

Welcome to

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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



The First Sunday after the Epiphany
The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ
January 12, 2025 † 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) 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.

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.

Today's Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by:

Roxy & Steve Woodard in loving memory of her mother, Barbara Voss, for her birthday, January 17.

John Nieman in loving memory of his wife, Fran Nieman for her birthday, January 17.

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

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

Eucharistic Ministers: Margaret Meyers (CW) & Candice Gale (CJ)

Lectors: Stacey Bagnasco & Debby Weberski

Camera Acolyte: Fran Bott (GF)

Crucifer: Stacey Bagnasco (CW)

Ushers: Debby Weberski & TBA

Sound: Jim Bassett

Altar Guild: Anne Reeve & Stuart Krengel

Vestry Open/Close (Announcements): Margaret Meyers / Christina Soria

Designer Guild: Allison Dooley & Janie Williams

Nursery Care: None until further notice

Sunday School: Peggy Moos

Coffee Hour: Diane & Robert Elliott

Counters: Sharon Farnsworth & TBA

The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Bright and glorious is the sky arranged by David N. Johnson

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Entrance Hymn

(Standing)

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

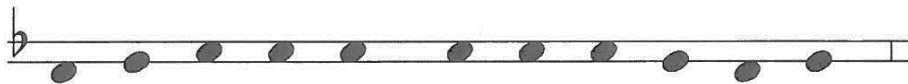
Hymnal 448

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Opening Acclamation

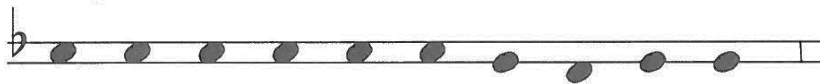
EOW1

Celebrant



Bless-ed be the one, ho - ly and liv - ing God.

People



Glo - ry to God for ev - er and ev - er.

Collect for Purity *(Celebrant continues)*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

(Celebrant & people)

God is Love (vs. 1&2)

Hymnal 379

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Stacey Bagnasco

Thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth--everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." (*Isaiah 43:1-7*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29

Stacey Bagnasco

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"

10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.

11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

A Reading from The Acts of the Apostles

Debby Weberski

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.." (Acts 8:14-17)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Baptized in water

Hymnal 294

A Reading from the Holy Gospel Luke

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

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:15-17, 21-22)

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

The Baptismal Covenant *All stand as able and read together.*

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.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Baptismal Asperging

We know that Christ is raised

Hymnal 296

Prayers of the People – Form III

Margaret Meyers

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 People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Confession

EOW

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God. *(stand or knee as able.)*

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Celebrant pronounces the Absolution:

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

The Celebrant continues

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy god, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Proper Preface of the Season/Chosen by Celebrant

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

(Celebrant and People)

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S-129

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.

You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

(Celebrant and People)

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John the Baptist our patron, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.



The Lord's Prayer *(traditional)*

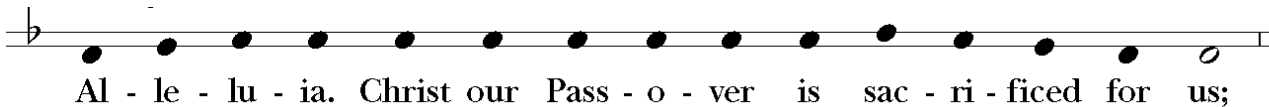
Celebrant: And now as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

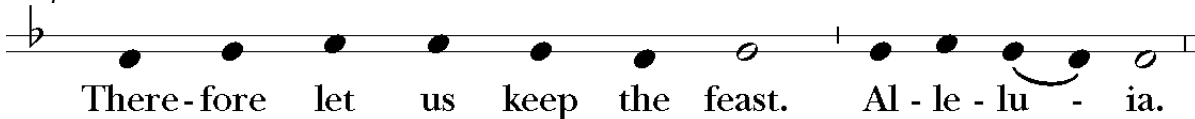
The Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal S152

