

# HOLY NATIVITY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Holy Eucharist Rite Two  
December 19, 2021  
10:30 a.m.



*Welcome to Holy Nativity!*

**Prelude** “Trumpet Voluntary” (*John Stanley*)

John Durgan, organist

**Opening Hymn** “Hark the herald angels sing”

Hymn #90

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!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

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

## 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 #96 verse 1"

**Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night, and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

## 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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**  
*The people sit.*

## **The Lessons**

### **The Old Testament: A Reading from Micah 5:2-5a**

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;  
and he shall be the one of peace.

*The Word of the Lord.*

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

### **Canticle 15 Page 91, BCP**

#### **The Song of Mary Magnificat Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed: \***  
**the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

**He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

**The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

### **The Epistle: A Reading from Hebrews 10:5-10**

When Christ came into the world, he said,  
"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;  
in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. *The Word of the Lord.*

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

# The Sequence Hymn "Tell out my soul"

Hymn #437

1 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!  
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his Name!  
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!  
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;  
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;  
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.  
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.  
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*  
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (1:26-44, 56)  
*People*           **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Birth of Jesus Foretold**

**26** In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, **27** to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. **28** The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

**29** Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. **30** But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

**34** "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

**35** The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. **36** Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. **37** For no word from God will ever fail."

**38** "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

## **Mary Visits Elizabeth**

**39** At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, **40** where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. **42** In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! **43** But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? **44** As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. **45** Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

**56** Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.  
*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 or 747-4000. Always get permission from the person before you add them.)*

**From our congregation:** Bruce McLawhorn, Harry Cooper, 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, David Burris, Liz Robin, Kelly Roberson, George McInnis, Terry Jangula, Michael Gailfoil, Ursula Hixson, Brianna Kelley, Jeannette Tremaine, Ken Davis, Karen Seubert.

**For our friends:** Arthur Reddie, Margaret Lord Wilde, Cosby Martin, Jeremy, Day Ann Logue, James Melzer, Janice Hill, Mirela Shields, Bub Estes, Dee Burdette, Sandra Rose, Denise, Anne Rockwell, Gail Riley, Michael Bailey, Franchesca Bailey, Norma Hubbard, Joy Pardy, John and Carol Brannon, Shirley McNamara, Karen and Bruce Cox, Rose Leeth, Bob and Debbie Snuggs, Rosa Kulik, Dee, Ted Haney, Kevin Harvey, Mary Johnson, Charlie Mann, Dillion, Alexandra, Mary Johnson and Cooper.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for Church of the Nativity in Dothan.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we pray for The Church of the Province of Central Africa.

**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, Nicholas Longden, Marcus Duffy, James Cowart.

**We pray for those celebrating birthdays:** Dec. 21: Nancy Roupp, Evan Ward, Dec. 23: David Landreth, Kathleen Wicker.

**We pray for those celebrating anniversaries:** Dec. 23: Chuck and Barbara Knowles.

**The Altar Flowers this Sunday** are given by Victoria Williams in celebration of Ashtyn's birthday.

*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** “The Heavens Are Telling” (*Franz Joseph Haydn*)

John Durgan, organist

### 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.

*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*  
**Sanctus "Holy, holy, holy Lord"**

