

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 of Easter
May 17, 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:

Anne & Jim Reeve in memory of our son, John and Jims father, Roger.

Mary Ellen Beckman in memory of our beloved parents: Emil & Viola Beckman and
Tom & Edith Killelea

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

Those Who Serve Today

Celebrant: The Rev. Besty McElroy (On Vacation)

Deacon/Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Greg Masztal

Choir Director: Steven Weikle (On Vacation)

Pianist/Organist: Michael Tompkins

Eucharistic Ministers: Stacey Bagnasco

Lectors: Margaret Meyers & Robert Elliott

Camera Acolyte: Holly Wilson

Crucifer: Margaret Meyers

Ushers: Diane Elliott & James Kuykendall

Sound: Steve Augusto

Altar Guild: Margaret Meyers & Jim Reeve

Vestry Open/Close (Announcements): Katie Howard/Christina Soria

Designer Guild: Barbara Warburton & Kathy Girard

Nursery Care: Allyssa Johnson

Sunday School: Janie Williams

Coffee Hour: Maddie & David Langone

Counters: Sharon Farnsworth & James Kuykendall

The Liturgy of the Word

Welcome

The Rev. Deacon Greg Masztal

Prelude

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Entrance Hymn (*Stand as able*) *Alleluia, alleluia! Sing to Jesus!* Hymnal 460

Opening Sentence:

Deacon: If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. *Colossians 3:1*

Confession

BCP p. 79

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.**

BCP p. 80

The Deacon says

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)*

Deacon: Lord, open our lips.

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

Deacon: Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Christ our Passover *All together*

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

Therefore, let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,

But with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

Death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all;

But the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin,

And alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead,

The first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death,

By a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die,

So also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

All: Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Psalm 68:1-10,33-36 *Please be seated*

Robert Elliott

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.

2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.

- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

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

Please be seated.

The Lessons Reading One:

Robert Elliott

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they

were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Canticle O A Song of the Heavenly City

**I saw no temple in the city,
For its temple is the God of surpassing strength and the Lamb.
And the city has no need of sun or moon to light it,
For the glory of God shines on it, and its lamp is the Lamb.
By its light the nations shall walk,
And the rulers of the world lay their honor and glory there.
Its gate shall never be shut by day, nor shall there be any night;
into it they will bring the honor and glory of nations.
I saw the clean river of the water of life, bright as crystal,
Flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.
The tree of life spanned the river, giving fruit every month,
And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of nations.
All curses cease where the throne of God and the Lamb stands,
And all servants give worship there;
There they will see God's face, whose Name shall be on their foreheads.**

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

Please be seated.

Reading Two

Margaret Meyers

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Canticle 18 A Song to the Lamb

**Splendor and honor and kingly power are yours by right, O Lord our God,
For you created everything that is,
and by your will they were created and have their being;
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain,
For with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation,
A kingdom of priests to serve our God.
And so, to him who sits upon the throne, and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, for ever and for evermore.**

**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.**

Anthem

Splendor and honor, majesty and power

WLAP 892

Collection will be taken during Anthem

The Gospel

Deacon Greg

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (17:1-11)

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Greg Masztal

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

Stacey Bagnasco

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

BCP p. 226

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Collect for Courage

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Mission

BCP p. 100

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

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.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Especially those from our St. John's prayer list...

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, (especially...) that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

Concluding Collect

The Rev. Deacon Greg Maszta

Gracious God: Grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into communion with you and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

All

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 are 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.**

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Concluding Sentence

Deacon Greg

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*

Recessional

Go preach my Gospel

LEVAS 161



1. "Go _____ preach my gos - pel," saith the Lord, "Bid _____
2. "I'll _____ make my great _____ com - mis - sion known, And _____
3. "Go _____ heal the sick, _____ go raise the dead, Go _____
4. "While _____ thus ye fol - low my com - mands, I'm _____
5. He _____ spake and light _____ shone round His head, On _____



1. the whole earth___ my grace re - ceive, Ex - plain to them my
 2. ye shall prove___ my gos - pel true By all the works that
 3. cast out dev - ils in my name. Nor let my proph - ets
 4. with you till___ the world shall end. All pow'r is trust - ed
 5. a bright cloud___ to heav'n He rode. They to the far - thest



1. sa - cred word, Bid___ them be - lieve,___ o - bey, and live."___
 2. I have done, And___ all the won - ders ye shall do."___
 3. be a - fraid, Though___ man re - proach,___ and will blas - pheme."___
 4. in my hands; I___ can de - stroy,___ and can de - fend."___
 5. na - tion spread The___ grace of their___ as - cend - ed God. ___

Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

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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 it 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 17

9:30 am, Morning Prayer, Church

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

Monday, May 18

10:00 am, Parkinson's Care Meeting, Hospitality Room

Wednesday, May 20

12:00 pm, Noon Day Prayer, The Chapel

6:30 pm, Choir Practice, Hospitality Room

May 15 - 25: Rev. Betsy Out of Town

Sunday, May 24 - The Rev. Dr. Portia Hopkins Celebrating - Wear Red - Pentecost

9:30 am, Holy Eucharist, Church

Pizza Church Tonight 5:00 pm

This is a simple, family-friendly, hands-on service. We start with a "Casual Eucharist" at 5:00 pm followed by a "Pizza Dinner" at 5:30 pm. All are welcome.

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.

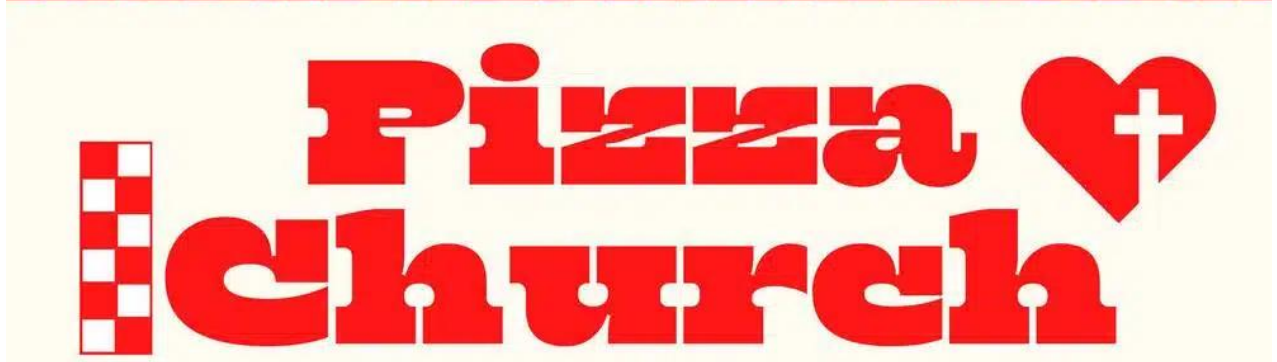
The 2026 Lodi Pride Festival - Saturday, June 6 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm at IDOL Beer Works! Now that we know the date and time, it is time to get a team together to make our presence there a success. Please contact Andee Zetterbaum if you are interested in helping with this wonderful event.

Join us

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

1055 S. Lower Sacramento Road

Lodi, CA



Simple – Family Friendly
5:00 pm – Casual Eucharist
5:30 pm – Pizza Dinner

The 3rd Sunday of Each Month

For 2026:

May 17 – Evening Prayer (No Eucharist)

June 21 – St. John's Potluck/Picnic After Church

July 19

August 16

September 20

October 18

November 15

December 20

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