Celebrant



People

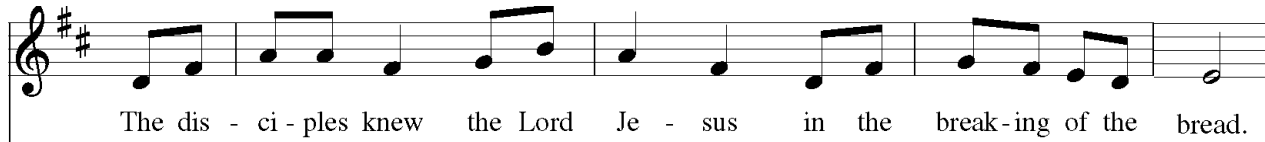


Fraction Hymn

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus

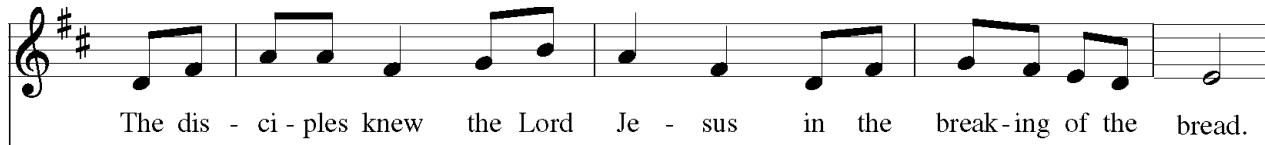
WLP 877

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

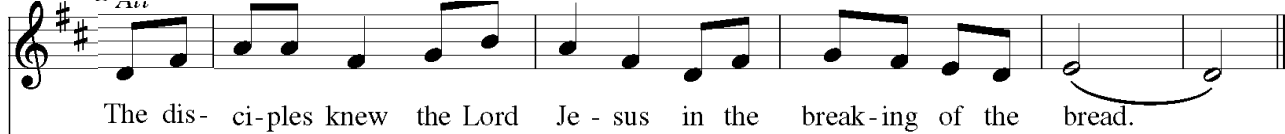
The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

Refrain - All Sing

Choir/Cantor

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

All Sing



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

Celebrant continues,

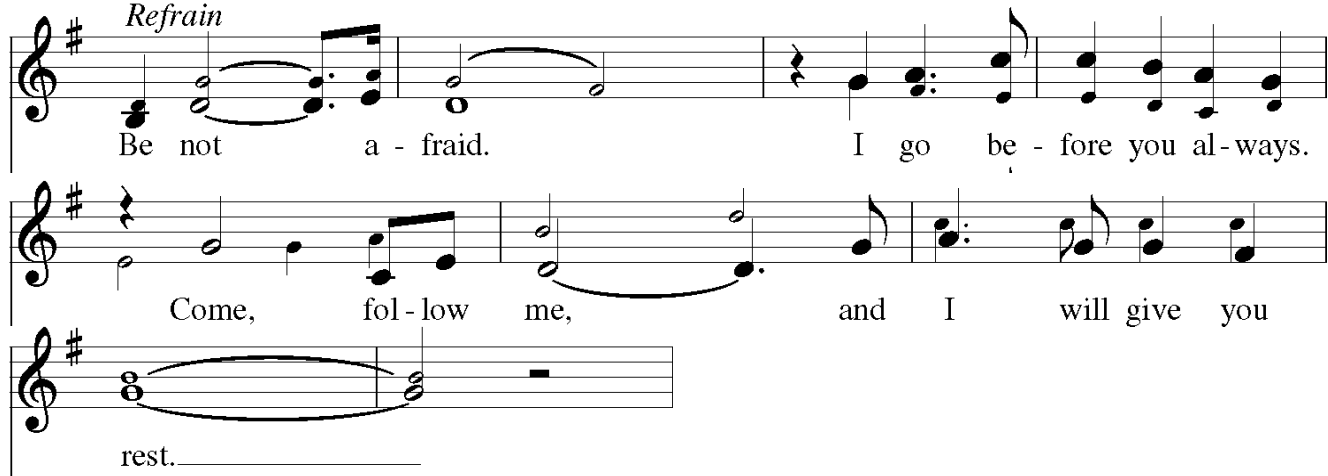
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Music

You shall cross the barren desert

WLP 811

Refrain



Be not a - fraid. I go be - fore you al - ways.
Come, fol - low me, and I will give you
rest.

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

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 sent the Holy spirit to rest upon the Only begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Christ, when for us you were baptized

Hymnal 121

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in the peace of the word made flesh.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Christ the cornerstone

by Roger C. Wilson

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:



Upcoming Calendar

Sunday, January 12

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

Monday, January 13 - 4:15 pm, Salvation Army Dinner Service, Hope Harbor

Tuesday, January 14

10:00 am, Staff Meeting, Church Office

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

Wednesday, January 15

12:00 Noon, Noon-Day Prayer, Historic Chapel

6:30pm, Choir Practice, Hospitality Room

Thursday, January 16 - 8:00 pm, Compline Prayer, Zoom

January 16 - 18: The Rev. Betsy McElroy Out-Of-Office

Sunday, January 19

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

5:00 pm, Men's BBQ, Church

Join us every Wednesday at 12 Noon for Noon-Day Prayer in the Chapel.

