

Welcome to

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

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



The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Rogation Sunday
May 10, 2026 ☩ 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 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 Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by:

Blessings for a Happy Mother's Day!

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

Those Who Serve Today

Celebrant: The Rev. Besty McElroy (B)

Deacon/Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Greg Masztal

Choir Director: Steven Weikle

Pianist/Organist: Michael Tompkins

Eucharistic Ministers: Beth Elwood (CW) & Anne Reeve (CJ)

Lectors: Rosemary Cress & Bob Gorczyca

Camera Acolyte: Fran Bott (GF)

Crucifer: Margaret Meyers (CW)

Ushers: Dick Williams & Andee Zetterbaum

Sound: James Kuykendall

Altar Guild: Dee Mayfield/Charlene Martin

Vestry Open/Close (Announcements): Dani Wilson/Beth Elwood

Designer Guild: Barbara Warburton & Kathy Girard

Nursery Care: Allyssa Johnson

Sunday School: Janie Williams

Coffee Hour: The Jackson Family

Counters: Sharon Farnsworth & James Kuykendall

The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Arise to Life

by Edward Broughton

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Entrance Hymn (*Stand as able*) *Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices* Hymnal 191

(*The following is said three times*)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

BCP 355

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Gloria

Canticle 20

Hymnal S278

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Children Process to Sunday School *Seek ye first* Hymnal 711

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles Rosemary Cress

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him —

though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." (Acts 17:22-31)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:7-18

Rosemary Cress

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

Bob Gorczyca

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him. (*1 Peter 3:13-22*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Lord of all being, throned afar

Hymnal 419

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

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

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

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you

will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them." (John 14:15-21)

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Betsy McElroy

The Baptismal Covenant

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 the Earth and every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant "Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation?"

People **I will, with God's help."**

The Celebrant concludes

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Asperging Hymn *We know that Christ is raised*
(Asperging of the People)

Hymnal 296

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

The Peace is exchanged.

Announcements

A Prayer for 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

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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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.

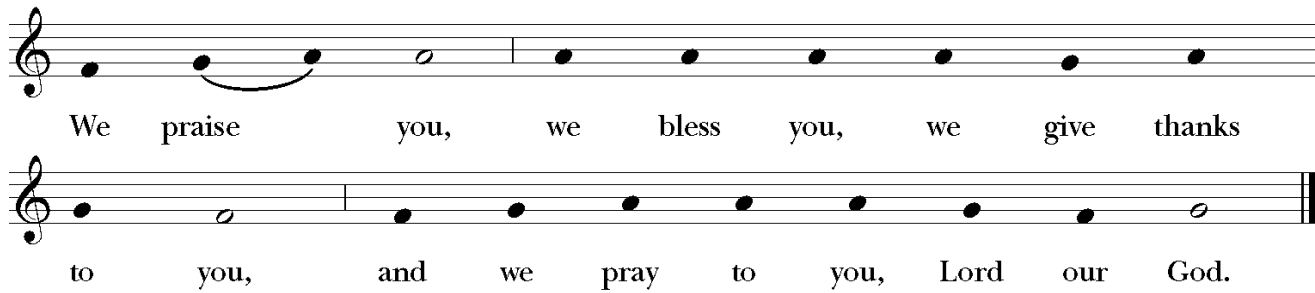
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right

hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup,

(Celebrant and People)

Hymnal S 140



We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks
to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

The Intercessor Continues,

Remember Greg, our Bishop, Betsy, our Priest, Greg, our Deacon and all who minister in your Church. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all those on St. John's Prayer list, especially...

Let us pray for all the mothers among us today; for our own mothers, those living and those who have passed away; for the mothers who loved us and for those who fell short of loving us fully; for all who hope to be mothers some day and for those whose hope to have children has been frustrated; for all mothers who have lost children; for all women and men who have mothered others in any way – those who have been our substitute mothers and we who have done so for those in need; for the earth that bore us and provides our sustenance. We pray this all in the name of God, our great and loving parent who often exhibits matronly qualities.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, (especially...,) and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayers, we pray for St. Clare's Episcopal Church in Avery, their lay leaders and supply priest, the Rev. Lyn Morlan.

