

Welcome to

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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



Palm Sunday **The Sunday of the Passion**

April 13, 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), Enriching Our Worship 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 life styles, 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 Sanctuary Light is given to the glory of God by:

Penny Wilson, remembering all the Palm Sundays spent with my family at St. John's. GP ♥ HH

If you would like to donate for the Lent Sanctuary Light, 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 Minister: Beth Elwood (C)

Lectors: Candice Gale & Hennie Van Konynenburg

Evangelist: Stacey Bagnasco

Jesus: Steve McElroy

Congregation: All

Serving-Maid: Beth Elwood

Peter: Peter Kregel

First Challenger: Anne Reeve

Second Challenger: Catherine Carlson

Pilate: Andee Zetterbaum

First Criminal: Christina Soria

Second Criminal: Hennie Van Konynenburg

Centurion: Candice Gale

Camera Acolyte: Fran Bott (GF)

Crucifer: Stacey Bagnasco (C)

Ushers: Debby Weberski & Tom Gundershaug

Sound: Stephanie Pilcher

Altar Guild: Anne Reeve & Charlene Martin

Vestry Open/Close (Announcements): Debby Weberski / Fran Bott

Designer Guild: Allison Dooley & Janie Williams

Nursery Care: None until further notice

Sunday School: Janie Williams or Peggy Moos

Coffee Hour: TBA

Counters: Eric Goossens & Tom Gundershaug

The Liturgy of the Palms

*Weather permitting, service begins outside, west entrance on patio.
Palms will be on a table to be blessed and
made available to pick up at the appropriate time in the service.*

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke

Dcn Tom Hampson

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." (*Luke 19:28-40*)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Blessing over the Branches

BCP p. 271

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna in the highest.**

The Ushers, Acolyte & Crucifer to pass out palm branches to the congregation.

The Procession

BCP p. 271

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The Congregation follows the altar party in procession around the church ending at the patio (West Door).

Processional Hymn

All glory, laud, and honor

Hymnal #154

Wave palm branches.

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;
 3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;
 5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Repeat Refrain

1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
 2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
 3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
 4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

The procession stops at the West patio door.

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord;

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

While singing the following hymn, the people process into the pews followed by the Altar Party and remain standing.

Hymn

Hosanna in the highest

Hymnal 157

Antiphon (at the beginning)

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 219

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; 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 Isaiah *All are seated.*

Candice Gale

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

(Isaiah 50:4-9a)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:9-16

Candice Gale

- 9 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.
- 10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.
- 11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
- 12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.
- 13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around; *
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.
- 14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *
I have said, "You are my God.
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

All are seated.

Hennie Van Konynenburg

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *(Philippians 2:5-11)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Passion Gospel Reading According to Luke 22:39-23:49 *(seated)*

See insert in your bulletin to read along. Those assigned readings will stand and read from the pews.

Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Tom Hampson

Silence

The Nicene Creed is omitted on this day.

Prayer in Remembrance for Lulu Chavez

Prayers of the People

Beth Elwood

The leader and people pray responsively, standing.

Jesus comes to us humbly, riding a donkey and proclaiming a message of peace. Let us pray, saying: God, hear our prayer. That Christians hear and share the word of God as true disciples, we pray:

God, hear our prayer.

That all the ends of the earth receive the words of the king of peace, we pray:

God, hear our prayer.

That all leaders of the church especially David, our Bishop, Betsy, our Priest, and Tom, our Deacon the leaders of Lodi, the State of California, and The united States, and of the state, prefer humble service to empty power, we pray:

God, hear our prayer.

That those who see the cross starkly revealed in their lives draw strength from the name above every other name, we pray:

God, hear our prayer.

That we who hope to greet Jesus when he comes again be ready and joyful, we pray:

God, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds this concluding collect.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin is omitted on this day.

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements

A Prayer for Thanksgivings

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 all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Anthem

Antiphonal Hosanna

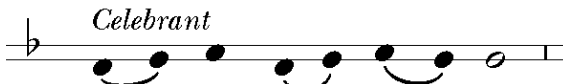
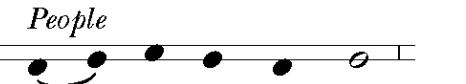
The Doxology

Praise to God (vs. 3 only)

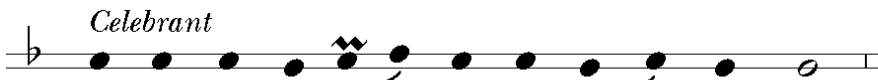
Hymnal 380


The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A (Standing)

Hymnal S120

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
	
The Lord be with you. And also with you.	

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
	
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.	

<i>Celebrant</i>	
	
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	

<i>People</i>	
	
It is right to give him thanks and praise.	

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,...