Hymnal #S-130

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*

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;**

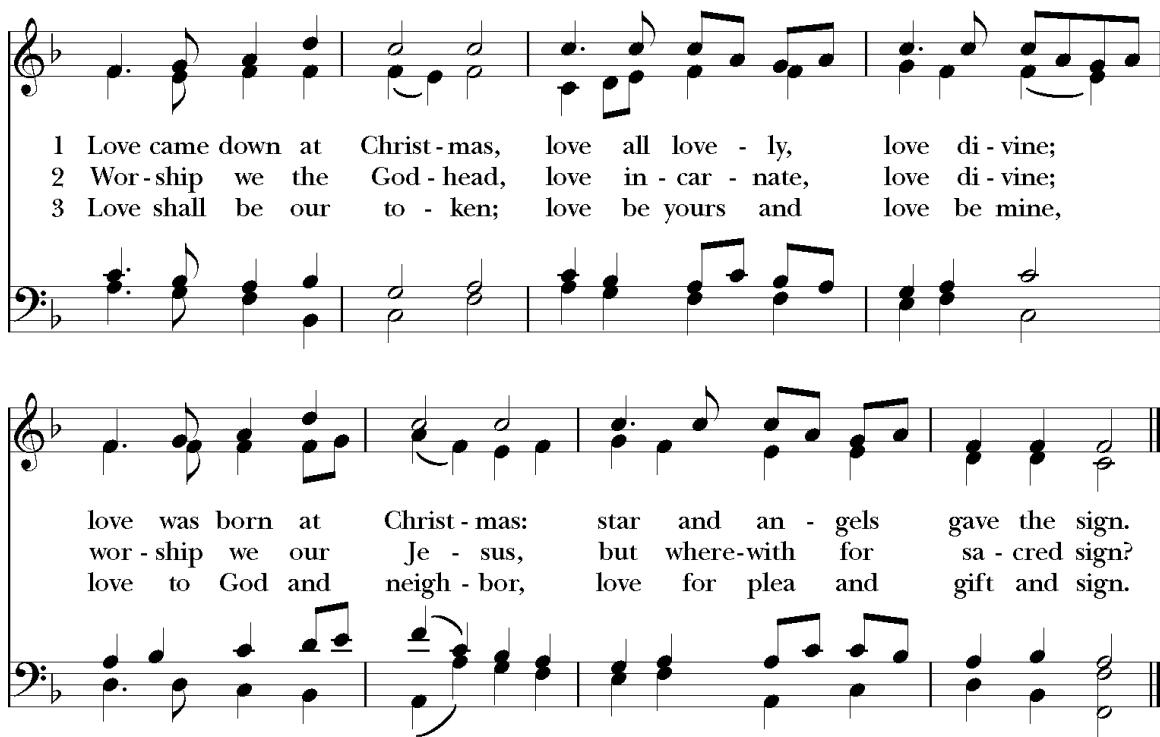
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## Benediction and Blessing

### Closing Hymn “Love came down at Christmas”

Hymn #84



1 Love came down at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;  
2 Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;  
3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine,

love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign.  
wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where-with for sa - cred sign?  
love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), alt. Music: *Gairan*, melody from *Petrie Collection of Irish Melodies, Part II*, 1902; harm. David Evans (1874-1948)  
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*The Deacon, or a Priest, dismisses the people.*

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

**Postlude Music**

John Durgan, organist

## Today's Ministers

Preacher	The Rev. Tom Weller
Celebrant	The Rev. Steve Bates
Organist/Choir Dir.	John Durgan
Chalice Bearer	Joyce Dannecker and Scott Clemons
Acolytes	Ashtyn Williams, Grady Oenbrink, Fin Oenbrink, Laney Lee, Tyler Shores
Lector	Ivan Pereira
Ushers	John Thompson and Chris Mills
Greeter	Jenny Collier
Altar Guild	Marla Churchill, Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles
Dir. Of Video Prod.	A. J. Jeffery

Advent and Christmas Season 2021  
*HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!*



- Dec. 1 (Wed)**      **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. 5 (Sun)**      **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.
- Dec. 12 (Sun)**      **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. 15 (Wed)**      **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 (Fri)**      **Christmas Eve Services**  
4:30 pm      Christmas Eve Service with the Children's Christmas Pageant  
*This service will be live-streamed on Facebook.*  
10:30 pm      Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 26 (Sun)**      **Sunday Services**  
8:00 am      Holy Eucharist Rite One  
10:30 am      Holy Eucharist Rite Two  
*Will not be live-streamed on Facebook.*

## ***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.

**We are looking for volunteers after this service to help put out folding chairs in preparation for Christmas Eve. Let Fr. Steve know after the service.**

**Wonderful Wednesdays!  
Our Wednesday nights will resume  
January 12<sup>th</sup>!**

4:30 pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal with  
Leigh Gladden  
5:30 pm: Casual Eucharist service  
6:00 pm: Supper is served  
6:30 pm: Programs for all and Adult Choir  
Rehearsal

**Save the Dates!**

**Altar Guild Training  
January 8, 2022 - 9 am**

This training is for current members and for new members. If you think you would love to be part of this ministry, please email Mary Bonham at [marybonham56@gmail.com](mailto:marybonham56@gmail.com).

**Holy Nativity's Annual Meeting  
January 23, 2022- 9:15 am in Battin Hall**  
This meeting will be live-streamed on Facebook.  
Breakfast will be provided by the staff.

### **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)