



HOLY NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Eighteenth Sunday after
Pentecost: Proper 21
Sunday, September 26, 2021
10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Holy Nativity!
Our diocesan policy requires masks for all indoor activities.

The Word of God

Opening Music “There’s A Wideness In God’s Mercy” (arr. by Dale Wood)
John Durgan, organist

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.

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

Song of Praise “Hymn #362 verse 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

A Reading from Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 124 *Nisi quia Dominus*

1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;

2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;

3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;

4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;

5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

6 Blessed be the LORD! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

The Epistle: A Reading from James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.
The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn “Spirit divine attend our prayers”

Hymn #509

1 Spi - rit di - vine, at - tend our prayers, and make this house thy home;
 2 Come as the light; to us re - veal our emp - ti - ness and woe,
 3 Come as the fire, and purge our hearts like sac - ri - fi - cial flame;
 4 Come as the dove, and spread thy wings, the wings of peace - ful love;
 5 Spi - rit di - vine, at - tend our prayers; make a lost world thy home;

1 de - scend with all thy gra - cious powers, O come, great Spi - rit, come!
 2 and lead us in those paths of life where - on the right - eous go.
 3 let our whole soul an of - fering be to our Re - deem - er's Name.
 4 and let thy Church on earth be - come blest as the Church a - bove.
 5 de - scend with all thy gra - cious powers; O come, great Spi - rit, come!

Words: Andrew Reed (1787-1862) Music: *Nun danket all und bringet Ehr*; melody att. Johann Cruger (1598-1662)

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (9:38-50)

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

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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, Sarah Mason, Lou Churchill, Malinda Kelly, Hannah Davis, Olivia Clemons, Tim Phillips, Pat Spangler, Inge Churchill, Mary Elizabeth Moore, David Burris, Liz Robin, Robert Dozier, Kelly Roberson, George McInnis, Terry Jangula, Jeannette Tremaine, Tim and Ann Percival, Paul Herbert, James Miller, Ursula Hixson, Krista Niziol, Michael Gailfoil.

For our friends: Arthur Reddie, Jonathan, John Daniel, The Franklin Family, Austin, Bob and Debbie Snuggs, Margaret Lord Wilde, Cosby Martin, Jeremy, Day Ann Logue, Rosa Kulik, Louise Boyle, The Ward family, James Melzer, Corky Ajax, Michael and Cindy Satink, Michele Robin Higareda, Pam Stone, Beth Harned, Janice Hill, Mirela Shields, Bub Estes, Dee Burdette, Sandra Roose, Denise, Anne Rockwell, Gail Riley, Michael Bailey, Franchesca Bailey, Norma Hubbard.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Matthew's in Chipley and Beckwith Camp and Retreat Center.

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

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, Nicholas Longden, Marcus Duffy, James Cowart.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays: Sept. 26: Liam Cantrell, Olivia Clemons, Jameson Duffy, David Smith, Sept. 29: Mia Carroll, Laurel Duffy, Denis Healey, Carson Shores, Sept. 30: Judi Lawrence, Oct. 2: Ina Joy Conrad.

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.

The Altar Flowers are given this Sunday are given by Paul Hunt in memory of Bobbie Hunt and by John Hutt in memory of Mary Frances Hutt and their 50+ years of marriage.

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.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Greetings and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture

Offertory Anthem “Toccata in G” (*Theodore Debois*)

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:

Sanctus “Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Hymnal #S-130

The musical score is written for a celebrant and a people. It consists of five systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na". The music features various note values including half notes, quarter notes, and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and fermatas. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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 “Trumpet Tune” (*Carson Cooman*)

John Durgan, organist

Today's Ministers

Preacher/Celebrant	The Rev. Steve Bates
Assisting	The Rev. Tom Weller
Organist/Choir Director	John Durgan
Chancel Minister	Scott Clemons
Acolyte	Ashtyn Williams
Lector	Rich Doran
Ushers	John Thompson and Chris Mills
Altar Guild	Dan and Robin Finley, Joanne MacPhee, Nancy Roupp.
Dir. Of Video Production	A. J. Jeffery

SAINTS ALIVE

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

Mark your calendars!

October 6th: 5:30 pm: Blessing of the Animals at the pavilion with a cookout afterwards. If your pet can't make it, please bring a photo!

October 13th: Our Wonderful Wednesdays begin!
4:30 pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal
5:30 pm: Casual Eucharist service
6:00 pm: Supper is served
6:30 pm: Programs for all ages
Adult Choir Rehearsal

Pig Roast for Camp Beckwith! TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!!

October 10th at 5:00 pm

Come out to benefit a great cause, enjoy a great meal, and spend some quality time with your family and friends.

Sign up sheets are in the back of the church and on the welcome table. The deadline to turn them in is Sept. 26th. Don't be late! Directions for payment and reservations are included on the sheet.

Hurricane Ida donations: We are collecting donations for St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Louisiana. You can write a check to HNEC and note "Hurricane Relief" or you can donate online through our website, www.holy-nativity.org. Just donate through the "other" tab and note "Hurricane Relief".

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 (Sept. – May)
Adult/Youth Christian
Education & Children's
Chapel

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

Wednesdays

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