**Nativity Worships**

**October 25, 2020**



Episcopal Church of the Nativity

333 Ellen Drive

San Rafael, CA 94903

Livestreaming on [Nativity Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/Nativity-in-San-Rafael-113940705355878/videos/?view_public_for=113940705355878&ref=page_internal)

The Rev. Kirsten Snow Spalding, Rector

The Rev. Scott Gambrill Sinclair, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Lynn Oldham Robinett, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Rebecca Morehouse, Deacon

The Word of God

**Entrance Rite**

**Entrance Hymn*All hail the power of Jesus' Name (Coronation)* (H 450)**

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

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**The Lessons**

**First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Leviticus.

1The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:  
  2Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.  
  15You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. 16You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.  
  17You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. 18You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Psalm: Psalm 1**

*Remain seated.*

1Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*  
  nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
  nor sat in the seats of the scornful!  
 2Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \*  
  and they meditate on his law day and night.  
 3They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
 bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*  
  everything they do shall prosper.  
 4It is not so with the wicked; \*  
  they are like chaff which the wind blows away.  
 5Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \*  
  nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.  
 6For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, \*  
  but the way of the wicked is doomed.

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

1You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, 2but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. 3For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, 4but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; 6nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, 7though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. 8So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Sequence Hymn*Kneels at the feet of his friends [Jesu, Jesu] (Chereponi)*  (H 602)**

*All stand.*

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**Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46**

*All stand.*

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

34When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” 37He said to him, “ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38This is the greatest and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”  
  41Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 42“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” 43He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,  
 44‘The Lord said to my Lord,  
 “Sit at my right hand,  
  until I put your enemies under your feet”’?  
45If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” 46No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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| --- | --- |
| Deacon | The Gospel of the Lord. |
| People | Praise to you, Lord Christ. |

**The Sermon (BCP p. 358) *The Rev. Kirsten Snow Spalding***

**The Creed (BCP p. 358)**

*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:

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.

**The Prayers of the People (BCP p. 359)**

*All remain standing.*

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Diocesan Bishop Marc, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President Donald, our governor Gavin, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city of San Rafael, our community of Marinwood, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, especially as we face fires and high winds today, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our parish members: Ruth, Carissa, Marge, Juliette, Mary, Dan, Donna, Jim, Penny and Leslie and our family and friends: Colton, Ellen, Katherine, Ed, Daniel, Marco, John, Thomas, Marg, Mary O, Mary P, Jill, Doug, Barbara, Nathaniel, Les, Polly, Linda, Sara, Jose and Eco, Kelly and Dennis, Marcy and Kim, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, remembering Pasha, Jerry, Myrna and Sybil; and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *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**

After today's service, we will have a Zoom coffee hour. All are welcome to join us:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/931317924.   
  
We are preparing for our All Saints Day Holy Eucharist on November 1st. If you would like to have someone remembered in the prayers for the dead at this service, please submit names to [nativityonthehill@gmail.com](mailto:nativityonthehill@gmail.com) by Tuesday October 27th.

*We are beginning our pledge drive today and you should expect a letter in the mail later this week. If you do not receive one, please contact the office. If you have not previously been a member of Nativity but would like to consider joining the congregation or making a pledge offering for 2021, please contact the church at* [*nativityonthehill@gmail.com*](mailto:nativityonthehill@gmail.com) *or call Rev. Kirsten at 510-207-6346.*

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

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**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Sursum Corda*S 120 Lift up your hearts* (BCP p. 361)**

*The People remain standing.*

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**Proper Preface (BCP p. 361)**

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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*S 124 Holy, holy, holy (Hurd)* (BCP p. 362)**

*Celebrant and People*

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**Words of Institution (BCP p. 362)**

*The People stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker 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.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

**Epiclesis (BCP p. 363)**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, 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 God, now and for ever. AMEN.

**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 154 Christ our Passover (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 (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep us in everlasting life. [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 blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

**Blessing for Anniversaries and birthdays (BCP p. 830)**

O God, our times are in your hands: 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*O God, our help in ages past (St. Anne)* (H 680)**

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**Dismissal (BCP p. 366)**

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| --- | --- |
|  | Let us go forth in the name of Christ. |
| People | Thanks be to God. |

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