Nativity Worships

**October 31, 2021**

Season After Pentecost



The Rev. Kirsten Snow Spalding, Rector

The Rev. Rebecca Morehouse, Deacon

The Rev. Scott Gambrill Sinclair, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Lynn Oldham Robinett, Assisting Priest

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The Word of God

**PRELUDE** *Prelude in A-flat*  Chopin

**Entrance Rite**

**Entrance Hymn*Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord (Song 46)* (H 328)**

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**Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 355)**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. |
| People | And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen. |

**Collect for Purity (BCP p. 355)**

*The Celebrant may say*

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.

**Opening Anthem or Song of Praise*S 277 Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Hurd)* (BCP p. 356)**

*The following is sung, all standing*

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**The Collect of the Day (BCP p. 357)**

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| Celebrant | God be with you. |
| People | And also with you. |
| Celebrant | Let us pray. |

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**The Lessons**

**First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:1-9**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

[Moses convened all Israel and said to them:] 1Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, 2so that you and your children and your children’s children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. 3Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.  
  4Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. 5You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. 6Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. 7Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. 8Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, 9and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Psalm: Psalm 119:1-8**

*Remain seated.*

1Happy are they whose way is blameless, \*  
  who walk in the law of the Lord!  
 2Happy are they who observe his decrees \*  
  and seek him with all their hearts!  
 3Who never do any wrong, \*  
  but always walk in his ways.  
 4You laid down your commandments, \*  
  that we should fully keep them.  
 5Oh, that my ways were made so direct \*  
  that I might keep your statutes!  
 6Then I should not be put to shame, \*  
  when I regard all your commandments.  
 7I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, \*  
  when I have learned your righteous judgments.  
 8I will keep your statutes; \*  
  do not utterly forsake me.

**Second Reading: Hebrews 9:11-14**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

11When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), 12he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. 13For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, 14how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

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| --- | --- |
| Reader | The Word of the Lord. |
| People | Thanks be to God. |

*Silence may follow.*

**Sequence Hymn*Where charity and love prevail (Cheshire)* (H 581)**

*All stand.*

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**Gospel: Mark 12:28-34**

*All stand.*

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| Deacon | The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark. |
| People | Glory to you, Lord Christ. |

28One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that [Jesus] answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” 29Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ 31The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” 32Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; 33and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” 34When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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| Deacon | The Gospel of our Savior. |
| People | Praise to you, Lord Christ. |

**The Sermon  *The Rev. Kirsten Snow Spalding***

**The Creed**

*All stand.*

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,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary

and became truly human.

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],

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who 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.

**The Prayers of the People**

*All remain standing.*

I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Diocesan Bishop, Marc; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for our members: Carissa, Marge, Juliette, Dan, Donna, Jim, Duane, Norma, Steve, Nancy, Jamie, and Margaret D and our friends and neighbors; Katherine, Ed, John, Mary P., Nathaniel, Les, Eric and Julie, Ronald and Emily, Polly, Sylvia, Young, Sarah, Tom and Jane, Robert B, Jayden, Linda, Sylvia, Sarah, Rachelle, Abbey, Diane B, Ed M, Janet L., Allison and her unborn baby, Wayne W., and Jared. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed remembering especially Bob Cowart, pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present*

I ask your prayers for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I ask your thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

**Closing Collect**

Hasten O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son as his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Advocate.  Amen.

**Confession of Sin (BCP p. 359)**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*The Priest stands and says*

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

**The Peace (BCP p. 360)**

*All stand.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Celebrant | The peace of the Lord be always with you. |
| People | And also with you. |

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**Announcements**

**Fall Fundraiser:** If you missed the Fall Follies, it was a fabulous show.  A video recording of it is posted on our website.  Feel free to share it with family and friends and invite people to participate in our virtual fall fundraiser.

**Stewardship:** If you have not received a pledge letter from us and would like one, stewardship campaign details are on our website:  [www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org) or you can call Rev. Kirsten to discuss our stewardship program.

**All Souls Evening Prayer** at 6 p.m. on Tuesday November 2 in the Sanctuary or on our Facebook livestream. Please bring pictures of your loved ones for our altar to the service.

**All Saints Day** next Sunday, November 7. Please add names to the necrology (family and friends who have died over the past year) by sending them to [nativityonthehill@gmail.com](mailto:nativityonthehill@gmail.com).

We will with thanksgiving receive offerings of Nativity pledges and plate today. You can contribute by sending a check to the church or by using the "Give" button on our website, [www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org).

All who participate in this Holy Eucharist virtually receive the full benefits of the sacrament by coming with the intention of being united with Christ and one another. (BCP 457).

The Holy Communion

**Offertory Sentence (BCP p. 376)**

*The Celebrant says*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

**Offertory Hymn*Let thy Blood in mercy poured (Jesus, meine Zuversicht)* (H 313)**

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**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Sursum Corda*EOM1 11 Lift up your hearts Sursum corda (Hurd) Music for the Eucharist***

*The People remain standing.*

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**Proper Preface**

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| Celebrant | It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. |

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing

and fed us with your constant love;

you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ

and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us

and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

**Sanctus*WLP 858 Holy, holy, holy (Folk/Pruner) (American folk melody)***

*Celebrant and People*

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**Words of Institution**

*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.

**Epiclesis*S 142 Conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer and Amen***

*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 [\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 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. Click to get the full file (S 142 Conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer and Amen () 1 (Stave).tif):  (Stave)

**The Lord’s Prayer (BCP p. 363)**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**Fraction Anthem*S 151 Christ our Passover (Peregrinus/Hurd)* (BCP p. 364)**

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**Invitation (BCP p. 364)**

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Distribution (BCP p. 365)**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

**Post-Communion Prayer (BCP p. 365)**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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.

**Blessing (BCP p. 366)**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The Wisdom of God

the Love of God

and the Grace of God

strengthen you

to be Christ’s hands and heart in this world,

in the name of the Holy Trinity. Amen.)

**Birthday Blessing**

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we  
pray, on your servant N. as he begins another year. Grant  
that he may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen his  
trust in your goodness all the days of his life; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Post-Communion Hymn*Help us, O Lord, to learn (St. Ethelwald)* (H 628)**

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**Dismissal (BCP p. 366)**

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| --- | --- |
|  | Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. |
| People | Thanks be to God. |

**Postllude** *Autumn*  Tchaikowsky

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