Nativity Worships

Season After Pentecost

September 5, 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

333 Ellen Drive

San Rafael, CA 94903

www.nativitiyonthehill.org

415-479-7023

The Word of God

**PRELUDE**  Guide My Feet, Lord, While I Run This Race,

American Spiritual, Arr. Carl Harris, Jr. performed by guest musican Fred Goff

**Entrance Rite**

**Entrance Hymn*Spirit divine, attend our prayers (Nun danket all und bringet Ehr)* (H 509)**

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**Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 355)**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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**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. |

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; 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: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

4Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
  “Be strong, do not fear!  
 Here is your God.  
  He will come with vengeance,  
 with terrible recompense.  
  He will come and save you.”  
  
 5Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
  and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
 6then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
  and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
 For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
  and streams in the desert;  
 7athe burning sand shall become a pool,  
  and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Psalm: Psalm 146**

*Remain seated.*

1Hallelujah!  
 Praise the Lord, O my soul! \*  
  I will praise the Lord as long as I live;  
  I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.  
 2Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
  for there is no help in them.  
 3When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
  and in that day their thoughts perish.  
 4Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
  whose hope is in the Lord their God;  
 5Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
  who keeps his promise for ever;  
 6Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
  and food to those who hunger.  
 7The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
 the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
  the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;  
 8The Lord loves the righteous;  
 the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
  he sustains the orphan and widow,  
  but frustrates the way of the wicked.  
 9The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
  your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
  Hallelujah!

**Second Reading: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the letter of James.

1My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? 2For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, 3and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” 4have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? 5Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? 6But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? 7Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?  
  8You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 9But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [11For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. 13For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]   
  14What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, 16and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? 17So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**Sequence Hymn*Heal me, hands of Jesus (Sharpe)* (WLP 773)**

*All stand.*

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Click to get the full file (Heal me, hands of Jesus 2 (Stave).tif):  (Stave)

**Gospel: Mark 7:24-37**

*All stand.*

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

24[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,25but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. 26Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” 28But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” 29Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” 30So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.  
  31Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. 34Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” 35And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. 36Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. 37They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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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 for Jim Andrews, former Nativity Parishioner, and for those who have died in Kabul, the floods in Tennessee, the fires on the West Coast, the earthquake and tropical storms in Haiti. 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.*

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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**

**Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Ruth Baney in memory of her mother, Hazel Robinson.

**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.

A reminder that we have the gubernatorial recall election coming on September 14th. Everyone is encouraged to vote by mail or in person at their local polling station.

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

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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. AMEN

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

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

**Communion Hymn*Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest (Rosedale)* (H 305)**

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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.

(source: Celtic)

**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*O for a thousand tongues to sing (Azmon)* (H 493)**

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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** La Paloma by Sebastian Yradier

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