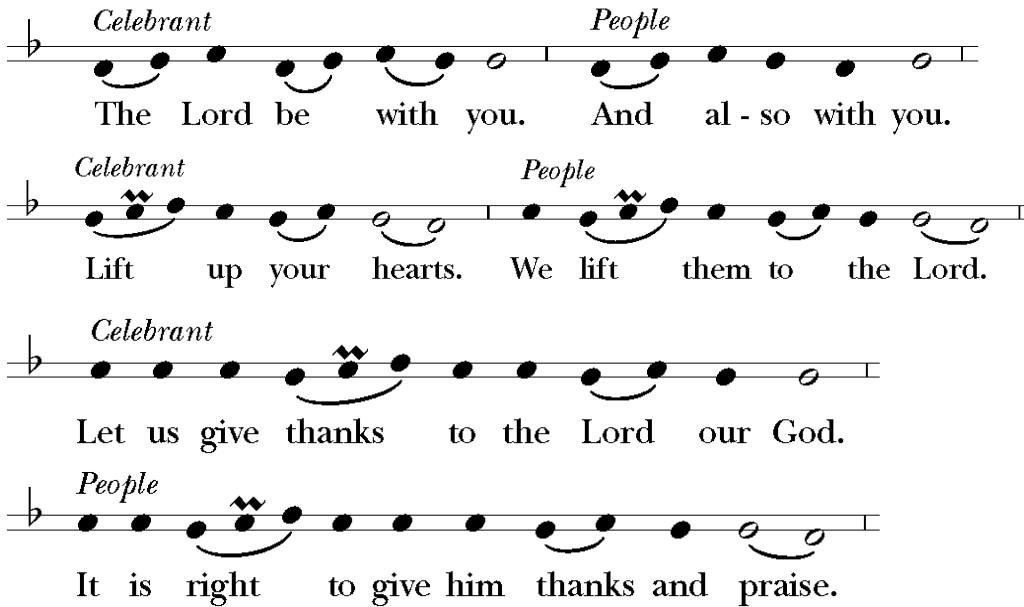
*The Doxology*

Hymnal 380 vs. 3 only

## The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B (Standing)

Hymnal S120

*Celebrant*                      *People*



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

*Proper Preface of the Season/Chosen by Celebrant*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus

*Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Hymnal S-124


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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

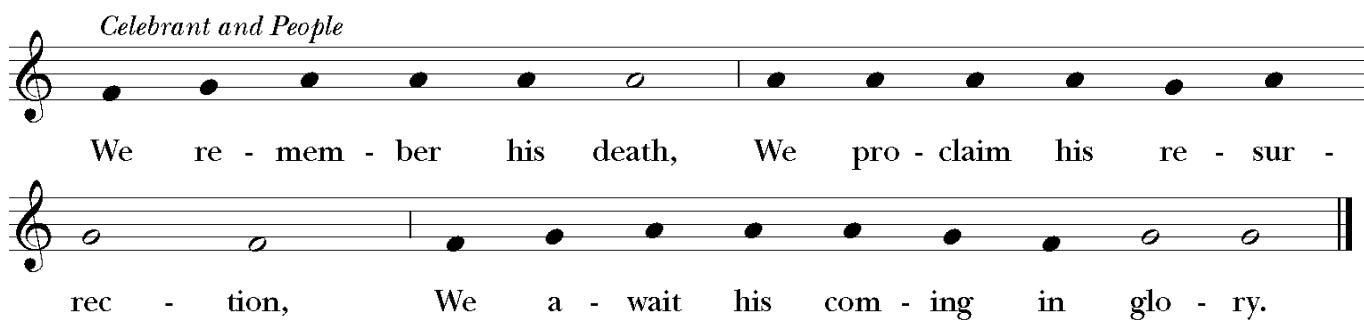
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*Celebrant*



There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

*Celebrant and People*



We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -  
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

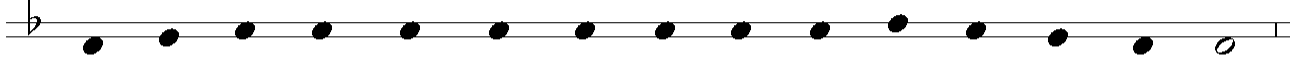
*Celebrant:* As our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

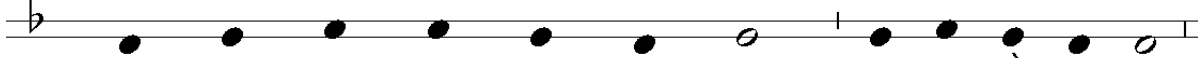
Hymnal S152

*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.

## Fraction Hymn

*The disciples knew the Lord Jesus*

WLP 877

*Choir/Cantor*



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

*Refrain- All Sing*



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

*Choir/Cantor*

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

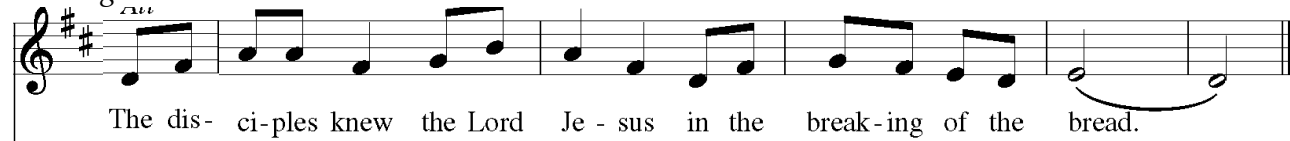


Refrain – All Sing

Choir/Cantor

One body are we, alleluia, though many we share one bread.

