



HOLY NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Rite Two, Year A

Sunday, January 29, 2023
10:30 a.m.



Welcome to Holy Nativity!

Prelude "Prelude on Amazing Grace" (*arr. Phillip Pendar Stearns*)

John Durgan, organist

Opening Hymn "Before thy throne, O God, we kneel"

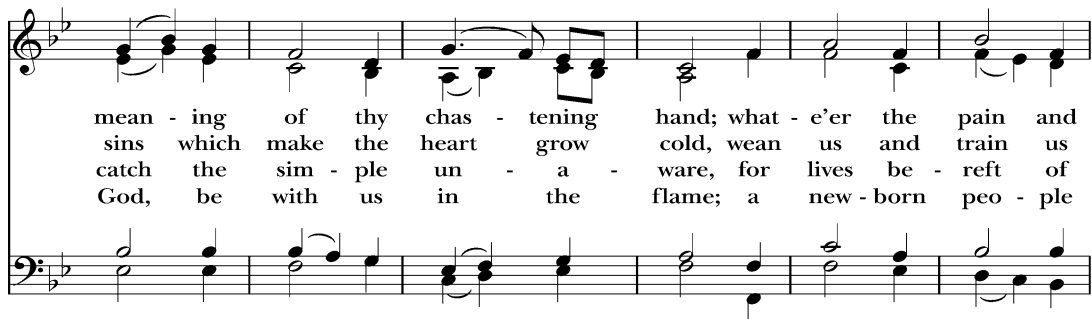
Hymn #574



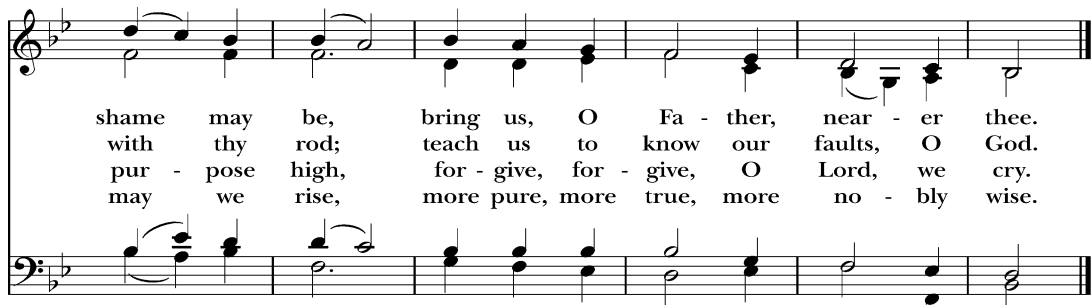
1 Be - fore thy throne, O God, we kneel: give us a con - science
2 Search out our hearts and make us true; help us to give to
3 For sins of heed - less word and deed, for pride am - bi - tious
4 Let the fierce fires which burn and try, our in - most spi - rits



quick to feel, a rea - dy mind to un - der - stand the
all their due. From love of plea - sure, lust of gold, from
to suc - ceed, for craft - y trade and sub - tle snare to
pu - ri - fy: con - sume the ill; purge out the shame; O



mean - ing of thy chas - tening hand; what - e'er the pain and
sins which make the heart grow cold, wean us and train us
catch the sim - ple un - a - ware, for lives be - rept of
God, be with us in the flame; a new - born peo - ple



shame may be, bring us, O Fa - ther, near - er thee.
with thy rod; teach us to know our faults, O God.
pur - pose high, for - give, for - give, O Lord, we cry.
may we rise, more pure, more true, more no - bly wise.

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.

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; 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 First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? *The Word of the Lord.*

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15 *Domine, quis habitabit?*

1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?

**2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.**

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

**4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.**

5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.

**6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**

7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,
“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn "Blessed Jesus, at thy word"

Hymn # 440

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to
 2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness
 3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred
 shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night
 ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings
 with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to
 help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Words: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878); alt. Music: *Liebster Jesu*, melody Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625-1673); alt. *Das grosse Cantional: oder Kirchen-Gesangbuch*, 1687; harm. George Herbert Palmer (1846-1926).

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (5:1-12)
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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: Alice Kinney, Carl Harris, Mary Troxell, Sarah Mason, Hannah Davis, Inge Churchill, David Burris, Liz Robin, Terry Jangula, Ursula Hixson, Jeannette Tremaine, Edyth Brown, Gerhard Klaassen, Florence Fortier, Corey and Brianna Kelly, Susan Nelson, Sue White, Nell Barnett, Margaret Young, Mary and Mary, Tim Phillips.