Compline Prayer Thursdays @ 8:00 pm: Here's the link for the **Thursday, 8:00 PM, Compline service.** Topic: Compline Time: 8:00 PM Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82473384767?pwd=7xJY6MbaOLFjrnINWm41nZPDJIT87T.1>
Meeting ID: 824 7338 4767 Passcode: 168908

Labyrinth in the Historic Chapel - During the season of Epiphany, a labyrinth will be available for your use in the Historic Chapel. Walking a labyrinth is one of the oldest forms of contemplative prayer in which one weaves themselves inward toward the center and then back out again. Descriptions and ideas for prayer when using it will be available. The labyrinth will be available on Sunday mornings and during office hours. Please see Penny, Rev. Betsy, or Dc. Tom for access to the chapel. Note: this labyrinth is on generous loan from St. Raphael's in Oakhurst. Please remove your shoes prior to walking on it.

****Attention Ministry Leaders! Ministry Reports due January 13, 2025**

It is that time again to start preparing for the Annual Meeting in January. Please have your Ministry reports to Penny in the office by January 13, 2025. Thank you.

Men's BBQ - Sunday January 19 at 5:00pm - Please check out the ministry table and sign up if you plan on attending the 1st Men's BBQ of 2025. Bring a friend. If you have questions, please see John Ledbetter and/or Dick Williams. It is a great time for good food, wine and fellowship!

Annual Church Meeting - Sunday, January 26, 2025 following the Church Service. Budget will be presented and voted on. Thank you to outgoing Vestry Members and the welcoming of new Vestry Members.

Coffee Hour for Sunday, January 26 – A potluck is planned for coffee hour for our Annual Meeting. Please bring your favorite snack to share. We are looking for a couple of people to cover the kitchen to help keep things moving smoothly. Let us know if you would like to volunteer! See Penny in the office (209) 369-3381.

Vestry Nominations are Open . . . Feeling Called? - We are in the process of gathering names for our 2027 Vestry Class. The vestry serves as the board for St. John's. Please read the November Newsletter for a detailed description. If you are feeling called to serve, please let any of our current vestry members, Rev. Betsy, or Dc. Tom know and we will put your name forward (or if you know someone who'd serve well in this ministry).

Fun and easy ways to get involved! - I know you're thinking, I would like to help out at church but it needs to be easy and fit in my schedule. Think about doing one of the following items just ONCE a month or every other month...

Counter: Help count the collection plate and take a deposit to the bank. You will be buddied up with another person.

Sound Person: You will be trained.

Coffee Hour: Find a friend to buddy up with or Penny can help you find someone.

Camera Acolyte: You will be trained.

Usher: We will find a person to Usher with you. Easy and a fun way to say "Hi" to everyone.

Altar Guild: These ladies and gentlemen set the altar with everything needed for our Sunday Services. You will be trained and partnered.

Designers Guild: Ever wonder who puts together all the flowers and extra decorations in the church for each Sunday? You will be trained and buddied up with someone. No special skills required.

Eucharistic Ministers and Crucifer: These are the robed people who serve with Rev. Betsy and Dcn. Tom during the service. You will be trained.

There are many more ways to help, just talk to Penny in the office if you are interested. You can email at stjohnslodi@sbcglobal.net or call 209-369-3381 and leave a message.

The 123rd Annual Meeting of The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

After the Sunday Eucharist on January 26th, after enjoying your food and beverage, join us as we review 2024 and present the budget for 2025.

We will say thank you to our out-going Vestry Members as well as vote in new Vestry Members and our Delegates to Convention.

Please bring your favorite snack or beverage to share for a "Potluck" style coffee hour.



SOUPER SUNDAY

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Calling all chefs and lovers of soup! On Feb 9th St. John's Lodi will hold the first Souper Sunday. Not to be confused with that football game on the same day! This Souper fundraiser will help support church ministries and is a perfect way to build community through food. All are welcome to participate by making or buying soup.

Soup Makers:

- Sign up to provide soup between Jan 5 and Jan 26
- The sign-up sheet will be on the Ministry table along with quart containers
- On Feb 9, plan to donate 4-8 qts of soup in the containers provided (may be frozen or chilled)

Soup Buyers:

- Soups for sale will be posted on "Soup Sheets" in the hallway to the Hospitality Room
- Anyone can sign up to purchase a soup by putting your name on the Soup Sheet
- Soups are \$15 per quart to be picked up on Feb 9 at coffee hour
- Bring checks made out to St. John's or cash to pick up your soup on Feb 9

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



Saturday, February 22, 2025

12:00 noon to 3:00 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 3:00 pm: 10 Bingo Games

2 Bingo Cards

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