



HOLY NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Seventeenth Sunday after
Pentecost: Proper 21A
Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
Sunday, September 27, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Holy Nativity!

Thank You for Joining Us for Worship

In order to create a safe environment during the Covid-19 pandemic, the following policies have been put into effect. Thank you for your cooperation and your consideration for your fellow worshippers.

- Services are limited to 50 people. Overflow can access the live feed and receive communion in Battin Hall.
- Social distancing (6'+) is required (Family groups can sit together)
- Masks are required entering and exiting the church and coming forward for communion.
- During the Covid-19 pandemic we are trying to shorten service length to reduce exposure. We are not reading all four Bible lessons, and may we suggest that you read them yourselves during your waiting quiet devotional time before the service starts.

The Word of God

Opening Music “Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness” (*Johannes Brahms*)

John Durgan, organist

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.

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.**

Song of Praise “Holy, holy, holy” vs. 1

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord 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 people sit.

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the

elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 *Attendite, popule*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
 incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
 I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
 and what our forefathers have told us, *
 we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
 the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
 and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
 in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
 he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
 and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
 and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
 and the waters gushed out like rivers.

The Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
 who, though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,

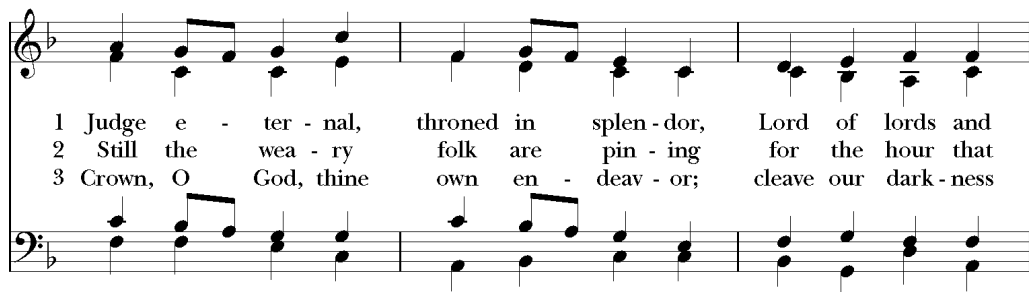
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. *The Word of the Lord.*

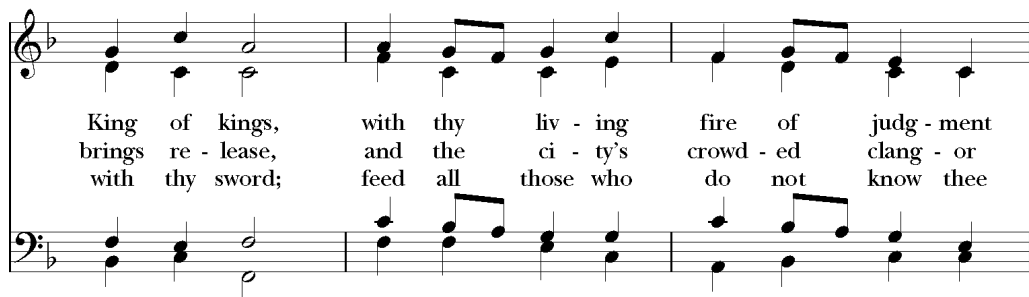
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn “Judge eternal, throned in splendor”

Hymn #596



1 Judge e - ter - nal, throned in splen - dor, Lord of lords and
 2 Still the wea - ry folk are pin - ing for the hour that
 3 Crown, O God, thine own en - deav - or; cleave our dark - ness



King of kings, with thy liv - ing fire of judg - ment
 brings re - lease, and the ci - ty's crowd - ed clang - or
 with thy sword; feed all those who do not know thee



purge this land of bit - ter things; sol - ace all its
 cries a - loud for sin to cease; and the home - steads
 with the rich - ness of thy word; cleanse the bo - dy



wide do - min - ion with the heal - ing of thy wings.
 and the wood - lands plead in si - lence for their peace.
 of this na - tion through the glo - ry of the Lord.

Words: Henry Scott Holland (1847-1918), alt. Music: *Komm, o komm, du Geist des Lebens*, melody from *Neu-vermehrtes und zu Übung Christl. Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningsches Gesangbuch*, 1693

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
(21:23-32)

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him. *The Gospel of the Lord.*

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Steve Bates

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing

The Nicene Creed

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: Form III

*People may remain standing, kneel, or sit reverently.
The Leader and People pray responsively*
In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence
The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
Silence

Remember in Prayer

(Names stay on the list for 3 months. If someone needs to stay on longer, contact Madge Smith at madge@holy-nativity.org or 747-4000. Always get permission from the person before you add them.)

From our congregation: Bruce McLawhorn, Harry Cooper, Audrey Powell, Betty Grammer, Alice Kinney, Carl Harris, Tass and family, Mary Troxell, Nell Barnett, John Mason, Sarah Mason, Lou Churchill, Malinda Kelly, Hannah Davis, Ursula Hixson, Olivia Clemons, Pat Spangler, Inge Churchill, Bert Churchill, Jane Burkett and family, Tim Phillips, Carol Calton, Mary Elizabeth Moore, Karen Seubert, Florencia Pereira, Jeannette Tremaine, David Burris.

