



# HOLY NATIVITY

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Second Sunday of Advent  
Holy Eucharist, Rite Two  
Sunday, December 6, 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.

- Social distancing (6'+) is required (Family groups can sit together)
- Masks are required entering and exiting the church and coming forward for communion. Masks are also required for children during Children's Time and Children's Chapel.
- 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** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" (*Dale Wood*)

John Durgan, organist

## The Word of God

***All who celebrate a birthday in December are invited to stand.  
We say the Birthday Prayer in unison.***

**Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **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.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## The Lessons

### Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,  
     their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
     when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
     surely the people are grass.  
 The grass withers, the flower fades;  
     but the word of our God will stand for ever.  
 Get you up to a high mountain,  
     O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
 lift up your voice with strength,  
     O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
     lift it up, do not fear;  
 say to the cities of Judah,  
     “Here is your God!”  
 See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
     and his arm rules for him;  
 his reward is with him,  
     and his recompense before him.  
 He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
     he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
 and carry them in his bosom,  
     and gently lead the mother sheep.  
*The Word of the Lord*

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

**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13** *Benedixisti, Domine*

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, \*  
    you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
    and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, \*  
    for he is speaking peace to his faithful people  
    and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
    that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
    righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
    and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.  
13 Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

### **The Epistle: 2 Peter 3:8-15a**

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

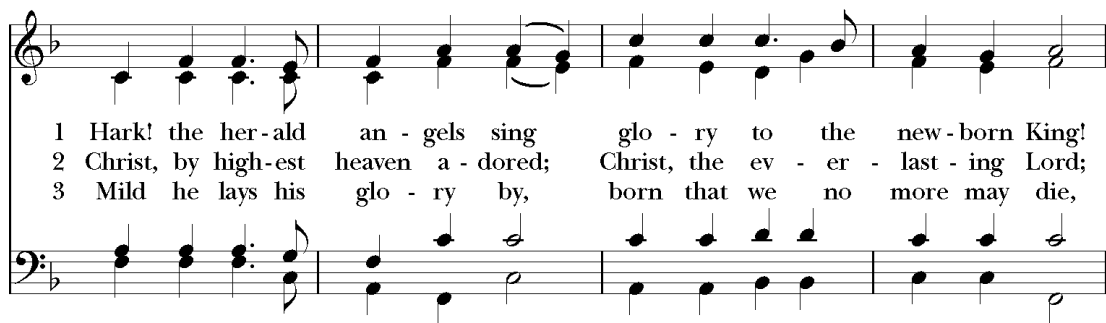
Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.  
*The Word of the Lord*

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

# Sequence Hymn “Hark, the herald angels sing”

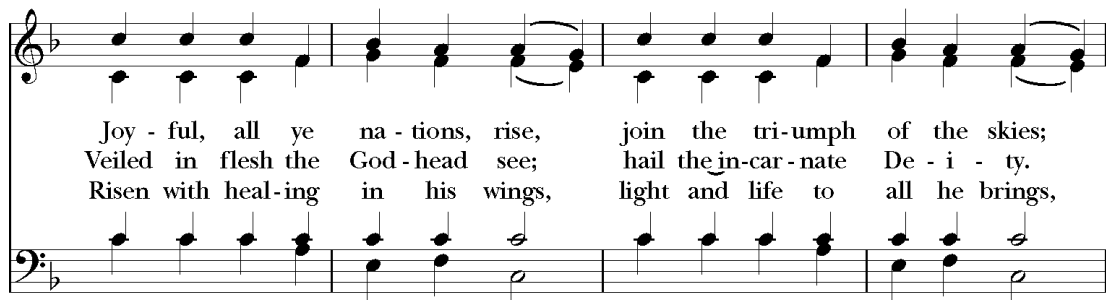
Hymn #87



1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty.  
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

*Leader:*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
(1:1-8)

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.  
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” *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](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.

**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, Phillip Griffiths.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray in thanksgiving for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Episcopal Diocese of the Center Gulf Coast

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we pray for the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain.

**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. 6: Terry Jangula, Will Melzer, Jim Roberson, Dec. 7: Gayle Ahrens, Carolyn Cramer, Dec. 10: Matt Cole, Greg Russell, Dec. 11: Lara Provencher.

**We pray for those celebrating anniversaries:** Dec. 7: Terrell and Georgie Hartzog, Dec. 9: Joe and Carolyn Parell, Dec. 10: Tom and Peggy Caldwell.

**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**

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

### **Today's Ministers**

Preacher/Celebrant

The Rev. Steve Bates

Assisting

The Rev. Tom Weller

Organist/Dir. Of Choirs

John Durgan

Chancel Minister

Scott Clemons

Acolyte

Bailey Melzer

Lector

Holly Melzer

Ushers

Max and Joyce Dannecker

Altar Guild

Nancy Roupp and Inge Churchill

## *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 when walking around. More information to come.

10:30 pm          Christmas Eve Service at the church.

# 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:** Pick a person from Angel Tree in the foyer and return your gift before the deadline of Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Provide a wonderful Christmas surprise to someone at St. Andrew's Assisted Living.

**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.

**Wonderful Wednesdays:** Join us every Wednesday night at 5:30 pm for our five-thirty service, supper, and programs. *(All Wednesday night services will be live streamed on Facebook.)*

**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.

## **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)