The priest will sing the Proper Preface

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 (*Celebrant and People*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S130

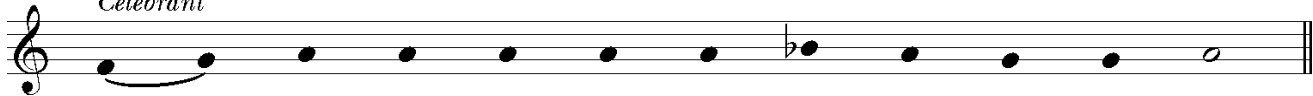
The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

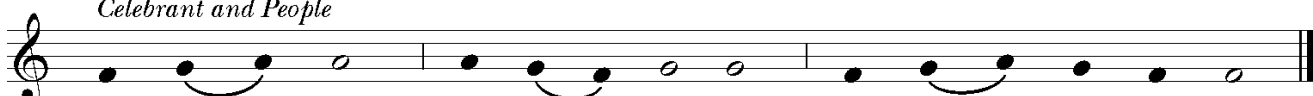
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant



There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

Celebrant and People



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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)*

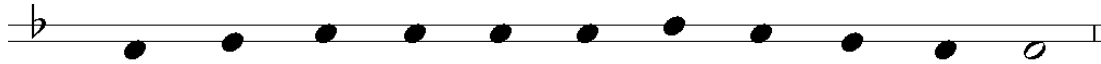
Celebrant: And now as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

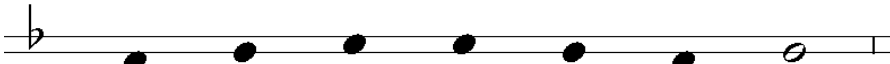
Hymnal S153

Celebrant:



Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People:



There - fore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Hymn

Jesus, Lamb of God

Hymnal S 164

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

Communion of the People

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please form two lines in the center aisle. There are two standing stations. Please come forward immediately to receive communion. Gluten free hosts are available. You may receive just the bread or the wine or both. We offer the chalice to drink from, but due to practical considerations, do not allow intinction (dipping) of the bread in the wine. Thank you for your understanding. Please place hands crossed over your heart if you wish to receive communion in one kind, or a blessing.



Bless the Lord my soul, and bless his ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord my soul, he res - cues me from death.

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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.

Postcommunion Prayer *(standing)*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God,
 we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
 that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
 And now, Father, send us out
 to do the work you have given us to do,
 to love and serve you
 as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to prepare for the Pascal Feast

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people leave in silence.

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

Monday, April 14

4:15 pm, Salvation Army Dinner Service, Church

Tuesday, April 15

10:00 am, Staff Meeting, Church

1:00 pm, Chrism Mass & Renewal of Ordination Vows, St. James Cathedral, Fresno

Wednesday, April 16

10:30 am, People of Faith, Nursery

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

6:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal, Church

Thursday, April 17

6:00 pm, Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar, Foot washing – Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm to Midnight, Garden of Gethsemane Watch

Friday, April 18 - Good Friday

12 Noon, Passion & Prayers

4:00 pm, All Ages Interactive Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 19 - Easter Vigil

7:00 pm, Holy Eucharist, Historic Chapel

Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

*Potluck Coffee Hour

Children's Egg Hunt

Monday, April 21 – Office Closed

Tuesday, April 22 – Rev. Betsy and Dcn. Tom – Day Off

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

No Compline Prayer on Maundy Thursday

Easter Egg Hunt on April 20 - Our annual Easter Egg Hunt for elementary school age children and younger will be held on the West lawn after the 9:30 am service on Easter Sunday, April 20th. The office would appreciate donations of small toys and wrapped candy for the hunt. Thank you!

More Easter Help Needed – Beth Elwood has volunteered to help lead the Easter Egg Hunt. She needs 2 more people to assist. If you are interested, please contact Beth.

Garden of Gethsemane Watch Thursday, April 17 from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. – After the Maundy Thursday Eucharist, the church will be open all night for prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane created by the Designer Guild in the narthex. People are invited to sign up to pray one hour, reminiscent of Jesus' invitation to "watch and pray."

Good Friday Collection Announcement – Since 1922, Episcopalians have supported ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East through the Good Friday Offering. We will continue this tradition of our Good Friday's collection going to the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem. An offering will be taken, checks may be made payable to St. John's.

Flowers at Easter – Deadline is This Sunday, April 13 - At the back of the bulletins for Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday we have a few pages dedicated for all people to dedicate remembrances or celebrations for the Easter Season. Please sign up at the ministry table. Last year's list is there and if you want the same as last year, just initial the entry. If you want a new entry, please fill out the orange form. Suggested \$25 donation.

***Easter Sunday Finger Food Potluck Coffee Hour** – On Sunday, April 20th, please join us for a Potluck style coffee hour. Bring your favorite finger food to share. Debby Weberski and Katie Howard have agreed to set up and facilitate the potluck. We need 2 people willing to clean up after. Please see Penny in the office if you are able to help out. Thank you.

UpCycle Sewing Circle - The UpCycle sewing project is ready to roll. Making produce bags from unwanted fabrics reduces plastic waste. The bags will be handed out for free at the Lodi Farmers Markets encouraging our community to Go Green! Join us. No sewing ability is needed. Bring a bag lunch or a snack for sharing. Sign up at the ministry table or contact Barbara Krengel at 209 663 8003.

Monday, April 21
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Hospitality Room

Saturday, April 26
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Hospitality Room

Fabric donations have been plentiful. Please hold on to old sheets, table clothes, unused fabric lengths until we use up what we have. Thank you!

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