

Welcome to

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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



The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

March 2, 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:

Ida Mae Lobb in loving memory of her husband Joe for his birthday, March 3.

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

Those Who Serve Today

Celebrant: The Rev. Betsy McElroy (B)

Deacon/Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson (B)

Choir Director: Steven Weikle

Pianist/Organist: Michael Tompkins

Eucharistic Ministers: Margaret Meyers (CW) & Charlene Martin (CJ)

Lectors: Debby Weberski & Candice Gale

Camera Acolyte: Brad Huffman (GF)

Crucifer: Beth Elwood (CW)

Ushers: Katie Howard & Tom Gundershaug

Sound: Stephanie Pilcher

Altar Guild: Jim Reeve & Dee Mayfield

Vestry Open/Close (Announcements): Debby Weberski / Margaret Meyers

Designer Guild: Kathy Girard & Barbara Warburton

Nursery Care: None until further notice

Sunday School: TBA

Coffee Hour: Megan Harrison

Counters: Sharon Farnsworth & Eric Goossens

The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Meditation

by Douglas Wagner

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Entrance Hymn *(Standing)*

Songs of thankfulness and praise

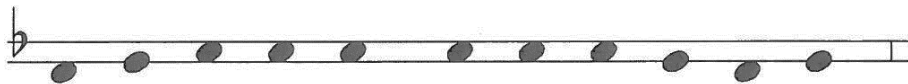
Hymnal 135

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Opening Acclamation

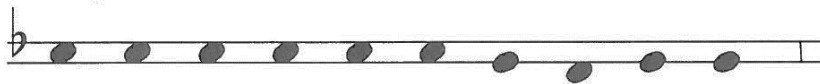
EOW1

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.

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Candice Gale

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him. (*Exodus 34:29-35*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 99

Candice Gale

- 1 The LORD is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
- 2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

Debby Weberski

A Reading from The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

(2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *We sing of God, the mighty source (vs. 1&2)* Hymnal 386

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.**

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood

with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

[On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.] *(Luke 9:28-36,[37-43a])*

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

Nicene Creed *All stand as able.*

Deacon Tom Hampson

**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.

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 Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

The Peace is exchanged.

Announcements

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)*

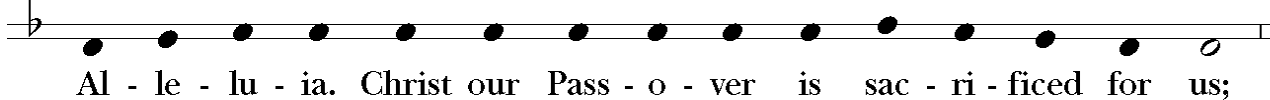
Celebrant: And now as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

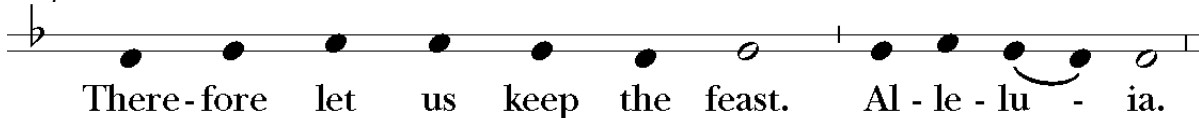
The Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal S152

Celebrant



People

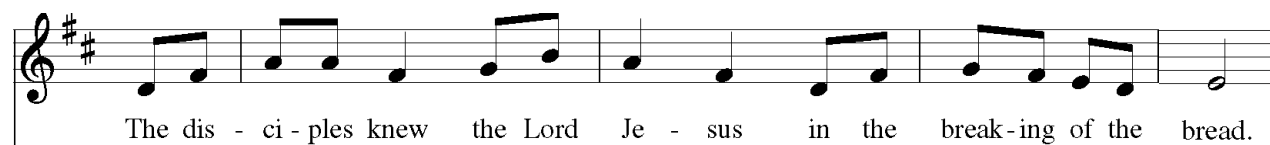


Fraction Hymn

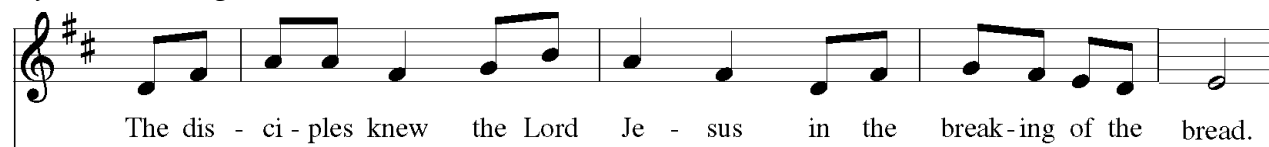
The disciples knew the Lord Jesus

WLP 877

Choir/Cantor



Refrain- All Sing



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 Music

Bread of life for sinners broken

Hymnal 342

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.

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn *Go forth with God: go to the world in peace* Hymnal 347

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Toccata Perpetua

by Lani Smith

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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:



Upcoming Calendar

Sunday, March 2

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church & Narthex

5:00 pm, Men's & Women's BBQ, Narthex & Kitchen

Monday, March 3

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

Tuesday, March 4 - Shrove Tuesday

10:00 am, Staff Meeting, Church Office

5:30 pm, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Narthex & Kitchen

Wednesday, March 5 - Ash Wednesday

10:30 am, People of Faith Bible Study, Nursery

12:00 Noon, Ash Wednesday Service, Historic Chapel

6:30pm, Ash Wednesday Service, Historic Chapel

Thursday, March 6

8:00 pm, Compline Prayer, Zoom

Saturday, March 8

1:00 pm, McLord Private Funeral, Historic Chapel, Church Narthex & Kitchen

The family of Roger McLord wishes to extend an invitation to those who knew and loved him to attend his memorial service on March 8, 2025 at 1 pm, in the Chapel. A reception following the service will be held at the back of the main church. RSVP to (209)610-3937 Sheryl McLord.

Sunday, March 9 - Lent I

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

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!

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.

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.

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