Nativity Worships

Season After Pentecost

**Sunday, September 26, 2021**



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**

**Entrance Rite**

**Entrance Hymn*Where cross the crowded ways of life (Gardiner)* (H 609)**

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**Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 355)**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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|  | 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 said, 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)**

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

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Numbers.

4The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! 5We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; 6but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”  
  10Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. 11So Moses said to the Lord, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? 12Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors’? 13Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ 14I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. 15If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”  
  16So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”  
  24So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. 25Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.  
  26Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. 27And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” 28And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” 29But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord‘s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Psalm: Psalm 19:7-14**

*Remain seated.*

7The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; \*  
  the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.  
 8The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; \*  
  the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.  
 9The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; \*  
  the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.  
 10More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, \*  
  sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.  
 11By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
  and in keeping them there is great reward.  
 12Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
  cleanse me from my secret faults.  
 13Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
 let them not get dominion over me; \*  
  then shall I be whole and sound,  
  and innocent of a great offense.  
 14Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
  O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

**Second Reading: James 5:13-20**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the letter of James.

13Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 16Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. 17Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.  
  19My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Sequence Hymn*Fight the good fight with all thy might (Pentecost)* (H 552)**

*All stand.*

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**Gospel: Mark 9:38-50**

*All stand.*

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

38John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” 39But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. 40Whoever is not against us is for us. 41For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.  
  42“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. 43If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. 47And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, 48where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.  
  49“For everyone will be salted with fire. 50Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

**The Sermon  *The Rev. Scott G. Sinclair***

**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, Duane, Norma, Steve, Nancy, and Jamie, 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, Diane B, Ed M and Jan. 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 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*

**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.*

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| 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**

**We welcome today Marsha Duggan, from** [Episcopal Impact Fund](https://www.episcopalimpact.org/) **who is making a grant presentation to Nativity for our work with** [The Street Chaplaincy](https://www.streetchaplaincy.org/)**. Thank you so much for your support for our ministry!**

**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.  Join us for an **Emergency Preparedness** forum after church next week. We’ll be talking about what should be in your “to go” bag, making a plan for connecting with your family in the midst of an emergency, and how Nativity as a community can support members and neighbors with a parish map, a telephone tree and plans for support.

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*O Food to pilgrims given (O Welt, ich muss dich lassen)* (H 309)**

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**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Sursum Corda***The People remain standing.*

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| 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. |

 For with your co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being: and we celebrate the one and equal glory of you, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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**

*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**

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

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

**Communion Hymn*All who hunger gather gladly (Holy Manna)* (WLP 761)**

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**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*Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing (Sicilian)* (H 344)**

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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**

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