



# HOLY NATIVITY

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent  
Holy Eucharist, Rite Two  
Sunday, December 13, 2020  
10:30 a.m.  
Pajama Party Sunday!

*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.

- Social distancing (6'+) is required (Family groups can sit together)
- Masks should be worn at all times when inside church buildings.
- 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.

**Opening Music** "What Child Is This" (*Richard Purvis*)

John Durgan, organist

## The Word of God

### Children's Time

*All children are invited to come up for children's time. After, they will follow the cross out to participate in children's church, to return during announcement time. All children should wear their masks.*

*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.**

*The following song of praise is sung, all standing*

### Kyrie

Hymn #S-91

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### 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.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## **The Lessons**

### **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.  
For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

*The Word of the Lord*

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 126** *In convertendo*

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. *The Word of the Lord*

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn "It came upon the midnight clear"

Hymn #89

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that  
 2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with  
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the  
 4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing  
 peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly  
 world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly  
 pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
 mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;  
 hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;  
 cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from  
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they  
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the  
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn  
 bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its  
 tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and  
 an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
 Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!  
 back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt. Music: *Carol*, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900)

**Leader:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
 (1:6-8, 19-28)

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming

after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing. *The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Tom Weller

*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](mailto: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, Sarah Mason, Lou Churchill, Malinda Kelly, Hannah Davis, Ursula Hixson, Olivia Clemons, Tim Phillips, Pat Spangler, Inge Churchill, Carol Calton, Mary Elizabeth Moore, Karen Seubert, Florencia Pereira, Jeannette Tremaine, David Burris, Donna Jangula, Bert Churchill, Priscilla Wilson, Liz Robin, Dianne Hawthorne.

**For our friends:** Arthur Reddie, Jonathan, Ruth Geers, John Daniel, The Franklin Family, Austin, Bob and Debbie Snuggs, Margaret Lord Wilde, Oscar Wilde, Cosby Martin, Liz Forman, Jesse Cobb, Jeremy, Tanner Campbell, Allison Davis, Day Ann Logue, Aidan Akst, Cheryl Lynch, The Cross Family, Bob Scaglioni, Rosa Kulik, Louise Boyle, Tracy Hixson, The Ward family, The Rowan Family, Vicki and Crook Stewart, George and Tammy Mallory.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for all Diocesan Commissions, Committees, and Coordinators.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we pray for the Falkland Islands.

**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:** Dec. 14: Grace Ennis, Dec. 15: Natalie Lathrop, Dec. 16: Mark Brust, Marla Churchill, Dec. 18: Edward Gagnet, Margaret Scott, Ashtyn Williams.

**We pray for those celebrating anniversaries:** Dec. 18: Mike and Mimi Morrow.

**Altar Flowers are given today** to the glory of God.

*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** “I Wonder As I Wander”

Jay McRae

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

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

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

*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*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, then 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 Father 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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, 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 Father, now and for ever.

**AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*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**

**Closing Music**

John Durgan, organist

*The Deacon, or a Priest, dismisses the people.*

*The People respond*

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Postlude**

John Durgan, organist

# ***SAINTS ALIVE***

Please check our website at [www.holy-nativity.org](http://www.holy-nativity.org) for the latest information about programs and events. Go to [www.diocgc.org](http://www.diocgc.org) to check out everything about the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast.

## **Advent Outreach: We have three choices!**

- 1. Angel Tree:** All the Angels ornaments have been taken! Thank you so much! Please return your wrapped gift before the deadline of Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 2. Outreach Family:** Make a donation to a family in need in our community. Make your check out to HNEC and note in the memo section, "Outreach family".
- 3. Youth "Love Thy Neighbor" ministry:** This ministry assists the homeless and vulnerable youth of Bay County. The list of needed items is listed in your newsletter and the Deadline is Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Place them in the box in the foyer.

## **The new Altar Flower Chart for 2021 is up on the bulletin board in the foyer.**

You can make a donation toward the altar flowers for a certain Sunday. The cost is \$25. Just note on your check it is for Altar flowers. Sign your name on the date, include the reason for the donation and I will include your message in the Sunday bulletin.

**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 Offerings:**

Sunday 9:15 am Adult Sunday School

Sunday 10:30 am service

Wednesday 5:30 pm service

You can go directly to our Facebook page or go to [www.holy-nativity.org/echurch](http://www.holy-nativity.org/echurch) and click on the "view live services" tab. Look for reminder's in your email and on Facebook.

**Flower Vases:** If you have taken home any altar flower glass vases, please bring them back to the church and place them in the sacristy. We are in short supply. Thank you!

## *Advent and Christmas Season Schedule 2020*

*Due to the Pandemic our services and events might be a little different.*

*We will follow the guidelines to be socially distanced and wearing masks. Please be considerate of your fellow worshippers.*

**Dec. 2            A Festival of Lessons and Carols at 6 pm**

Join us for this very special service filled with the scriptural lessons and wonderful music of the season.

**Dec. 6            A Morning with St. Nicholas at the 10:30 am service**

Join us for this special Sunday to celebrate St. Nicholas Day! There will be activities and surprises for the children during Children's Church.

**Dec. 13          Children's Pajama Party at the 10:30 am service**

Wear your favorite pajamas to church and bring a new set of pajamas or a stuffed animal or a bedtime storybook to be presented at church at the 10:30 am service for those who need them.

**Dec. 16          Caroling in the Cove!**

Join us for our Casual Eucharist at 5:30 pm followed by supper. Then we will go caroling in our neighborhood of the Cove.

**Dec. 24          Christmas Eve Services**

4:30 pm            Christmas Eve Service with the Children's Christmas Pageant: Join us this year at the Holy Nativity Episcopal School Pavilion.  
We will be socially distanced, and everyone should wear their masks. More information to come.

10:30 pm          Christmas Eve Service at the church.

## Today's Ministers

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Preacher                | The Rev. Tom Weller                                     |
| Celebrant               | The Rev. Steve Bates                                    |
| Organist/Dir. Of Choirs | John Durgan   |
| Chancel Minister        | Joyce Dannecker   |
| Acolyte                 | Grady Oenbrink  |
| Lector                  | Tom Ledman  |
| Ushers                  | John Thompson and<br>Chris Mills                        |
| Video Production Dir.   | A.J. Jeffery  |
| Altar Guild             | Max and Joyce<br>Dannecker, Gene and<br>Kathleen Wicker |

## 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)

9:15 am Adult Sunday School

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

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

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