All Sing



Celebrant continues,

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. Please place hands crossed over your heart if you wish to receive communion in one kind, or a blessing.

### Communion Hymn

*In the bleak midwinter*

Hymnal 112

### Communion Music

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
O the Father's love begotten*

Hymnal 81

Hymnal 82

### Postcommunion Prayer *(Celebrant & people, kneeling or seated.)*

BCP p. 365

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*All:* **Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us  
as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Acolyte and Crucifer to start lighting the candles of the parishioners on the aisle. Take flame from the "Christ" candle on the Advent Wreath. People will pass the flame down the aisle.*

## Candle Lighting

*Silent Night*

Hymnal 111

Verses 1-3 then repeat verse 1 again. (*After repeat of 1<sup>st</sup> verse, silence is kept.*)

## The Christmas Blessing

*The Celebrant offers God's blessing.*

## Closing Hymn *(Standing)*

*Joy to the World*

Hymnal 100

## The Dismissal

*Deacon:* Go in the peace of the Word made flesh.

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

## Postlude

*Joy to the World*

**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:



*We offer special thanks for our donors for*

## **2024 Christmas Thanksgivings and Remembrances**

Mary Ellen Beckman, in loving memory of Kenneth and our family members who are departed and thanksgiving for family and friends, special thanks for Sam, Ruth, Annie, John, Henry and Oliver

Julie Ellis, in loving memory of Norman Lithco

Carol Bower Foote, in loving memory of cousins David, Douglas, Laurie and spouses Tom, Pete, and Gordy

Marilyn & John Cook, in thanksgiving for many wonderful blessings, Steve, Nancy & Walt

Ruth Diekman, in loving memory and in thanksgiving for family members and friends

Beth & Jim Elwood, In loving memory of our parents, family and friends no longer with us

Sharon Farnsworth, in loving memory of George Farnsworth and in thanksgiving for family present and departed

St. John's family in memory of Patricia Fehling and all her many works

Elfonda Filomeo, for all God's blessings and in memory of Brandon, Donald and Maybelle

Lewis and Candice Gale in thanksgiving for our children Madeline, Lewis and Brandon

Kathy Girard, in loving memory of Pete Girard and family

Annabelle Goodwin in loving memory of Bob & Marilyn Blincoe

Bob & Patsy Gorczyca, in memory of our parents, John & Stella Gorczyca and John & Kitten Tymkowych, and in thanksgiving for our church family

Linda Harkins & Lisa Ayers, in loving memory of Husband & Dad Jack Harkins and so many members of family and dear friends.

Donna and Bob Hoffman, in memory of their daughter, Kimberly Crespi and granddaughters, Tessara and Samantha Crespi

The Krengel Family in memory of Richard and Carol Krengel

Corky Kuykendall, in loving memory of my wonderful wife Karen, of our daughter Gia, our granddaughter Amanda and our parents Bill & Ruth and Paul & Thelma and Malachi DeLanoy

John and Edyth Ledbetter, in celebration of life of their parents, Grace and Ernie Ellis, and Barbara and Keith Ledbetter; sister Carol Grimes and for the blessings of children and grandchildren

Patsy Lithco, in loving memory of Norman Lithco

Patsy Lithco, in loving memory of Norval & Betty Gundershaug

Ida Mae Lobb, in loving memory of Mary Thomas, Elizabeth Lobb, Kristy Lobb and Joe Lobb

Peggy Moos, in thanksgiving for family members past and present

John Nieman in loving memory of Fran Nieman  
Kelly & Karen Olds in thanksgiving for St. John's Parish Family

Anne and Jim Reeve, In memory of John Reeve, Roger & Marian Reeve and Ellen & George Webster

Paula Saubolle, in memory of my father Louis Bachmann, The Rev. Roger R. Jones and my brother-in-law Gordon Lockhart

Vinita Shinn, in loving memory of her husband, Bob, and her parents, John and Eula Coulter

Hennie VanKonynenburg and Tom Hampson in loving memory of Lee & Margaret Hampson and Frank & Christina VanKonynenburg

Joel and Nancy Walker, in loving memory of our parents: Barbara & Keith Ledbetter and Opal & Art Walker; in memory my sister, Carol Grimes and in thanksgiving for many wonderful blessing

Ken & Barbara Warburton in loving memory of parents, Harry & Reta Petersen and Charles & Ethel Warburton

The Wied and Schmitt Families, in loving memory of Douglas and Christine Wied

Dick, Janie, Lindsey and Allison in loving memory of Jerry & Max Christesen and in thanksgiving for family and friends!

Penny, Hannah & Holly Wilson, in loving memory of a wonderful husband and father Greg Wilson, also in memory of "Oz" Wilson, Randy Wilson and Carolyn Wilson

**The Office is closed the week of December 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> & January 1**

**Financial Gifts to St. John's Are Always Welcome**

- **2025 Pledges** continue to be gratefully accepted and may be mailed to or dropped off in the office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday.

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