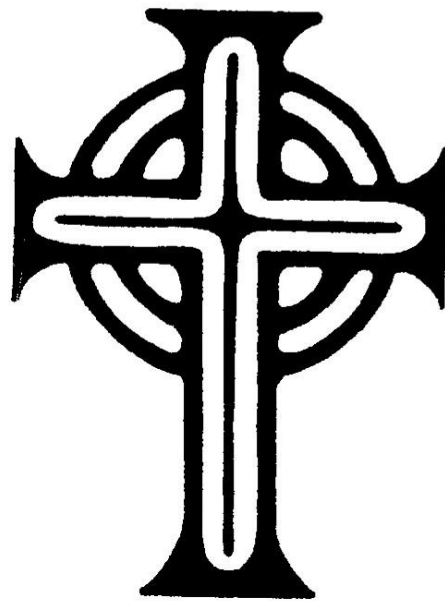


Welcome to
**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

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



Morning Prayer
The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025 ☩ 9:30 am

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:

Carol Bower Foote in celebration of Richard Park Bower's birthday.

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

Those Who Serve Today

Rector: The Rev. Betsy McElroy (Out of Town)

Deacon/Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

Choir Director: Steven Weikle

Pianist/Organist: Michael Tompkins

Eucharistic Minister: Beth Elwood

Lectors: Carol Foote & Rosemary Cress

Camera Acolyte: Joey Soria

Crucifer: None

Ushers: David Diekman & Brad Huffman

Sound: James Bassett

Altar Guild: Anne Reeve & Charlene Martin

Vestry Open/Close (Announcements): Margaret Meyers/Charlene Martin

Designer Guild: Allison Dooley & Janie Williams

Nursery Care: None until further notice

Sunday School:

Coffee Hour: Dick & Janie Williams

Counters: Sharon Farnsworth & Joey Soria

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Welcome:

The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

Prelude

Idyll

by David Paxton

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Entrance Hymn (*Stand as able.*) *Praise to the Lord the Almighty* Hymnal 390

Opening Sentence:

Deacon: From the rising of the sun to its setting my Name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to my Name, and a pure offering: for my Name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. (*Malachi 1:11*)

Confession

BCP p. 79

The Presider says,

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us pause in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

All together

**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.**

The Presider says

BCP p. 80

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

Invitatory *(All Stand)*

BCP p. 80

Deacon: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Presider and people,

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever, Amen. Alleluia.

Deacon: The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7 All together*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

People: The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

Psalm 37:1-12,41-42 *Please be seated*

Carol Foote

1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.

3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

- 4 Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

A Reading from The Book of Genesis

Carol Foote

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord

of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. (*Genesis 45:3-11,15*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9 *All Stand and say together*

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading from The Gospel According to Luke

Rosemary Cress

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." *(Luke 6:27-38)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 17 *All Stand and say together* *The Song of Simeon*

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

Silence

The Apostles Creed *(All together)*

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

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. Amen.

The Prayers

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Deacon Let us pray.

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.

Suffrages A

Beth Elwood

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

BCP p. 376

Anthem

Praise the Lord

Natalie Sleeth

Collection will be taken during Anthem

Doxology *(as gifts and pledges are brought forward)*

Hymnal 380, verse 3

Prayers of the People *Form III*

Beth Elwood

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 People may add their own petitions

The Presider 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 General Thanksgiving *Deacon and People*

BCP p. 101

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP p. 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our
common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of
them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us
in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence *Presider*

BCP p. 102

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or
imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus
for ever and ever. Amen. *Ephesians 3:20,21*

Closing Hymn

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

Hymnal 344

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Share His Love with all the World

by Trenton Watkins

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

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



Announcements

February 23 – 27: Rev. Betsy on Vacation

Tuesday, February 25

10:00 am, Staff Meeting, Church Office

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

Wednesday, February 26

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

6:30 pm, Choir Practice, Hospitality Room

Thursday, February 27

8:00 pm, Compline Prayer Service, Zoom

Friday, February 28

5:30 pm, Soul Kitchen Dinner, Church Narthex

Saturday, March 1

10:30 am, LGBTQ+ Workshop, Church, Narthex & Hospitality Room

Sunday, March 2

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, 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=7xJY6MbaOLFjrnlnNWm41nZPDJIT87T.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. NOTE: The labyrinth will be returned to St. Raphael's on March 4.

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.

LGBTQ(QIP2SA+) – say *WHAT?*

An introduction to the many ways of being human

From 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon on Saturday, March 1 a workshop at St. John's Lodi is being held. Check out the February Newsletter for more details or ask Andee Zetterbaum questions. The program is designed to be a safe space to learn and explore via presentations, interactive breakout sessions, sharing of some personal stories, and time for questions and conversation.

The workshop is FREE (\$10 per person freewill donation suggested to help cover expenses). Pre-registration is required – click here to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lgbtqqip2sa-say-what-tickets-1210112291439?aff=oddtcreator>

Greg Wilson Men's BBQ – Sunday, March 2 – Special Announcement- We invite the Women of St. Johns to join the men on Sunday, March 2 at 5:00 pm. Let us do the cooking. Please see the ministry table to sign up!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - Tuesday, March 4, 2025 – from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Please check out the Ministry Table to sign up to attend or donate items for our Pancake Supper!

Ash Wednesday – March 5 – 12:00 Noon and 6:30 pm. Both will take place in the Historic Chapel. No communion at the 12 Noon service. Music and communion at the 6:30 pm service.



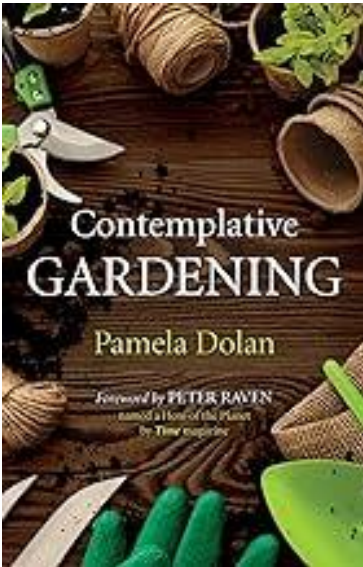
**- Wednesdays in Lent - 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm -
March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & 9**

5:00 p.m.

Soup Supper - Church Narthex

6:00 p.m.

Lenten Class - Hospitality Room



Check out the Ministry Table for sign ups and more information!

Please consider bringing a can of soup for the food basket.

If you would like to provide a soup, please sign up

Lodi Energy Center Tour Announcement: **The Creation Care Team** has arranged a tour of the Lodi Energy Center, which uses both natural gas and hydrogen to supply electricity to the region while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Come and learn how energy is produced in Lodi. The tour will take place on Monday, March 24. You can carpool from the church by coming at 12:30, or meet us at 1:00 at the Energy Center on 12745 Thornton Road, Lodi. The tour will take about two hours, with some sitting and some walking. Sign up on the ministry table to reserve a spot on the tour.

Scribble Page

2025 Vestry Members

Fran Bott, Senior Warden
Eric Goossens, Junior Warden
Andee Zetterbaum, Secretary
Beth Elwood, Clerk
Stacey Bagnasco
Bob Gorczyca
Katie Howard
Brad Huffman
Charlene Martin
Margaret Meyers
Christina Soria