For our friends: Arthur Reddie, Jonathan, Bob Hauser, Ruth Geers, John Daniel, Linna Salter, Jay Barrow, Ken, George Hines, family of Ronald “Rudy” Vincent, Lloyd Estes, Jr., Elke McCoy, Kelly and Amy, Tracey Hixson, Lynn Brudnicki, Gregory Longen, Barbara Daniel, Clifford Reihing, Carol Mizell, Kent Jones, Leanne Hahn, The Franklin Family, Austin, Bob and Debbie Snuggs, Rosa Kulik, The family of Joe Smith, III, Madilyn Streichert, Margaret Lord Wilde, Oscar Wilde, Cosby Martin, Liz Forman, Jesse Cobb, Jeremy, Tanner Campbell, Allison Davis, Day Ann Logue, Terry and Greg Cypher, Boots and John Spivey, Aidan Akst.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Francis on Dauphin Island.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

We pray for all active duty in the Armed Forces serving in Bay County and throughout the world: Chris Morgan, Michael Darrah, Stacey Johnson, Christopher Landess, Greg Jenkins, Joseph Railey, Patrick Keenen, Jeremy Hough, Wes Eberhard, Stacey Holliday, Caleb Loveland, Robert Ice, Andrew Frye, Michael Keller, Rex Brown, Jacob McAndrews, Nick Bailey.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays: Sept. 28: Charles Coley, Sept. 29: Mia Carroll, Denis Healey, Carson Shores, Sept. 30: Judi Lawrence, Oct. 1: Edwin Stewart, Oct. 2: Ina Joy Wicker.

We pray for those celebrating anniversaries: Sept. 27: Henry and Nancy Breland, Sept. 29: Dan and Robin Finley, Doug and Caroline Smith, Sept. 30: Terry and Donna Jangula.

Altar Flowers are given today by Nell Barnett in loving memory of John Barnett during his birthday month and by Florence Fortier in loving memory of James Fortier.

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 Bishop when present, or 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 Celebrant concludes with an absolution or suitable collect.

Greetings and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture

Offertory “Fugue in C Major” (*Dietrich Buxtehude*)

John Durgan, organist

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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 him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

A Proper Preface is said by the Celebrant.

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:

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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people stand, kneel, or sit reverently.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,
Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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 you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

or with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

Postcommunion Prayer

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.**

Benediction and Blessing

The Deacon, or a Priest, dismisses the people.

The People respond **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Closing Music

John Durgan, organist

Today's Ministers

Preacher/Celebrant	The Rev. Steve Bates
Assisting	The Rev. Tom Weller
Organist/Dir. Of Choirs	John Durgan
Chancel Minister	Joe Ciccarelli
Lector	Michael Lovchuk
Ushers	Charles and Mary Bonham
Altar Guild	Mary Bonham, Lisa McLendon, Monica Phillips

SAINTS ALIVE

Please check our website at www.holy-nativity.org for the latest information about programs and events. Go to www.dioceg.org to check out everything about the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast.

Mark Your Calendars for October!
Programs are beginning again with protocols in place.

Beginning Sunday, October 4th: Children's Chapel, Nursey, and
Sunday School

Beginning Wednesday, October 7th: The St. Francis Day Blessing of
the Pets at 6pm, supper, and a preview of our Wednesday Programs.
If your pet can't make it, you can bring a photo!



The Blessing of the Pets

Beginning Wednesday, October 14th at 5:30 pm our regular services,
supper, and programs will resume.

Hurricane Fund: If you would like to donate toward helping the victims of Hurricane Laura and our fellow churches in our diocese effected by Hurricane Sally, please make your check out to Holy Nativity Episcopal Church and note it's for the Hurricane fund.

Baylights at Beckwith Fundraiser: Baylights have been rescheduled for the weekend of Oct. 30 – Nov.1 due to Hurricane Sally. Lori Bates has Draw Down Tickets for a great cause, our Diocesan Camp and Conference Center, Beckwith! This year the Draw Down will be live on Facebook on Oct. 31st at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$100 and the prizes are wonderful! The main prize is a trip to Italy or Antigua or \$2,500. Get your lucky ticket and donate toward our wonderful Camp Beckwith!

Check out our Lay Ministry displays! Sign up for a ministry! Soon we hope that all ministries will be active again.

Food Bank Donations: There are so many families on our community struggling with hunger during this time. Please bring your non-perishable food items and place them in the cart in the church foyer.

Altar Flower Chart: If you would like to donate toward the Altar Flowers on a certain Sunday, please sign up on the foyer bulletin board. Please include the reason for the donation and the cost is \$25. Your donation information will be listed in the bulletin for that Sunday.

Online Giving: This is another option to giving to the church. Go to our website and click the online donation tab. The first time you will need to set up your account information.

Online Services: We will continue our online Facebook Live 10:30 am service and Wednesday Midweek Manna with Fr. Steve at 6 pm Until Oct. 7th. You can go to our website under the E-Church tab and you will be directed to the church's Facebook page. Look for reminder's in your email and on Facebook.

HOLY NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, Bishop
The Rev. Steve Bates, Rector
The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate

SERVICES

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite One
(Nursery provided)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
(Children's Christian
Education & nursery is
provided)

**Wednesdays (These events have
been cancelled temporarily due to
the pandemic.) Join Fr. Steve online
at 6 pm for Midweek Manna.**

5:30 pm *five-thirty* service
followed by dinner and
programs (Sept. – May)

6:00 pm SummerTime: Evening
Prayer followed by dinner
(June –August)