We pray and give thanks for all those birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially...

In the world we pray for all living creatures who have been impacted by natural disasters. We pray for those struck down by war, violence, hate and those in harm's way due to civil unrest.

We pray to our bountiful God of heaven and earth: By your gracious providence give and preserve the harvests of the land and sea for the good of all creatures, that those who receive good things from your hand may always give you thanks and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

The Celebrant continues,

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. John the Baptist, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.



The Lord's Prayer

(traditional)

BCP p. 364

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

Celebrant: Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People: There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Fraction Hymn

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus

WLP 877

Choir/Cantor

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

Refrain- All Sing

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

Choir/Cantor

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

Refrain - All Sing

Choir/Cantor

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

All Sing

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

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.

The 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.

Communion Hymn

We are a part of all creation

MHSO 131



1 We are ___ a part of all cre - a - tion,
 2 We are ___ a part of ev - 'ry per - son,
 3 We are ___ a part of God's cre - a - tion,
 4 We are ___ a part of all cre - a - tion



all of ___ cre - a - tion sings in us, earth and sea and
 all of ___ the peo - ples sing in us, one our jour - ney,
 God is ___ the voice that sings in us, be our jour - ney,
 giv - en ___ the breath of life to share all the glo - ry



sky and crea - tures, join in ___ the dance of life and love.
 one our path - way, one in ___ the dance of life and love.
 be our path - way, come be ___ our dance of life and love.
 of our Mak - er with ev - 'ry per - son ev - 'ry - where.



All of ___ cre - a - tion, one o - ha - na,* All of ___ cre - a - tion sings in you;



Ma - ny ___ the voic - es, one great mu - sic, part of me ___ and part of



you. ___ you; part of me ___ and part of you. ___

*ohana = great family

Alleluias VII

Taizé Volume II

Light and lively ♩ = 116



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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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.

Post communion Prayer *(Standing, Celebrant and People)*

BCP p. 365

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

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness

Hymnal 492

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

At the Lamb's High Feast We sing

Setting by Hugo Gehrke

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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

Sunday, May 10 – Happy Mother’s Day – *Rogation Day

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

11:00 am, Coffee Hour Olive Wood Artisan,

Monday, May 11

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

Tuesday, May 12

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

Wednesday, May 13

12:00 pm, Noon Day Prayer, Historic Chapel

6:30 pm, Choir Practice, Hospitality Room

Friday, May 15

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

May 15 – 25: Rev. Betsy Out of Town

Sunday, May 17

9:30 am, Morning Prayer, Church

5:00 pm, Pizza Church (Evening Prayer), Church

Meet Ashraf Jaraysa – A Living Witness from Bethlehem Today at Coffee Hour.

Today, we invite you to come and meet Ashraf Jaraysa, a Palestinian Christian from Beit Sahour, the shepherds’ field just outside Bethlehem. Ashraf is also an olive wood artisan. The carvings he brings are handcrafted in Bethlehem and Beit Sahour and directly support dozens of local Christian families. In a time when many are being forced to leave, this work helps sustain a living Christian presence in the land where Jesus was born. But more than anything, Ashraf comes with a message – one rooted in the teachings of Jesus: a call to love, to peace, and to goodwill toward all people.

***Rotation Days – May 10 – 13:** AS we celebration Rogation Days, enclosed is a self-guided Rotation Day Rite. You can use this to do at home, here at church, or any place that connects you to the earth and God.

Graduation Sunday, June 7, 2026 - On June 7, we will be offering prayers of thanksgiving for all members of St. John the Baptist (and their relatives) who will be graduating this spring from Junior High, High School, College and Graduate Programs. As per parish tradition a roster of graduates from our extended families will also appear in the June edition of the newsletter. A sign-up sheet is at the Ministry Table for names to be listed.

Scribble Page

2026 Vestry Members

Beth Elwood, Senior Warden; Eric Goossens, Junior Warden; Rosemary Cress, David Diekman, Phyllis Duarte, Robert Elliott, Bob Gorczyca, Katie Howard, Christina Soria & Dani Wilson