For our friends: Ernie Gentry, Anne Rockwell, Sandra Roose, Denise, Robert Simpson, Dylan Wood, Charlie Mann, Bob and Debbie Snuggs, Rosa Kulik, Myrna McKinley, Sebi MacKay, Amelia Davis, Jason Moss, Stephen, Earl Leavins, Ted Haney.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. John's in Mobile.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church of Pakistan (United).

We pray for all active duty in the Armed Forces serving in Bay County and throughout the world: Michael Darrah, Stacey Johnson, Christopher Landess, Joseph Railey, Jeremy Hough, Wes Eberhard, Stacey Holliday, Caleb Loveland, Robert Ice, Andrew Frye, Michael Keller, Rex Brown, Nicholas Longden, Marcus Duffy, James Cowart, Austin Johnson.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays: Jan. 30: Janae Syfrett, Feb. 1: John Morrow, Feb. 2: Monica Phillips, Feb. 3: Lenka Doran, Feb. 4: Wes Eberhard, Shani Lee, Daniel Melzer.

No Anniversaries this week.

The Altar Flowers are given this Sunday are given by Austin and Janae Syfrett in celebration of their birthdays.

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

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
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 “Toccatà on Old 100” (*arr. Robert Hebble*)

John Durgan, organist

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings (*Old 100th*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures, here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

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.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	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

Celebrant and People

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 musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. 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".

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.

Communion Music *(please fill free to sing along)*

Bread of the World

1. Bread of the world I mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed, by whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead:
2. Look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed; and be thy feast to us the token that by thy grace our souls are fed.

For The Bread Which You Have Broken

1. For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured, for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
2. By this pledge that you do love us, by your gift of peace restored, by your call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.
3. With our sainted ones in glory seated at the heavenly board, may the church that's waiting for you keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.
4. In your service, Lord, defend us, in our hearts keep watch and ward; in the world where you have sent us, let your kingdom come, O Lord.

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: "Rejoice, ye pure in heart!"

Hymn #556

1 Re - joi - ce, ye pure in heart! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing! Your
 2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour
 3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while
 4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from
 5 Still lift your stand - ard high, still march in firm ar - ray, as

1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 3 an - swer - ing ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
 5 war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till dawns the gold - en day.

Refrain

Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing.
 re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce,

*6 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their Father's house,
 Jerusalem the blest.

Refrain

*7 Then on, ye pure in heart!
 Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
 Your glorious banner wave on high
 the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891). Music: *Marion*, Arthur Henry Messiter (1834-1916).

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

Organist/Choir Dir.

John Durgan

Chalice Bearers

Joyce Dannecker and Brian Leebrick

Lector

Daniel Melzer

Acolytes

Ashtyn Williams, Grady and Finn Oenbrink, Wyatt Syfrett

Ushers

John Thompson and Chris Mills

Greeter

Jani Smith

Altar Guild

Marla Churchill, Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles

Dir. Of Video Prod.

A. J. Jeffery

SAINTS ALIVE
This Week at Holy Nativity

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.

Wonderful Wednesdays will resume Feb. 1, 2023!

You don't want to miss the most fun night of the week!

5:30 pm: Church

6:00 pm: Supper is served (hamburgers and hotdogs)

6:30 pm: Programs for all ages/Adult Choir Practice

Souper Bowl Sunday on Feb. 12! Bring your soup for the Backpack Ministry and wear your team colors for your favorite team, what ever the sport! Baskets will be set up in the foyer. Let's see who will win our Souper Bowl!

Feb. 21: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 5:30 pm

We will feast on pancakes, sausages, and gumbo before Lent begins!

Find the baby in the King's Cake and you will win reserved seating and parking on Easter Sunday! Donations will be accepted.

Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday services at 7:30 am and 6:00 pm with imposition of ashes. No Wednesday night supper or activities.

Dining Out Scheduled: It's time! We will be gathering for another Dining Out soon! Join us at Olive Garden on Hwy 77, Sunday, February 26. We'll meet at 5:30 for cocktails then dinner at 6:00, dutch treat. This will also serve as the Supper Club Mixer and those who wish to be in Supper Club will receive their group info at that time as well. Join us for an evening out with good food & conversation and without kids, dogs or doorbells.

Please contact Mary Ellen Pettis so that we can get a headcount and reserve enough space. You can sign up in the foyer, call/text at 850-628-4700 or email at trespiscses522@gmail.com.

HOLY NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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www.holy-nativity.org

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)

Wednesdays

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