Nativity Worships

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** Arabesque by Claude Debussy

*We welcome back our Music Director, Dylan Snodgrass.*

**Entrance Rite**

**Entrance Hymn*Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness (Finnian)* (H 492)**

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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 (BCP p. 356)**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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

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

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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: Wisdom 1:16--2:1, 12-22**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Wisdom.

16The ungodly by their words and deeds summoned death;  
 considering him a friend, they pined away  
 and made a covenant with him,  
 because they are fit to belong to his company.  
 2:1For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves,  
 “Short and sorrowful is our life,  
 and there is no remedy when a life comes to its end,  
 and no one has been known to return from Hades.  
  
 12“Let us lie in wait for the righteous man,  
 because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions;  
 he reproaches us for sins against the law,  
 and accuses us of sins against our training.  
 13He professes to have knowledge of God,  
 and calls himself a child of the Lord.  
 14He became to us a reproof of our thoughts;  
 15the very sight of him is a burden to us,  
 because his manner of life is unlike that of others,  
 and his ways are strange.  
 16We are considered by him as something base,  
 and he avoids our ways as unclean;  
 he calls the last end of the righteous happy,  
 and boasts that God is his father.  
 17Let us see if his words are true,  
 and let us test what will happen at the end of his life;  
 18for if the righteous man is God’s child, he will help him,  
 and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries.  
 19Let us test him with insult and torture,  
 so that we may find out how gentle he is,  
 and make trial of his forbearance.  
 20Let us condemn him to a shameful death,  
 for, according to what he says, he will be protected.”  
  
 21Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray,  
 for their wickedness blinded them,  
 22and they did not know the secret purposes of God,  
 nor hoped for the wages of holiness,  
 nor discerned the prize for blameless souls.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Psalm: Psalm 54**

*Remain seated.*

1Save me, O God, by your Name; \*  
  in your might, defend my cause.  
 2Hear my prayer, O God; \*  
  give ear to the words of my mouth.  
 3For the arrogant have risen up against me,  
 and the ruthless have sought my life, \*  
  those who have no regard for God.  
 4Behold, God is my helper; \*  
  it is the Lord who sustains my life.  
 5Render evil to those who spy on me; \*  
  in your faithfulness, destroy them.  
 6I will offer you a freewill sacrifice \*  
  and praise your Name, O Lord, for it is good.  
 7For you have rescued me from every trouble, \*  
  and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

**Second Reading: James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the letter of James.

13Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. 14But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. 15Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. 16For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. 17But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. 18And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.4:  
  
  1Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? 2You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. 7Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8aDraw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Sequence Hymn*O Master, let me walk with thee (Maryton))* (H 660)**

*All stand*

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**Gospel: Mark 9:30-37**

*All stand.*

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

30[Jesus and the disciples] passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;31for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” 32But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.  
  33Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” 34But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. 35He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” 36Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 37“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

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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 (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,

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 (BCP p. 359)**

*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, Leslie, Duane, Norma, Steve, Nancy, Jamie, and Dylan, and our friends and neighbors; Katherine, Ed, John, Mary P., Nathaniel, Les, Eric and Julie, Bob, Ronald and Emily, Polly, Sylvia, Young, Kevin, Sarah, Tom and Jane, Robert B, Jayden, Polly, Linda, Sylvia, Sarah, Rachelle, Abbey and Diane B. 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 especially Patricia and Larry and those who have lost their lives in natural disasters and places of war and violence. 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*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**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**

**Altar Flowers** are given today by Tom and Susan Monahan in celebration of their wedding anniversary and by Marian Marsh in remembrance of her wedding anniversary with David Wade.

**Bible Study** meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., via [Zoom](https://nativityonthehill.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b5c898c53d72904fec86a1326&id=dd53513761&e=a28f91e05a). We are reading Holy Envy by Barbara Brown Taylor.

**Join us for Coffee Hour** following our service this morning on the patio. If you are newcomer or returning for the first time, please introduce yourself and add your name to our mailing list so that we can keep in touch. If you would like a call from clergy or the welcome committee, just note on the newcomer form.

# ****The Second Annual Fall Follies**** Fundraiser Happens October 22 at 5 p.m. If you missed it last year, don't make that mistake again. To participate, you can create a three-minute performance video. You can also ask your talented friends and family members to contribute performance videos. Keep in mind that the definition of "performance" can be pretty broad. We love singing, dancing, or playing your instrument. But we've also had cooking demonstrations, gymnastics, painting, even a tutorial about raising lambs. Contact Susan Pick at susanrows@yahoo.com for more details about how to submit your (and your friends) and family's videos.

# New Prayer Groups, Study Groups and Discipleship Groups are forming. If you would like to have some faithful companions, people to meet with every week to pray together, support one another's ministries, grow and ask questions about faith, or read the bible together, this is the time start something new.  Six week groups are starting the week of September 19th and will run through the end of October. Send a note to [Nativityonthehill@gmail.com](https://nativityonthehill.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b5c898c53d72904fec86a1326&id=55c90322de&e=a28f91e05a) if you would like to learn more.  The current Church Directory will be available each Sunday during the 10 am service, as well as in the Church office. Please feel free to pick one up.

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.

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*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord (Lyons)* (H 637)**

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**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Sursum Corda**

*The People remain standing.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Celebrant | The Lord be with you. |
| People | And also with you. |
| Celebrant | Lift up your hearts. |
| People | We lift them to the Lord. |
| Celebrant | Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. |
| People | It is right to give our thanks and praise. |

**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**

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

**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. 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 (BCP p. 364)**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

**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.]

**Communion Hymn*O love, how deep, how broad, how high (Deus tuorum militum)* (H 448)**

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**Post Communion Prayer**

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.

**Dismissal (BCP p. 366)**

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

**Postllude** Confidence    by Felix Mendelssohn

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